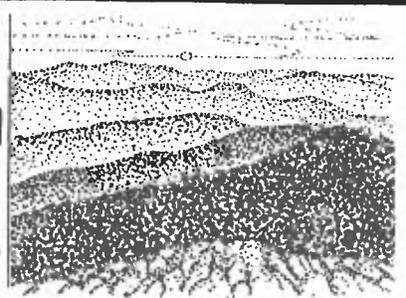


# TENNESSEE TRAILS

The monthly newsletter of the Tennessee Trails Association



## TRIP REPORT: BIG SOUTH FORK/CHARIT CREEK LODGE OVERNIGHT TRIP

Debbie Thibault  
Cookeville Chapter

**\*Yes, this is a trip report, BUT it is an excellent introduction to Charit Creek Lodge for the members who have never been there.**

*What a wonderful trip? The weekend was filled with such a sense of adventure as well as leisure at the Charit Creek lodge. There were 17 hikers; new and familiar faces, members and non-members, including one who was on her first hike! We were well represented by members and friends from Cookeville, Nashville, Old Hickory, Mt. Juliet, Shelbyville and Chattanooga.*

*Surrounded by sunshine and color, our adventure consisted of hiking 2 miles of the Twin Arches Loop Trail to the lodge, Slave Falls, the Ridge Trail overlooking the lodge and various other trails nearby. We had the opportunity to meet horseback riders and their horses during the day (especially those "Marlboro Men" all decked out in their drover coats, boots and cowboy hat!) as well as the other overnight guests.*

*Upon arrival, we were greeted by the staff and offered a welcomed hot cup of coffee. The resident dog, Molly, also greeted us with an anticipating grin with thoughts of leftovers to come. While some at lunch in the rockers on the front porch, Denise, perched on a rock against the colorful background of trees, she blended right in with her surroundings, delightfully content. Adorned with her blue bonnet, she was a vision from the past, adding to the beauty and magic of by-gone days at Charit Creek. The cabins were inviting with the wood stove ready to be filled and the oil lamps waiting to be lit, presenting a glimpse of the past while we enjoyed the peace of the present. Since I was somewhat sick, I chose to enjoy the peace while the others went hiking. Jennifer decided to initiate herself with hiking by continuing after lunch with her friends Sheila and Lori to Slave Falls for a total day trip of 8 miles.*

*With the setting sun and night approaching, Mike and I decided to build a fire in each of the wood stoves and light the lamps to welcome the weary hikers. The clanging of the gong signalled dinner time, which was served family-style, at a lamp-lit table. Nowhere can you find such a good dinner with all-you-can-eat BBQ beef, vegetable soup, homemade cornbread, potatoes, baby carrots, green beans and fruit, all topped off with apple crisps and all the hot coffee and chocolate you can drink!*

*Why, we enjoyed the dinner so much, we weren't so sure we could eat another bite . . . but we did. Soon after, we rounded up some marshmallows, built a bonfire and settled down to some good "Gossip" (the game). Several impressions and jokes were mingled in with such flair and talent. Mike Wilcox and Beth Ledbetter enjoyed themselves so much, they fell backwards off their benches laughing! The evening continued with other games, and feeling like a part of the wonderful past of Charit Creek.*

*The next morning we gathered for a wonderful breakfast, and of course pictures! The gracious staff used our ten cameras for the group shots, and they included one photograph for their own bulletin board. At last it was time to take to the trail. Morning had unfolded another cool, sunny day, just right for hiking the 4.2 miles that would complete the loop. I took one last glance over my shoulder at the cabin by the creek which awaits our return.*

# STATE NEWS

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State of Tennessee

NED McWHERTER  
GOVERNOR

November 26, 1991

Mr. Tom Shepherd, President  
Tennessee Trails Association  
1519 Ashlawn Drive  
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

Dear Mr. Shepherd:

This will acknowledge and thank you for your letter regarding the trail around Herb Parsons Lake.

Mr. Shepherd, I asked my staff to discuss your concerns with TWRA and have requested Mr. Harold Hurst, Region I Manager, to contact you to discuss possible scheduling alternatives which will permit all interested groups use of this area. Mr. Hurst should be in touch with you soon.

Again, thank you for writing and if my office may be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ned McWherter".

Ned McWherter

NM/cgs

xc: Johnny Jones, Chairman, Wildlife Resources Commission  
W. S. "Babe" Howard, Commissioner, District 9  
Gary Myers, TWRA Executive Director  
Harold Hurst, TWRA Region I Manager

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## NEWS FROM OUR PARKS

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\*The following list gives only event names and dates. For more information, please contact the Warner Park Nature Center: (615) 352-6299. Reservations are required for most programs.

Winter Woods Hikes	January 8 & 11	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Trees in Winter	January 24 & 25	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Exotic Plant Removal: A volunteer project	February 1	8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

# 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

**\*Congratulations Randy and Beth!! Welcome baby girl!!**

### Trip Report: Dog Cove/High Rock Day Hike

How does a pretty day, a lively group of hikers, a picnic on a bluff beside a tumbling cascade, an overlook with a commanding 300 view, and all the pizza and Pepsi you can hold sound to you? Well, you should have been with us when Bonnie Green of Sparta led a Cookeville Chapter hike up Dog Cove, across Billy's Branch and to the top of High Rock overlooking Scott's Gulf near Sparta. The group comprising me, Paul D. Miller, my wife, Pam, dog, Rusty, Paul and Nora Miller, and Diane Walker of Cookeville; Denise Charvoz of Sparta; and Harry McNutt of Mt. Juliet enjoyed the fourteen and one half mile hike in White and Van Buren Counties, December 7, 1991.

Other highlights included an exchange of cookies, search for Saddle Rock, losing and finding two tardy hikers, trash-pick-up headed by Denise, Dog Cove Overlook, meeting four-wheeling hunters on the fire road and hearing the story of how a snake ate two golf balls. Hope to see you next time!

## Memphis

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

### Upcoming Events:

**January 4-Wapanocca Wildlife Refuge, Arkansas.** Carpool at the church 8 AM, or meet at park office at 9 AM. The terrain is completely flat (no hills), you'll need boots to protect your feet from rocks in the road. We'll walk about 7 miles in; then you can either go back by car or on foot for a round trip of 14 miles. Dress in many layers for cold and wind; bring lunch, water and snacks. Binoculars also--maybe we'll see birds this year. Contact Freddi Felt, 685-9915.

### January 26-Reelfoot Eagle Watch

Twenty-five spaces have been reserved on the Park Service tour bus to see the eagles. Bring binoculars if you have them or use the telescopes set up by the Park Rangers. Dress for the weather and expect colder temperatures on the lake.

After the bus ride, we will eat lunch at a local restaurant. Then, to walk off that wonderful fried food, we will drive around to the east side of the lake and walk in on the refuge road (six miles round trip.)

There is usually a special program on Saturday night at the Air Park Inn. Anyone interested in staying over on Saturday night should make reservations early. The Reelfoot Park phone number is (901)253-7756 and there are many motels in the area.

Reservations for the bus ride are required

It is approx. 115 miles from Memphis to the Air Park Inn. You must be there by 9:30 AM. All

unclaimed tickets will be turned back in at 9:45 AM. The tour bus leaves the Air Park Inn at 10:00 AM.

**Call Betty Porter at (901)363-0213 for further details or to make reservations.**

### February 1-Downtown Memphis Historical Hike

As you hike this trail, we hope you will be able to relive some of the exciting moments in Memphis history. A hiker's guide is available for a small price.

The hike will begin at 9:00 AM. We will meet in the parking lot of the First Unitarian Church on the River. The hike is scheduled to be 10 miles; however, you can easily return to your car if you want to walk a shorter distance.

Wear comfortable shoes for walking on side walks; bring your own food and water since few eating places will be open. For more information, call Betty Porter, (901)363-0213.

## Murfreesboro

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

## Nashville

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

**January 11-Honey Creek-**This is a rugged and difficult 5 mile loop, yet one of the most beautiful trails with many attractions: water falls, rock formations, massive boulders and creek crossings.

In winter this should bring out a spectacular display of ice overhangs and ice flows. So hope for cold weather. **Pre-registration: Charlie Hann, 941-1503. Meet at K-Mart, Donelson/I-40, 6:30 AM.**

# INFO TO KNOW

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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

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**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

<b>PRESIDENT:</b> Bob Barnett 615-832-6484	Bob Brown, TTA Chairman, Cumberland Trail 615-352-7474
<b>VICE PRESIDENT:</b> Tom Shepherd 615-895-2098	Bob Barnett, Adopt-A-Trail State Coordinator 615-832-6484
<b>CORR. SEC/TREAS:</b> Judy Van Cleve 615-473-8136	Nora Miller, Cookeville Chapter Co-Chair 615-526-9252
<b>SECRETARY:</b> Evelyn Tretter 615-859-0566	Judy Van Cleve, Cookeville Chapter Co-Chair 615 473-8136
<b>IMMEDIATE PAST PRES:</b> Jerri Bull 901-363-4408	Bettie Herring, Murfreesboro Chapter Chair 615-895-8171
<b>BOARD REP.</b> James T. Jones 901-422-1444	Debbie Gilbert, Memphis Chapter Chair 901-454-0613
<b>BOARD REP.</b> Bertha Chrietzberg 615-896-1146	Evelyn Baker, Nashville Chapter Chair 615-391-3479, 833-5763
<b>BOARD REP.</b> Sally Garrard 615-356-3867	Roger Greer, Clarksville Chapter Chair 615-648-8769
<b>MEMBERSHIP:</b> Bob Barnett 615-832-6484	
<b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR:</b> Kellie Jones 615-662-1303	

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

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**Come Hike With Us!**  
**Tennessee Trails Association**  
**P.O. Box 41446**  
**Nashville, TN 37204**

