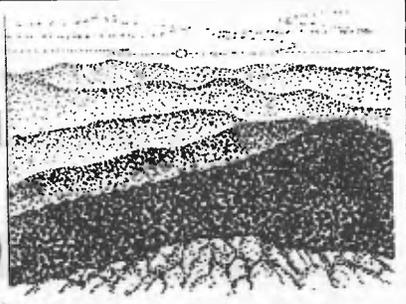


# TENNESSEE TRAILS

The monthly newsletter of the Tennessee Trails Association



EVAN MEANS --- THE MAN AND TTA

by Bertha Chrietzberg

A germ of an idea was born in 1965 when Evan Means, as President of the Clinch and Powell River Valley Association, made the suggestion that a long hiking trail should be built on the ridges of the Cumberland Mountains, a trail that would span the area from Chattanooga to Cumberland Gap. The idea was well received and flagging of the trail was begun. It was soon evident that a special organization was needed to give backing to the project. Thus, three men, Evan Means, Bob Brown, then Treasurer of the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association, and Mack Pritchard, a State Naturalist, met in October, 1968, and decided to form the Tennessee Trails Association. The National Trails System Act had just been passed that month. The primary goals of TTA would be the development of the Cumberland Trail, and to present legislation to form a State Trails System to establish this and other State scenic/recreation trails. The organization has also served to bring outdoor people together to enjoy hiking the trails in Tennessee.

Evan Means served as President of our organization for two terms, and for the first decade or so, wrote and published the monthly newsletter. He was a writer of some reknown, writing a regular column for The Oak Ridger, and an active member of the Outdoor Writers of America, as well as the author of the book, Tennessee Trails. He had an old mimeograph machine in his basement where he cranked out the TTA Newsletter, and mailed it out each month. He carried his camera with him and shared his pictures with TTA members using a special projector for his over-sized slides. He has been very active in several outdoor organizations and is still a member of several. He is a life member of the Tennessee Trails Association.

Evan represented TTA at several public hearings on issues that would affect public lands and trails. On one occasion, he and Grimes Slaughter joined with SOCM (Save Our Cumberland Mountains), to argue for the environment and were surprised when Grimes received a fist in his face. The argument in the Wartburg County Courthouse got a little heated that night!

His book, Tennessee Trails, printed by East Woods Press, and now available in a new revised edition, was the result of researching trails throughout the State, and enlisting help from some TTA members. All the profits from the first edition

went into the treasury of Tennessee Trails Association, Inc.

The TTA Board of Directors unanimously voted at the February Board meeting to recognize Evan Means with a Lifetime Achievement Award. This is the first time that TTA has ever given such an award. Considering the list of trail related achievements Evan Means has chalked up, there is not likely to be but a few TTA members in the next two decades deserving of similar recognition. Evan is still working hard on behalf of TTA. He recently called the current president with concerns that needed to be addressed regarding some controversy involving the Cumberland Trail and landowner relations. He also had good news about people who might spearhead a renewal of the Oak Ridge TTA Chapter. Symbolically, it would be great to see the resumption of an Oak Ridge chapter since that was where TTA was originally founded.

A card to the man who has given so much to TTA from some of our members would probably be much appreciated. His address is: Evan Means, 200 Butler Rd., Oak Ridge, TN 37830.

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**TTA BOARD MEETING**

The next quarterly Board meeting will be held on Saturday, May 30 in Crossville, TN (near Cumberland Mountain State Park). The Clyde York 4H Center has been reserved for Friday and Saturday evening (accommodations for 25). The "White House" has a fully equipped kitchen, large meeting room and living room. More details and agenda will be published in the May newsletter.

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**New Smokies Guide Published by TTA Members**

TTA members Russ Manning and Sondra Jamieson have published another of their Tag-Along guides, this one The Best of the Great Smoky Mountains. This new hiking guide to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park covers 83 trails in 65 hikes and includes descriptions of 19 short trails for the less serious walker. The 256-page book contains sections on park history, plants and animals, geology, and human history and has 17 maps and 45 photos. Russ and Sondra are also the authors of the two hiking guides to the Cumberland Plateau region, The Best of the Big South Fork and The South Cumberland and Fall Creek Falls. All three books can be found in most area bookstores. Or they can be ordered from Mountain Laurel Place, P. O. Box 3001, Norris, TN 37828, (615) 494-8121; for the new Smokies book send \$13.30 (\$10.95 plus shipping and sales tax), and for the other two guides send \$8.99 (\$6.95 plus shipping and sales tax).

## ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROGRAM

by Jerri Bull, Memphis Chapter

The Adopt-A-Trail/Inspect-A-Trail Program is a unique feature of TTA, and over the years chapters and individuals have contributed many hours working with agency officials to keep trails in good hiking condition. In these days of budget cuts and loss of manpower in our parks and other recreational areas, our participation is especially needed.

Basically, this is how it works. Those deciding to work on a trail should first contact an agency official where the trail is located and work with them in setting up this project. Let me know where you are working and I will send inspection forms to you or whomever you designate. These forms do not take long to complete, but need to be done consistently. This should be done not only for work trips but also for each hike, wherever located. Whoever is in charge of the forms should see that each hike leader and work trip leader receives one. Once the work is done, these can be sent either directly to me or to the agency official. It is a good idea to keep one copy for the chapter also, as it can provide valuable information for future hikes.

Some items to consider when inspecting a trail are:

1. Condition of Trail - at different times of the year. Trail may be dust bowl dry at one time and a quagmire at another.
2. Bridges - Is repair needed on existing bridges, or does one need to be built?
3. Condition of area around trail - Sometimes there is serious erosion as at Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park and Ft. Pillow, so that a part of the trail might need to be rerouted.
4. Is part of the trail overgrown or clearcut, as at Natchez Trace or at Chewalla at Holly Springs, MS.
5. Is trail well marked and signs in place? Sometimes signs and blazes can disappear from weathering and other causes, such as being deliberately removed, or signs turned around as someone's idea of a joke.
6. Are there maps for the trail or are they incorrect? We ran into this situation at Nathan Bedford Forrest S.P. a few months ago. The park was in the process of changing the trails; there were no maps and no blazes. We spent some anxious moments and at times were literally going in circles. There were about 30 people, some of them first time hikers, and they became last time hikers. Some people lose their sense of adventure and humor when they think they may have to spend the night on the trail with only a few peanut butter crackers and some tepid water in their packs! We are happy to report that there are now maps available and that the trails are easier to follow at Nathan Bedford Forrest S.P.

7. Is part of the trail closed and if so, why? as we found at Herb Parsons Lake at Fisherville last fall when TWRA closed part of the trail without informing anyone about it. This has also been worked out, but not without some effort on everyone's part involved.

The point is that agency officials DO read these reports and will work with us to correct what needs to be. They do a great job with what they have, and I think that we should also note this on these forms along with suggestions for improvement of trails.

Perhaps we could also hear from chapters or anyone who has a success story to pass along and/or any information that might be helpful to others. Maybe you could send this to our newsletter editor and these could be published from time to time as an encouragement to those thinking about adopting or inspecting a trail.

Thanks for your help.

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**NEW CHAPTER ALERT**

Did you know that if you want to start a chapter that there are no hard and fast rules that you have to abide by to get started?

There are unique things about all existing chapters. Most chapters have monthly program meetings, but this is not required. Meetings can be bi-monthly or when ever that chapter desires. The location and format of the meetings can be decided by the chapter.

The president and other Board members will provide assistance in starting a chapter upon request. The State organization will provide seed money to help new chapters grow to the point that they are self-supporting.

If you have a few people (or more) in your area interested in starting a chapter, then call Bob Barnett at 615-832-6484 or write TTA, P.O. Box 41446, Nashville, TN 37204.

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**HIKE WITH US!**

If you are leading a hike during this calendar year, then please send a paragraph or two describing the outing to the newsletter editor at TTA, P.O. Box 41446, Nashville, TN 37204. These outing notices should be sent in no later than the 15th of the previous month in order to get in the newsletter.

In past newsletters, trip reports were published when space was available. Some people enjoy writing their reports and many members enjoy reading them. Trip reports are not required, but for those people who choose to write trip reports, the editor will publish them in the newsletter as space permits.

If you are leading a hike, then please use the trail inspection form found in this newsletter. If you have questions about the trail inspection form or the inspection process, then call either Bob Barnett (615) 832-6484 or Jerri Bull (901) 363-4408.



# TTA Trail Inspection Form

## Adopt-a-Trail Program

Name of Trail: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Trail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Trail Inspection: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Be as detailed as possible when describing the problem conditions and the location of these problem areas. Summarize any maintenance tasks that you performed. In addition, list any recommendations you may have for the management agency in charge of the particular trail.

### TRAIL SURROUNDING AREA

Condition:

Maintenance Performed:

Recommendations for Additional Maintenance:

### TREAD

Condition:

Maintenance Performed:

Recommendation for Additional Maintenance:

### FOOT BRIDGES & STEPS

Condition:

Maintenance Performed:

Recommendations for Additional Maintenance:

### SIGNS & BLAZES

Condition:

Maintenance Performed:

Recommendations for Additional Maintenance:



## CHAPTER NEWS

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### CLARKSVILLE

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

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**APRIL 18** - Frozen Head S.P., Kate Perry, 647-1985.

### TRIP REPORT

#### Reelfoot Lake

On February 15, 8 Clarksville chapter members and 2 members from other chapters made our way to Reelfoot Lake, where we were joined by 1 additional TTA member. It was really great having 3 additional TTA members join us.

After a quick lunch at the Airpark Inn and checking in to our rooms, we headed for the south end of the lake. The Visitor's Center had many interesting exhibits. We drove to a parking place where we could get out and walk along the edge of the water to view the beautiful lake and trees.

As darkness came, we were ready for a big feast at the Blue Bank Restaurant. Let me tell you, there's no way you can eat all the food they serve

you! We made a good effort though!

Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. we got on board the Eagle Watch Bus for a 2 hour trip. We saw many eagles perched in trees along the way. It was such a thrill to look at this majestic bird!

We made two additional stops on the trip home--one to see the boyhood home of Carl Perkins, who has made a great contribution to country and rockabilly music. The next stop was to learn about a special little long-tailed animal--an all white squirrel. We made some new friends in the small town of Kenton. We have James McKenzie to thank for such a marvelous trip.

--by Bessie Daniel

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### COOKEVILLE

Meets the third Tuesday of each month at Hyder Park Community Center at 6:30 p.m.

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**APRIL 4** - Meet with Jack Murphy for a "Hobo Hike" along the railroad tracks, 9-10 miles easy, hiking boots not required. Wildflowers should be

beautiful along the way--there will be a shuttle. Meet in Algood (5 miles from Cookeville) at 9:00 a.m. at the Post Office. Call Jack for more info 537-9827.

**APRIL 12** - Meet at Dominion Bank on Hwy 111 in Sparta at 1:45 p.m. for a Sunday afternoon wildflower excursion with Bonnie. We'll hike the mountain beneath Rim Rock Mesa in White County. Easy, 3-4 miles. For info, call Bonnie at 836-3696.

**APRIL 25** - Standing Stone S.P., Lake Trail, 5 miles, easy, another great hike for wildflowers. Meet at Cracker Barrel in Cookeville at 8:30 a.m. For info, call Jack Murphy, 537-9827.

### TRIP REPORT

#### Stone Door Hike

Fifteen hearty hikers and two canines enjoyed a pretty spring-like Saturday by making their way through the Stone Door on February 22. They viewed the image of an ancient bird head in stone--or was it a snake? They saw the springs where the waters of Ranger Falls and Big Creek re-emerge after a

subterranean journey. The group met several backpackers and day hikers as they made their way up Big Creek Gulf, lunching at the base of scenic Ranger Falls. The Big Creek sink was especially enchanting.

The group proved their mettle by emerging from the steep climb to the rim with sufficient energy to do some outhouse rocking at Alum Gap and trail running along the rim trail. That is not to say there were not frequent stops to enjoy the breathtaking effects of a warm and sunny afternoon on the vistas along the rim.

Six and one-half hours brought the group to the end of their 10 mile sojourn.

Hikers included, the gang of three: Tom Barey, Herb Subhoff and Jack Murphy; victim: Bonnie Greene; bystanders: Marnell Cochran, Willa Parrish, Chad Reece, Brian Conner, Ethelene Hoilman, Shelly Averluck, Paul D. Miller, Pam Miller, dog Rusty, and Dick Lutz and dog Bingo; and trail runners: Paul R. Miller and Sam Griego.

--by Paul D. Miller

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#### MEMPHIS

Meets the third Thursday of each month at Kingsway Church, in the Scout Building at 7:30 p.m.

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**APRIL 11** - Ft. Pillow S.P. - Carpool 7:00 a.m. at Kingsway Church, or meet 9:00 a.m. at Interpretive Center. Hike is 8 miles on moderate terrain with some steep hills. For info, call Jerri Bull (901) 363-4408.

**APRIL 16** - Monthly program meeting related to Earth Day, 1992.

**APRIL 25** - Village Creek S.P., (near Forrest City, AR) - Carpool 8:00 a.m. at Kingsway Church, or meet 9:30 a.m. at Visitor Center. There are about 7 miles of easy trails, including a short, self-guided nature trail. For info, call Julie Barham, (901) 452-0085

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#### MURFREESBORO

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

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**APRIL 5** - Short Springs/Tullahoma Wildflower Hike - Meet at 10:30 a.m. at the Dairy Queen on Hwy 55

coming into Tullahoma off I-24. Easy 1 1/2 miles, boots not necessary. For info, call Dennis Horn at 455-5742.

**APRIL 18** - Mystery Hike with Dan Madarin and Tom Shepherd, call for more info, 895-2098.

**APRIL 25** - Canoe Trip. For info, call Heloise Shilstat 896-6278 or Bettie Herring 895-8171.

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#### NASHVILLE

Meets the fourth Thursday of each month at the Cumberland Science Museum at 7:30 p.m.

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**APRIL 11** - Edwin Warner Wildflower Hike - Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Hwy 100 entrance to Edwin Warner Park. This entrance is 1/10th mile west of the nature center, near Old Hickory Blvd. We'll hike the 2 1/2 mile Harpeth Woods Trail, rated moderately strenuous. Bring your field guides and your expertise, and we'll see what we can find. Questions? Call Paul Koehler at 331-4139.

**APRIL 23** - Program meeting. Jack Ross, professional photographer, speaker

and musician, will present a slide program on Denali Nat'l Park in Alaska, Glacier Nat'l Park in Montana, and Yellowstone Nat'l Park in Wyoming. This is no ordinary slide show! Bob and I attended the premiere showing in Janaury and Jack presented breathtaking slides accompanied by personal anecdotes and humorous stories, to a packed house at the Museum. Photographs will be available for purchase.

**APRIL 25 - Virgin Falls Hike.** Come join me at one of my favorite places to hike. It is an 8 mile hike that takes 6-8 hours, rated moderate to strenuous (easy going in--but hard coming out). There are waterfalls, pretty overlooks, caves and there should be beautiful wildflowers in bloom. We will meet at Hardee's in Lebanon at 6:30 a.m. For more info and to pre-register, call Jeannie Bumbalough at 824-6671.

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**CLEAN-UP HIKE**  
Long Hunter S.P.

On Saturday, April 4th there will be a clean-up and trail maintenance hike. We will meet at the new Visitor's Center in

the Couchville Lake area of the park off Hobson Pike at 9:00 a.m.

In previous years the Nashville chapter has worked hard at maintaining the Volunteer Trail Day Loop and the Volunteer Trail (backpacking loop). The Friends of Long Hunter hosted a work day in March, therefore, at the time this article was written, it was not known which trail needed the most work.

Bring water, lunch, work gloves and tools if you have them. Pruning shears, hedge clippers and swing blades are needed. Garbage bags will be provided for trash pick-up.

To pre-register, call Bob or Arleen Barnett at 832-6484.

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**Radnor Lake**  
April Program Schedule  
377-1281

Tennessee Ornithological Society Bird Walks on Wednesday, April 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 7:30 a.m. Walks begin from west parking lot. No reservations necessary.

**April 4 - Wildflower Hike** at 1:00 p.m. Reservations April 4.

**April 5 - Wildflower Hike** at 1:00 p.m. Reservations April 4.

**April 5 - Radnor Lake Canoe Float** at 2:00 p.m. Reservations April 4.

**April 11 - Canoe Float** at 6:00 a.m. Reservations April 4.

**April 12 - Wildflower Hike** at 1:00 p.m. Reservations April 11.

**April 12 - Canoe Float** at 2:00 p.m. Reservations April 11.

**April 18 - Bird of Prey/Reptile program** at 2:00 p.m. at the Nature Center. No reservations needed.

**April 18 - Wildflower Hike** at 10:00 a.m. Reservations April 11.

**April 19 - Cross Country Hike** at 2:00 p.m. Reservations April 18.

**April 25 - Wildflower Hike** at 1:00 p.m.

**April 26 - Wild Edible Foods Display** at 1:30 p.m. Stop by the Visitor Center to sample a wide array of native Tennessee plants (and animals) deliciously prepared by Sharon Bracy. Samples, info and recipes will be available. No reservations necessary.

Call 377-1281 between 9:00-10:30 a.m. on dates listed.

Spring Wildflower Celebration  
April 10-12, 1992

Montgomery Bell State Park  
Burns, Tennessee

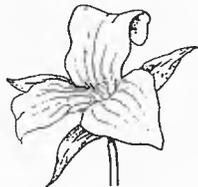
Schedule of Activities

Friday, April 10

- 7:00 p.m. **Welcome to Montgomery Bell**
- 7:30 p.m. **Wildflower Slide Show**  
Park Naturalist, Kim Litton shows us what flowers to look for during the spring blooming season.
- 9:00 p.m. **The Stars of Spring**  
Park Interpretive Specialist, Bill Troup takes us on a journey through the spring night sky.

Saturday, April 11

- 8:00 a.m. **Springtime Birding**  
Middle Tennessee Regional Naturalist, John Froeschauer, leads us on a morning birding outing.
- 10:00 a.m. **Spring Wildflower Walks**  
Our staff of Naturalists and our visiting experts will lead hikes of various lengths to view the myriad of flowers in the park.



- 1:00 p.m. **Mushrooms of the Mid-South**  
Professor Sallie Noel of Austin Peay State University and Professor Mary McReynolds of Hopkinsville Community College introduce us to the world of fungi.
- 3:00 p.m. **Reptiles of the World**  
Naturalist and educator, Scott Shupe, brings his entertaining and educational live animal presentation to Montgomery Bell.
- 4:30 p.m. **Nature is for Kids!**  
Through games and hands-on experiences, kids explore the wonders of the natural world. Hosted by Bill Troup.
- 8:00 p.m. **Owl Prowl/Nocturnal Animal Ilike**  
Park Naturalist, Kim Litton, leads an exploration into the realm of the "hunters of the night."

Sunday, April 12

- 9:00 a.m. **Flora of the Harpeth River Basin**  
Dr. Edward Chester of Austin Peay State University leads this field trip to the Harpeth to examine the trees and flowers of this rich area.
- 1:00 p.m. **Harpeth Bluffs Wildflower Walk**  
Explore the beautiful bluffs along the Harpeth river with Kim Litton. The hillsides should be covered in spring wildflowers.

Please continue to explore the wonders of nature in your state parks.

# SPRING WILDFLOWER CELEBRATION

## APRIL 10-12, 1992

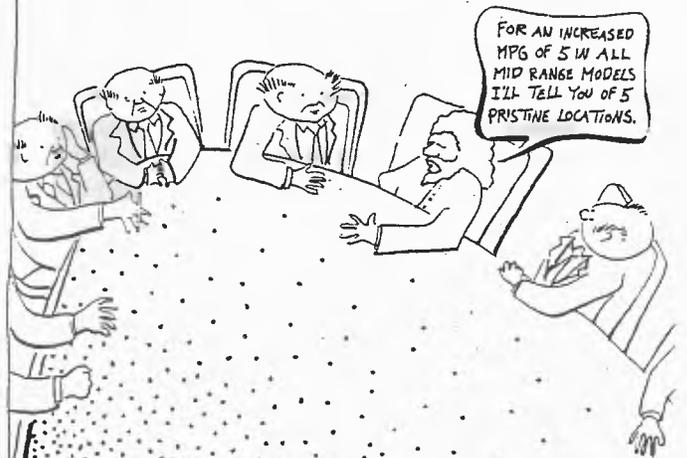
From the quiet stillness of winter, the delicate beauty of spring emerges. Petals slowly unfurl and fill with color, culminating in a floral ballet throughout the forests and fields.

Share in the wonder and natural beauty of spring at Montgomery Bell State Park. Explore the woodlands with professional naturalists and unlock the mysteries of our natural world. Also, meet up close some of the wondrous creatures who share this planet with us. All of the weekend's activities are free and will meet at the park's new visitor center. Come and experience the beauty of spring with us.



MONTGOMERY BELL  
STATE RESORT  
PARK

THE YEAR IS 2021. GENERAL MOTORS PLACES A MEMBER OF GREENPEACE ON ITS BOARD WHEN IT DISCOVERS THERE ARE NO SCENIC VISTAS LEFT TO FILM AS BACKDROPS FOR COMMERCIALS.



**KUDOS TO THE MEMPHIS CHAPTER**

Thank you to the Memphis Chapter for being the host of the 1992 Annual Meeting. It is fitting that the Annual Meeting is back where it was when Memphis hosted their very first Annual Meeting back in 1981--Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park. Yes, we're looking forward to coming to Lakeshore in October. Hopefully, at that meeting we can announce a new West Tennessee chapter in Jackson or elsewhere.

We know that our Bluff City chapter will keep Adopt-A-Trail alive in West Tennessee whether they are working on the Chickasaw Bluffs Trail, Fisherville Lake Trail, or whatever their next project may be. These folks do a great job of promoting TTA with their local media. They cooperate with local conservation and environmental groups over common issues while maintaining a distinct identity of their own. As a former West Tennessean, I know that there are unique problems to maintaining trails in West Tennessee. It is not unusual to go through a winter in which there is no dormant season as far as growth of lush vegetation. In those cases, you do energetic trail maintenance early in the year or you can kiss your trail good-bye! A higher concentration of wetlands in West Tennessee offers some unique scenery, but it also results in more potential for flooding out of trails than elsewhere in the State.

Over the years, this chapter has hiked in Alabama, Georgia, Missouri, North Carolina, as well as routinely in their neighboring states of Arkansas, Mississippi and Kentucky. This chapter has ardently supported the Cumberland Trail whenever possible, despite the fact that it is a long distance drive for them. I cannot think about the Memphis chapter without thinking about Jerri Bull as TTA's first (but not last) West Tennessee President. Also, Jerri and Ken Humphreys were our first award winners from West Tennessee. Betty Porter, J.T. Jones and Debbie Gilbert have been faithful Board members for the State organization. When I think of what the Memphis chapter has accomplished, I think of Jill Norvell and all of her and husband Charlie's initial hard work on trails and to be good will ambassadors for trails. I'm sure their offspring will carry on that tradition, too.

Long live the Memphis chapter! I plan to take in at least one program meeting in 1992, but I'm looking forward to hiking with you also.

--Bob Barnett, TTA President

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**ATTENTION!!**

If you like to watch movies, Blockbuster has a deal for you. Blockbuster will donate \$1.00 to the non-profit organization of your choice (as in TTA), for every "Co-Star" card you get punched. For every 7 visits, you get a free movie rental and they will make the \$1.00 donation. Check with your local Blockbuster store to ask for a "Co-Star" card. Those dollars could really add up!

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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 15th of each month. All submissions, questions and/or comments should be addressed to:

ARLEEN BARNETT  
P. O. Box 41446  
Nashville, TN 37204

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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.

1992 TTA LEADERS

PRESIDENT:	Bob Barnett (615) 832-6484
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Tom Shepherd (615) 895-2098
CORR. SEC/TREAS:	Judy Van Cleve (615) 473-8136
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) 646-4079
MEMBERSHIP:	Bob Barnett (615) 832-6484
CUMBERLAND TRAIL	
CHAIRMAN:	Bob Brown (615) 352-7474
Adopt-A-Trail:	Bob Barnett, Coordinator (615) 832-6484
Cookeville Chapter:	Nora Miller, Co-Chair, (615) 473-8136
Murfreesboro Chapter:	Bettie Herring, Chair, (615) 895-8171
Memphis Chapter:	Debbie Gilbert, Chair, (901) 454-0613
Nashville Chapter:	Evelyn Baker, Chair, (615) 391-3479/833-5763
Clarksville Chapter:	Roger Greer, Chair, (615) 648-8769

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

