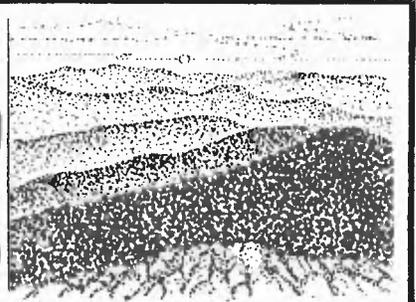


TENNESSEE TRAILS

The monthly newsletter of the Tennessee Trails Association



SHORT MOUNTAIN STATE NATURAL AREA - - - A DREAM OR REALITY

by Bertha Chrietberg

David Lipscomb College owns some 350+ acres on the top of Short Mountain in Cannon County and they are ready to sell that acreage. About 15 years ago, the State was ready to purchase this land, and they even gave it the name of The Jamie Cummings State Natural Area. However, David Lipscomb backed out of the sale primarily because of objections the Church of Christ Camp atop the mountain. Recently, members of Tennessee Trails learned that the College was ready to consider the sale. On August 23, Evelyn Tretter and Bertha Chrietberg, acting on behalf of Tennessee Trails Association, called a meeting with the Department of Conservation for the purpose of bringing together all those concerned with the sale and purchase of this acreage on top of Short Mountain. Besides Evelyn and myself, some of those persons present were Representatives John Bragg and Frank Buck, Eddie Thompson from David Lipscomb, Herb Alsup from the Church Camp, and Mack Prichard, Terry Bonham, and Ray Gilbert from the Department of Conservation.

The meeting went very well. David Lipscomb is ready to sell, and the persons from the Church Camp were also in agreement. The final decision was for David Lipscomb to present surveys, facts and figures, and get back in touch with Frank Buck after a Board meeting on October 5. Let us hope that they will follow through with this information as soon as possible.

The Mountain is well known for its many interesting features:

GEOLOGICAL

1. It is the only outlier of the Cumberland Plateau on the west side, and it is over 2000 feet in height.
2. It has many unexplored and several known caves, one with many fossilized growths.

HISTORICAL

1. Early native Americans left many artifacts behind, proving their existence in the cave's environment.
2. There is evidence engraved in rock of a millstone quarry that was located on the mountain in the late 18th century.
3. There is evidence of Civil War encampments. Heliographs were used to relay information from Short Mountain via Pilot Knob to the Rutherford County Courthouse of approaching troops.

NATURAL

1. Many rare plants grow at this elevation. The Mountain is well known for its spring wildflowers.
2. Local people have long driven to the peak to hike along the trails and to enjoy the tall trees and overlooks.
3. The overlooks, bluffs, and rock formations make interesting views.

Interesting stories about the Mountain abound among the local people, as well as those from distant lands. I recently heard Representative Frank Buck relate a story about a South American pilot with whom he was flying in South America. The pilot asked Buck where he was from. When he stated that he was from Middle Tennessee, the pilot asked if he knew where Short Mountain was. It seems that the pilot, and many other pilots, use this great flat-topped mountain, that lies alone and on the west side of the Cumberland Mountains as a guide, when they are flying in this area.

Evelyn Tretter and I feel that the state has a responsibility to purchase, protect, and preserve this unusual mountaintop. It is crisscrossed with trails, but it has been recently invaded by ATV's. It badly needs protection if we are to maintain this beautiful environment for future generations to enjoy. Members of Tennessee Trails and others may wish to write a letter to Commissioner Luna with a copy to the Governor urging the purchase of this area for another State Natural Area.

Hi, Y'all,

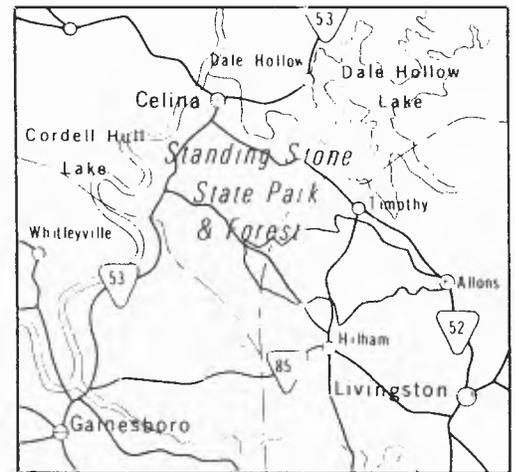
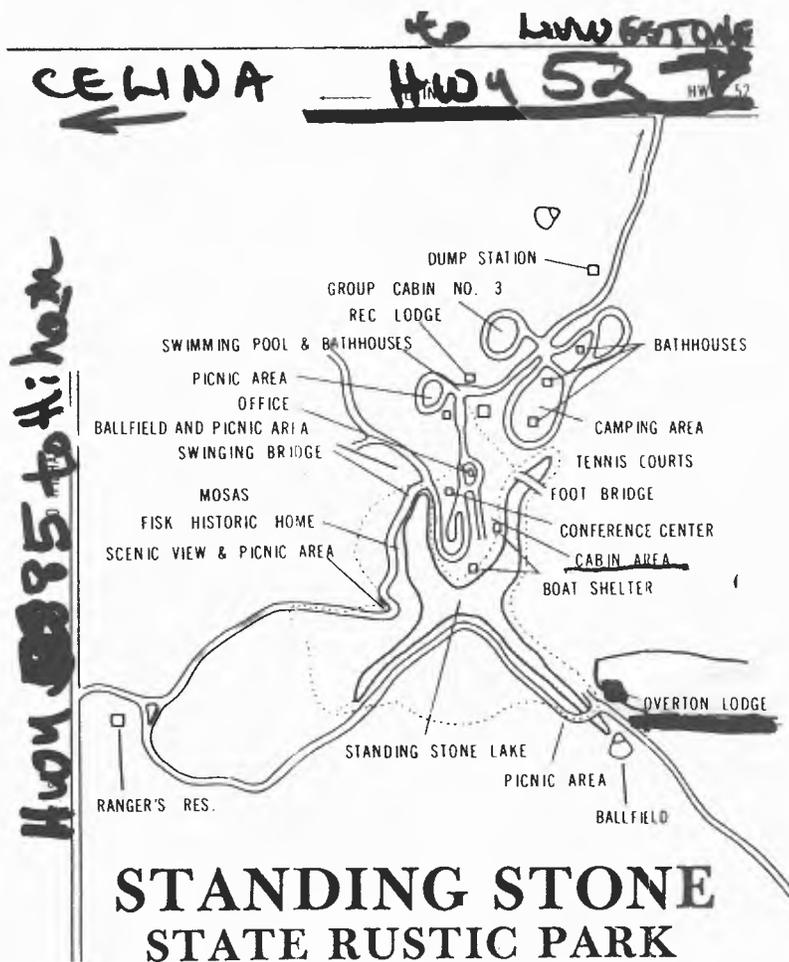
I'm not as verbose as Tom, so I'll just mention a few items relating to the State Meeting:

1. There will be **NO STYROFOAM**, so bring your own mugs for beverages other than those served at meals--which, incidentally will be Saturday: breakfast and supper, and Sunday breakfast.
2. **BRING LINENS:** The accommodations are bunks dormitory style, so bring sleeping bags, or whatever you wish, to be comfortable (if you are staying in the lodge.)
3. There is room for 60 people in the lodge, so sign up as soon as possible.
4. There is plenty room for tents outside the lodge for those who wish to camp.
5. **DON'T FORGET YOUR AUCTION ITEMS/DOOR PRIZES!**

The closest motels are in Celina and Livingston. You're on you own for that. Call the Chamber of Commerce for more information. We've heard from approximately 30 people so far. Vic Canada of Marietta, Georgia, late of Nashville, will grace us with his presence. Dot Fowler, are you coming to see us this year?

Remember, keep sending hike reports, trip reports, etc. to me. Please limit words to 100, or I may have to do it for you. Exceptions will be made in special cases. I have a special request to Bill Jones of Cookeville: I've heard that you have a very interesting list of hike descriptions in the Cumberland Plateau area. Maybe you would be willing to share copies with hiking friends in other areas of Tennessee?

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE AT STANDING STONE!



CHAPTER NEWS

Clarksville

Meets the third Tuesday of each month. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM in the Community Room at the Governor's Square Mall.

Cookeville

Meets the third Tuesday of each month at Hyder Park Community Center, at 6:30 PM

Please note the change of the meeting place and day of the month. Need directions: call 526-9252 or 836-3696.

Upcoming Events:

November 9-Scott's Gulf (White County) Approx. 8 mile loop. Moderate to strenuous. We will go Welch Cemetery Road to the overlook; Gross Ridge to Amber's Den; on to Rattlesnake Point-Martha's Pretty Point. Meet at 8:00 at Dominion Banks on Hwy. 111, Sparta. **Bill Jones, group leader, 526-5317.**

November 16-Big South Fork. Meet at Cracker Barrel in Cookeville at 7:00. Carpool to Twin Arches Trail Head. The 8 miles loop will include the arches, Slave Falls, Jae's Place and return via Charit Creek Lodge. Rated moderate. **Herb Sudhoff, leader, 738-8397.**

November 24-Stone Door Hike South Cumberland Recreation Area. The hike will be approximately 10 miles. Starting at the Stone Door Ranger Station at 9:00 Am CST, and head to Ranger Falls, then up to Alum Gap (500 ft. elevation gain in 1/4 mile). At this point there is

an option to go to Greeter Falls or follow the Rim Trail back to Stone Door. Most of the trail is rocky and is considered strenuous because of the length covered. It is anticipated that the hike will take six to seven hours (including lunch). Sturdy shoes, water, and lunch are necessary items. **Pre-registration is requested, for more information contact James Leininger at (615) 432-6484(H) or (615) 839-2273(W).** Directions and meeting times from Cookeville: Leaving James Leininger's house at 7:00 AM, and in Sparta at Dominion Bank at 7:30 AM. From Nashville Take I-24 to Hwy. 50 (exit 127) then left on Hwy. 50 and follow the signs to Altamont and Stone Door.

Memphis

Meets the third Thursday of each month at Kingsway Church, in the Scout Bldg. at 7:30 PM.

Upcoming Events:

Please refer to **UPCOMING HIKE SCHEDULE** for information.

Murfreesboro

Meets the third Tuesday of each month at St. Mark's Methodist Church. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM. All are welcome.

Upcoming Events:

Monthly Meeting

Our November program will be presented by Bertha Chrietzberg. It will be about a special tree she came across in Gulf Shores, Alabama. Please be thinking about kinds of programs and hikes you would like for 1992. We will be planning next year's schedule.

November 9/10-Overnight Backpack This has been **CANCELED** and changed to the Stone Door area in the South Cumberland State Park. This is due to the hunting season. If interested in this backpack adventure, contact **Tom Shepherd, 895-2098.**

Nashville

Meets the fourth Thursday of each month, at the Cumberland Science Museum, 7:30 PM.

Monthly Meeting

****There will not be a regularly monthly meeting because of Turkey Day! Happy Holidays!****

However, the Middle Tennessee Sierra Club will meet on the 21st, 7:30 PM at the Cumberland Science Museum. Marty Rush from the Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Center will present the program. She will have animals with her that otherwise might not be alive now were it not for the work of this center.

Come to the program and learn how you can help. If you are interested in this organization but cannot attend the meeting, then call the Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Center at 758-5231.



STATE NEWS (CONTINUED)

November 8-9: *Camping Friday and Saturday nights at Land Between the Lakes Energy Lake Campground. Meet at 9:00 AM (CST) at the Golden Pond Visitor Center on Saturday. Bring a lunch and water; wear sturdy shoes or boots. We will hike for about six hours on the North-south Trail.*

On Sunday meet at 10:00 AM (CST) at the Woodlands Nature Center. (Come early if you want to enjoy the Nature Center before the hike.) We will hike Honker Trail South. The hike is an easy one, but that will not dull the enjoyment of the five-mile trail. This hike will provide an interesting look at several different habitat areas and will go a long way toward telling the complete Land Between the Lakes story.

Reservations are required. Call Bob Barnett, 832-6484.

UPCOMING HIKES

CLARKSVILLE	MEMPHIS	NASHVILLE
<p>12/14 <i>Cheekwood Trees of Christmas</i></p>	<p>11/9 <i>Mousetail Landing</i> 11/23 <i>Shiloh N.M.P.</i> 12/1 <i>Shelby Forest</i> 12/7 <i>Chewalla Holly Spring</i></p>	<p>11/8 <i>Land Between the Lakes</i> 11/24 <i>Big Creek Loop, S.C.S.P.</i> 12/20 <i>Winter Solstice</i> 12/29 <i>Gainier Ridge Trail</i></p>
COOKEVILLE	MURFREESBORO	INACTIVE CHAPTERS
<p>11/9 <i>Scott's Gulf</i> 11/16 <i>Big South Fork</i> 11/24 <i>Stone Door</i> **Unable to print December schedule at this time.**</p>	<p>11/9 <i>Franklin Forest</i> **Canceled** Rescheduled: Stone Door</p>	<p><i>Chattanooga</i> <i>Cumberland Mountain</i></p>

F.Y.I.

For Your Information

A firestarting kit takes only a few minutes to make and, depending on the size of your kit, will take up very little room in a pack or a pocket. If you were to find yourself in a real survival situation, the time you take to prepare a kit now will save you hours in building a fire when you need it most, advised the Air Force Survival School in Washington. Usually, a person can start a fire during warm, dry weather without much of a challenge. However, in cold, wet weather you can almost count on having difficulty getting a fire started.

If you have room for only a small kit, you need tinders that are compact and will burn for a long time. Good tinders for a small kit are candles, cotton balls coated with Vaseline, pitch wood, or prepackaged tinders that can be purchased at any sporting goods store. If you have room for a larger kit, you could also try dry wood shavings. Your kit should include an ignition source that will work in all types of weather, such as waterproof matches, lighters, or metal matches, which produce a spark when scraped with a sturdy knife.

Taken from **Appalachia Bulletin**, October 1991

Membership Renewal

Unless you have a Lifetime Membership in the Tennessee Trails Association, your membership expires on January 1, of each year. All TTA memberships are based on the calendar year and not one year from the month you join.

Please register me as a member for the calendar year 1992 (Jan.-Dec.) with the type membership checked below:

Student \$ 6.00
 Individual/Family \$ 15.00
 Supporting \$30, \$40, or \$50
 Life \$150.00

MAIL DUES TO:
Tennessee Trails Association
P.O. Box 41446
Nashville, Tennessee 37204

Students do not have voting privileges. Supporting members may be organizations or individuals. Each organization should designate a representative to cast its vote and up to three addresses to receive the newsletter. Family dependent members do receive a separate newsletter.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ WORKPHONE: _____

PLEASE LIST ME WITH CHAPTER _____ OR AT LARGE _____

Share this one with a friend!

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HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

PLEASE LIST ME WITH CHAPTER _____ OR AT LARGE _____

NEWS FROM OUR PARKS

South Cumberland Recreation Area-November Activity Schedule---for more information, call (615) 924-2980, or (615) 924-2956.



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 10:00 AM:

LOST COVE CAVE TOUR: Meet Barry at the Carter Natural Area parking lot for this trek down the Buggytop Trail to the Lost Cove Cave. We will explore the cave so bring a light and a hard hat. You should also bring a lunch and drinking water. 5 miles roundtrip - STRENUOUS!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3 10:00 AM:

RAVEN POINT OVERLOOK STROLL: Meet Barry at the Visitor Center. We will shuttle to the Raven Point access of the Fiery Gizzard Trail for a breathtaking view of the gorge. There could be some fall colors to enjoy; but if not this is always a beautiful walk. 2 MILES ROUNDTRIP - EASY.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9 1:00 PM:

FRANKLIN FOREST MTN. BIKE RIDE: Join Randy at the Franklin State Forest lookout tower on Highway 156 for a wilderness bike ride. We'll ride a loop thru Panther Hollow which has a nice overlook. MODERATE DIFFICULTY.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 10:00 AM:

DOG HOLE TRAIL: Meet at the Visitor Center and join Randy for a walk on the Dog Hole and Fiery Gizzard Trails - several overlooks and waterfalls are featured. 4.5 MILES ROUNDTRIP (with shuttle) EASY.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16 10:00 AM

SMALL WILDS EXCURSION: Walk along the blufftops of Little Gizzard Creek with Randy as your guide. This hike features several panoramic views. 5 MILES ROUNDTRIP - EASY.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 10:00 AM

SUTER FALLS TOUR: Meet Randy at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station. We'll visit the spectacular falls, rocks and overlooks of the Collins Gulf Trail. 2 MILES ROUNDTRIP - STRENUOUS!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23 1:00 PM:

GREETER FALLS EXCURSION: Meet Randy at the Stone Door Ranger Station. A tour of the waterfall area includes towering cliffs, old trees, and zillions of rocks. 2 MILES ROUNDTRIP - MODERATE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 10:00 AM

LONE ROCK TRAIL: Meet Randy at the Grundy Lakes beach. This tour of the Grundy Lakes area on a diverse walking trail has an abundance of natural and historic features all within a short distance of civilization. 1.5 miles roundtrip easy.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30 10:00 AM

GRUNDY FOREST DAYLOOP: Meet Randy at the Grundy Forest picnic shelter. A great diversity of habitats and scenery are featured on this hike. Waterfalls, rockshelters, and an old growth forest are some highlights. 2 miles roundtrip - moderate.



INFOE TO KNOW

Mail dues, address changes/corrections and membership applications to:

TTA
P.O. Box 41446
Nashville, TN 37204

All newsletter submissions due by the 10th of each month. All submissions, questions and/or comments should be addressed to:

Tom Shepherd
1519 Ashlawn Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Objectives:

To promote, construct, and maintain a statewide system of hiking trails, and to work for the conservation of natural resources inherent to this objective. Sponsor for the Cumberland Trail.

1991 TTA LEADERS

PRESIDENT: Tom Shepherd 615-895-2098
VICE PRESIDENT: Bob Barnett 615-832-6484
CORR. SEC/TREAS: Dot Lingerfelt 615-842-8043
SECRETARY: Evelyn Tretter 615-859-0566
IMMEDIATE PAST PRES: Jerri Bull 901-363-4408
BOARD REP. James T. Jones 901-422-1444
BOARD REP. Bertha Chrietzberg 615-896-1146
BOARD REP. Sally Garrard 615-356-3867
MEMBERSHIP: Bob Barnett 615-832-6484

Bob Brown, TTA Chairman, Cumberland Trail 615-352-7474
Bob Barnett, Adopt-A-Trail State Coordinator 615-832-6484
Randy Hammontree, Cookeville Chapter Chair 615-526-5242
Bettie Herring, Murfreesboro Chapter Chair 615-895-8171
Debbie Gilbert, Memphis Chapter Chair 901-454-0613
Evelyn Baker, Nashville Chapter Chair 615-391-3479, 833-5763
Roger Greer, Clarksville Chapter Chair 615-648-8769
Kellie Jones, Newsletter Editor, 615-662-1303

TENNESSEE TRAILS is printed by Budget Rapid Printers, Nashville, 327-1068

Come Hike With Us!
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Nashville, TN 37204

