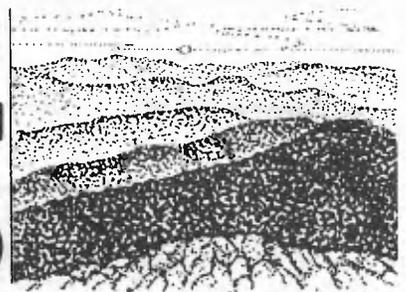


# TENNESSEE TRAILS

The monthly newsletter of the Tennessee Trails Association



## I'M THEIR LEADER--WHERE DID THEY GO?

by Bob Barnett

The Tennessee Trails Association held the 1986 Annual Meeting on Lookout Mountain, but on the Georgia side.

Some hospitable Chattanooga folks were leading a hike at Georgia's Cloudland Canyon State Park. Somehow I got designated to make sure that two or three carloads of folks would rendezvous with the leaders before we started to hike. There were some unexpected delays in our group getting to the park in nearby Rising Fawn, Georgia.

When our group finally arrived, there was not one recognizable person in sight. Five minutes later there was no one there. Ten minutes later there was still no one there. When fifteen minutes had passed, we decided the other hikers had left without us and it was time to walk.

I have forgotten how many miles we hiked that day, but it was too many in too few minutes. I was determined to "catch up" with the hike leaders because they knew the trail and I felt responsible for the two groups becoming one.

We were a group of trail burners moving like a runaway freight train with no brakes. We hardly stopped to rest along the way. No one walked out of their boots due to the fast pace, but the potential of that happening was present all day long.

When we finished hiking, we still had not seen any other hikers or even fresh signs of the other hikers. THERE WAS GOOD REASON FOR THAT! The hike leader and the rest of the

Chattanooga group started hiking fifteen minutes AFTER our group. We were racing to catch up with people who were behind us!

I can describe other trails at Cloudland Canyon State Park, but the longest trail in that beautiful park is an undistinguishable blur of a memory to me.



"Now we'll find the varmint for sure. ... Red Cloud can read even the smallest trail signs."

---

SCEIC Award Presented  
to TTA Member

Memphis TTA chapter chairman Debbie Gilbert was presented with a Shelby County Environmental Improvement Commission (SCEIC) Award on April 20th in the Print Media category for her environmental column in The Memphis Flyer, a weekly newspaper. Here is an excerpt from the presentation speech given by Shelby County Commissioner Ed Williams: "Her articles have a unique pro-environmental point of view--the view of one who spends time hiking and canoeing, one who has firsthand knowledge of the beauty of nature and the need to safeguard wilderness areas. Her writing is also marked by careful research. In contrast to many reporters and editorial writers, her conclusions are well-supported and logical."

According to those in attendance, the recipient of this award blushed during this lavish praise, but then she got up and hogged the microphone with an acceptance speech, imploring the audience to contact her with story leads. "But be aware that the Flyer doesn't do cheerleading stories," she said. "We like dirt!"

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## ATTENTION!!

Please note that the dates have been changed for the 1993 TTA Annual Meeting from what was listed on the hike schedule published in January of this year. The Dubose Center on Monteagle Mountain has been reserved for the weekend of October 22-24, 1993. Save this weekend on your calendar!

# Creek gorge joins area scenic assets

## Hiking trails, swimming holes open in June

A few miles north of the Tennessee Aquarium, the North Chickamauga Creek starts a winding trek down the side of a mountain just outside of Soddy-Daisy.

The North Chickamauga Gorge, the newest addition to Chattanooga's growing environmental arsenal, surrounds that creek and complements the Tennessee River Gorge to the west. It is 1,100 acres of hiking trails, swimming holes, and camping areas. And it's opening next month (June) to the public.

The land is owned by the Bowater Paper Co., which will maintain the public park that is just a jog from the metropolitan area's urban center. The park is more than six times as large as the city-owned Spangler Farm downstream on the North Chickamauga Creek.

"There is probably no other city with that much scenic beauty and wilderness in such close proximity," City Councilman Dave Crockett, a leader in the local environmental movement, says. "It and the Tennessee River Gorge are the bookends of this environmental center."

Bowater is opening the land as part of its pocket wilderness program. Since the mid-1970's, six other natural parks have been opened across the southeast by the paper company. Astrid Sheil, spokeswoman for Bowater, says that this project is the company's effort to help Chattanooga reach its goal of becoming a national environmental center.

(Article written by Brian Hicks of The Chattanooga Times)

## HEMLOCK BLUFF NATIONAL RECREATION TRAIL

The Hemlock Bluff National Recreation Trail provides a scenic hike along steep ridges and bluffs with numerous views of Norris Lake. The trailhead, with three parking spaces, is located in Union County, Tennessee, at the Loyston Point Recreation Area, on the road to the boat ramp. Loyston Point also has a campground, picnic area, and swimming beach. The map shows how to get to Loyston Point from state highway 61 at Andersonville. Mileage is given between asterisks at major intersections.

The trail is marked with white blazes. A double blaze indicates a change in direction. All of the trail is on public lands managed by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

### Description of Features.

The trail begins to the left of the parking area. It briefly descends, then climbs through a hardwood forest. After a few minutes, the trail crosses a gravel road (closed to traffic). It is a good idea to note this intersection since this road is part of the return trip. After passing the road, the trail descends through hardwood and pine forests and reaches the lake edge after about one-half mile. The trail immediately climbs steeply to a ridge, levels out on a contour, and then climbs again to a ridgetop at about one mile from the trailhead.

The trail descends steeply from the ridge, then turns sharply and follows the lake edge along a small embayment. A wildlife food plot is visible to the right of the sharp turn. This point is about 1 and 1/2 miles from the trailhead. The terrain becomes less steep as the trail follows the lake edge for about one mile. When the terrain again becomes steeper, the trail begins a series of switchbacks up to a high ridgetop. The ridgetop is about 3 miles from the trailhead. The trail follows the ridgetop, and after about another half mile of walking, the first hemlocks become visible to the left. The small grove of hemlocks, which gives the trail its name, is visible on both sides of the trail for several hundred yards. At 4 miles from the trailhead, the trail descends through a pine forest. At 4 1/2 miles, the trail passes old homesites along an old road in a grove of cedar and pine trees, then passes rock outcrops. At 5 miles, the trail descends into a small gully and makes a sharp turn at the end of it. It then ascends to a gravel road.

Continue by turning right on the gravel and grass road, which passes wildlife openings and food plots. After about a mile, the road climbs to a hilltop. When reaching the hilltop, start looking for the trail crossing while walking along the ridge. Turn left to return to the parking area for a total hike of about 6 1/2 miles.

### RECREATION FACILITIES SHOWN ON LOYSTON POINT AND VICINITY MAP

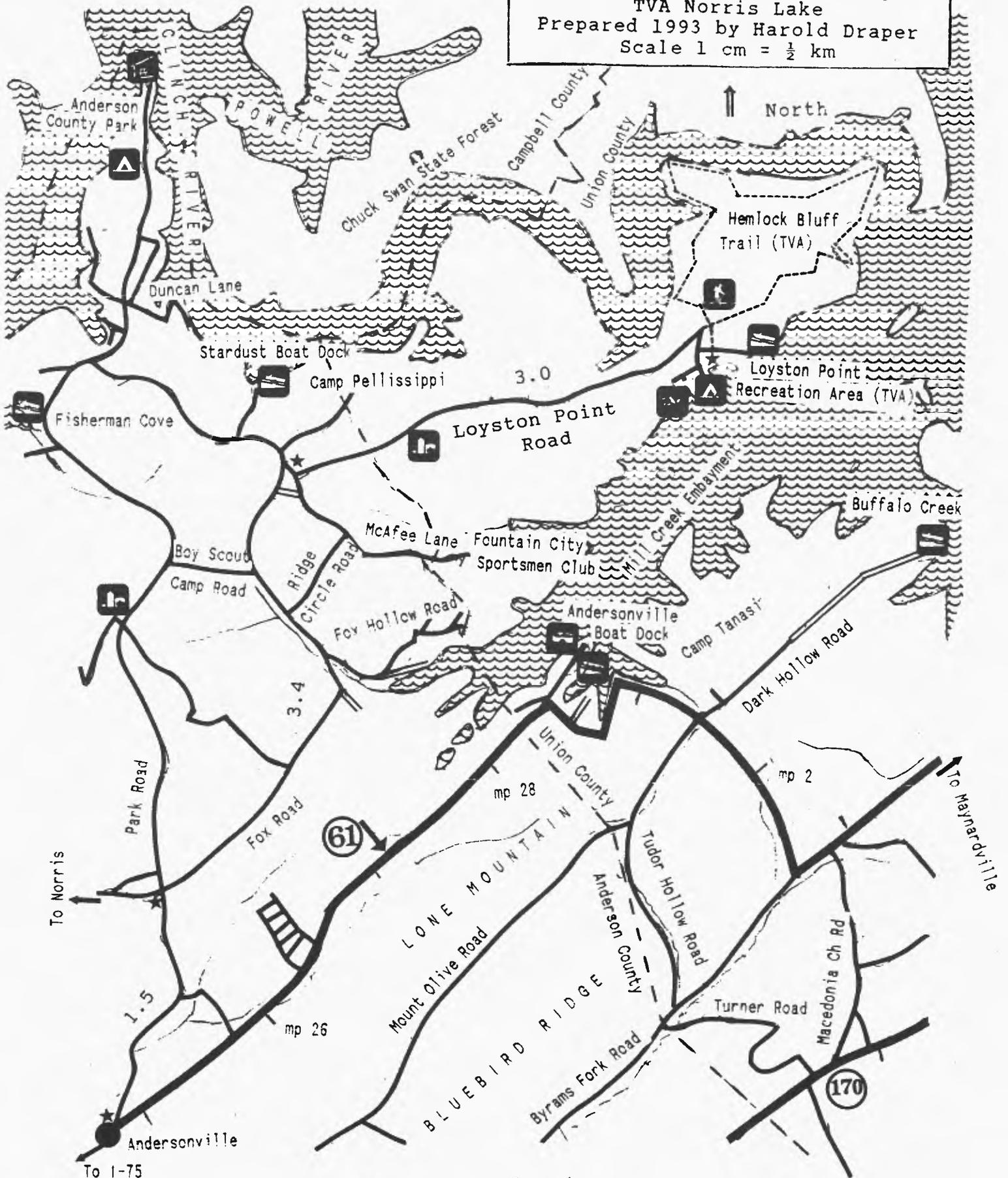
Anderson County Park: tent and trailer camping, picnicking, swimming, boat ramp  
Andersonville Boat Dock: tent and trailer camping, boat ramp, boat rentals, restaurant  
Buffalo Creek (Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency): boat ramp  
Fisherman's Cove (Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency): boat ramp  
Loyston Point (Tennessee Valley Authority): tent and trailer camping, picnicking, swimming beach, boat ramp, Hemlock Bluff Trail  
Stardust Boat Dock: boat rentals, restaurant, boat ramp

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Harold Draper, TTA member from Knoxville, has the volunteer spirit. The map of the Hemlock Bluff National Recreation Trail on Norris Lake was developed by Harold as a volunteer project. In the past Harold has served as a Cumberland Trail volunteer, and like so many TTA members, he is probably involved in other endeavors we don't even know about. Let us know about your volunteer efforts and/or new trails, too.

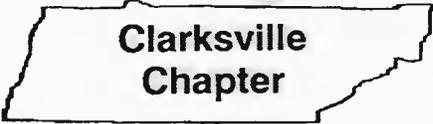
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Loyston Point and Vicinity  
 TVA Norris Lake  
 Prepared 1993 by Harold Draper  
 Scale 1 cm = 1/2 km



## CHAPTER NEWS

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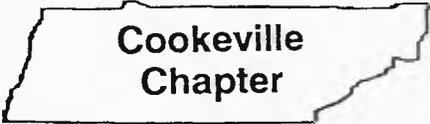
### Clarksville Chapter

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

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**JUNE 19 - Big South Fork/Blue Heron.** Call  
James Neblett (615) 387-3317 for details.

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### Cookeville Chapter

**TUESDAY, JUNE 1 - Program Meeting.** We will  
meet at Ann's Restaurant at the Star Motor Inn on  
South Willow at 6:30 p.m.

**JUNE 12 - Frozen Head State Park.** Meet at  
Penney's at 8:00 a.m., Hardee's in Monterey at 8:30  
a.m., and the Cracker Barrel in Crossville at 9:00  
a.m. Hike is 10-12 miles round trip, moderate to  
strenuous. Paul and Pam Miller are leading. Call  
526-9252 or 836-3696.

**JUNE 19 - Scott's Gulf Overlook.** Meet at  
Dominion Bank in Sparta at 9:00 a.m. Hike is about  
12 miles round trip, moderate. Bonnie Green is  
leading. Call 836-3696 or 526-9252.

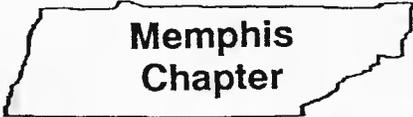
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### TRIP REPORT CLEGBURN HOLLOW HIKE APRIL 11, 1993

Seventeen Cookeville Chapter members and friends  
and two dogs took a hike Easter Sunday afternoon on  
and around the farm of Paul and Pam Miller in  
Poplar Grove, just east of Cookeville. The hike was  
scouted and led by Sam and Charlie Griego, who  
planned an interesting route to the source of Clegburn  
Creek and thru the woods to an old homestead site  
covered with daffodils. Very little of the hike was on  
a trail or road so the group got to try a little  
bushwhacking. Charlie told an interesting story about  
pioneer settlers of the region during a snack break.  
Flowers sighted on the challenging 4-mile route  
included a variety of violets, dwarf iris, trillium, wild  
oats, phlox, fire pink, larkspur, foam flower, jack-in-  
the-pulpit and bloodroot. It was a beautiful way to  
spend Easter Sunday afternoon.

--Paul D. Miller

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### Memphis Chapter

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

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**JUNE 6 - Harbortown/Mud Island Walk.** Meet us  
at 2:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon in the parking lot at  
the north end of the island (cross the Auction Ave.  
bridge, turn right, and follow the road until it ends).  
We'll explore the fabulous architecture of the  
Harbortown community and walk along the river, and  
then we have the option of either visiting Mud Island  
Park or going to the Pinch district and maybe riding  
the new trolley. Wear comfortable shoes (not boots)  
and bring plenty of water and sunscreen. Plan to  
walk about 4-5 miles. For info, call Glenda Graff,  
(901) 371-0332.

**JUNE 17 - Program Meeting.** This will be our last regular meeting until September. Come and help us plan our August picnic.

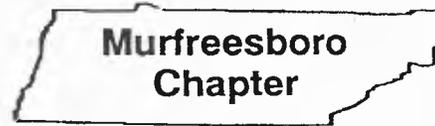
**JUNE 27 - Bear Creek Float Trip, Tishomingo State Park, Mississippi.** Please note change of date. We switched this trip to Sunday because we could not book a canoe rental for Saturday. Meet us at 8:30 a.m. Sunday at the Park Place Mall (Oshman's) parking lot, not at the church. We need to be at the canoe rental place at about 12:30, so we'll eat lunch first in a nice cool spot. The float is about 8 miles and takes 2-3 hours. Charge is \$15 per canoe, and no more than 2 people are allowed in each canoe. Bring sunscreen, water, food, and wear clothes you don't mind getting wet. (Jerri, bring your snake-whacking stick.) For info, call Ken Novak, (901) 377-9127.

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**TRIP REPORT  
N.B. FORREST STATE PARK**

Eleven hikers from the Memphis Chapter enjoyed the beauty of this area on May 8th. It was hot as only weather can be in West Tennessee at this time of year, but the trail had cool shade, many streams, and lots of ferns and colorful spring wildflowers. Serviceberry was in bloom along with mountain laurel. Some of the group hiked the 5-mile trail, while some of the more foolhardy tackled the 10-mile trail. All of the existing trails in the park are in good condition with trail signs color-coded for each section and signs placed where needed. The view from Pilot Knob at the River Folklife Center was great, and the breeze gave a refreshing respite after the hike. Five of us were able to camp Friday and Saturday nights at the Methodist Church camp facility adjacent to N.B. Forrest, and we enjoyed the peace and quiet. There were lots of birds, owls to awake you at 5:00 a.m., a whipporwill that kept going, and going, and going, and a skunk that made you think twice before venturing out of your tent at night. It was another great hiking and camping trip.

--Jerri Bull



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

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**JUNE 19 - Harpeth River Canoe Float.** This was listed as a Duck River canoe float on the annual schedule but it has been changed to the Harpeth River. We'll do 14 miles. This is billed as a 4 1/2 hour trip by Tip-A-Canoe, but we'll stop to explore the Narrows and Montgomery Bell's Tunnel and maybe have a swim, so plan to make a day of it. Canoes can be rented complete with PFD's and paddles for \$28, or your own canoe can be shuttled for \$5. Reservations are required if we want to choose our launch time. Call Heloise Shilstat, (615)896-6278 (h), or 254-5461 (w).



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

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**NATIONAL TRAILS DAY  
ON THE NACHEZ TRACE NATIONAL  
SCENIC TRAIL  
JUNE 5-6**

The Tennessee Natchez Trace Trailblazers will sponsor 5-mile and 12-mile dayhikes and a 25-mile overnight hike for the National Trails Day weekend. All three hikes will start at 9:00 a.m. CDT Saturday at the Garrison Creek visitors center at the northern terminus of the Tennessee section of

the N.T. Trail. All vehicles may be parked at the Garrison Creek center, and shuttles will be provided at the end of each hike to bring at least all drivers back to Garrison Creek.

The 5-mile dayhike will end at the Tennessee Valley Divide parking area, while the 12-mile dayhike and the first day of the overnight hike will end at Billy Walker's farm near Trace milepost 418. The two-day hikers will camp at this farm in a beautiful grassy area with potable spring water, large picnic shelter and a good outhouse nearby, all regularly used and maintained by Mr. Walker's Franklin, TN BSA Troop.

The hikes are rated moderate because of the hilly to rolling terrain. The trail passes alternately and about equally through fields and woods.

Please register by May 31 for the overnight hike or get further info by calling Bob Brown at (615) 352-7474.

TTA Board Meeting  
Saturday, June 5  
Nashville, Tennessee

Please mark your calendars for the next TTA Board Meeting to be hosted by Bob and Arleen Barnett at their home in Nashville. We will start the meeting at 2:00 p.m. and then have a cookout afterwards. The Barnetts will provide grilled hamburgers, hot dogs and veggie burgers, as well as beverages. We ask each attendee to bring a side dish such as salads, veggies, desserts, chips, etc. Later that night, Bob will lead his 4th annual 39th Birthday Nightlife Hike in downtown Nashville. If you'd like to camp overnight, there's plenty of space in the backyard along the creek, or there's sleeping bag room in the den downstairs.

The Barnetts' address is 4951 Edmondson Pike, close to Harding Mall in southeast Nashville. If you're coming on I-65 South, take the Harding Place East exit and turn right on Nolensville Rd. and right on Edmondson Pike. If you're coming on I-24 from Murfreesboro, take the Harding Place West exit and turn left on Nolensville Rd. & right on Edmondson. If you need further directions, please call the Barnetts at (615) 832-6484.

**JUNE 5 - Long Hunter State Park.** We will hike the 4-mile day loop and possibly the 2-mile lake trail or 1 mile wildflower trail. All these trails are easy. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the First Church Unity parking lot at 5125 Franklin Rd. in Brentwood (just south of Otter Creek Rd), or at 9:15 a.m. at the Long Hunter Visitor Center at the main entrance of the park. Call Bob Barnett at (615) 832-6484 if you need further info or directions.

**JUNE 12-13 - Gregory Bald Campout, Smoky Mountains.** Call Allen Willett (615) 794-6058.

**JUNE 24 - Program Meeting at Cumberland Science Museum, 7:30 p.m.**

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### TRIP REPORT - PINEY RIVER TRAIL

On May 15, 10 hikers from the Nashville chapter and 9 from the Cookeville chapter met up and enjoyed the beautiful weather and each other's company hiking the 10-mile Piney River Trail. A mile or so into the trail I let out a scream and everybody but Patti thought I had seen a snake. But my buddy knew that the scream was a Lady Slipper happy scream. There right beside the trail were not one, but two of the most beautiful yellow Lady Slippers I had ever seen. Bonnie spotted a pink Lady Slipper a little further down the trail. There were a lot of other beautiful flowers in bloom--foam flowers, Dutchman's pipe, wild geraniums, a spice bush, and one that was very pretty and growing everywhere but none of us could identify it.

The trail had several great spots to wade in and some wonderful swimming holes that several of us took advantage of. I for one plan on putting this hike on the top of my list to do again next year. Thanks to Rich for driving and Patti for remembering where the trailhead was. Sorry, Bob, that you couldn't lead this hike, because you missed a good one!

Jeannie Bumbalough





**TTA AWARD PRESENTED  
TO SHERMAN BOULDS**

Every year the TTA Award is presented to an individual or organization who has made significant contributions to trails in Tennessee. The recipient for 1993 is Mr. Sherman Boulds, manager of the WalMart Store in Hermitage, TN. Mr. Boulds was instrumental in obtaining WalMart grants totalling \$1,500.00 over a 2-year period to help fund the building of the Stewart State Forest Trail and procuring land for the Black Fox Wetlands project in Murfreesboro, TN. Bob Barnett, TTA president, took Mr. Boulds to lunch to present the award to him.



TTA-member Russ Manning has authored a new book, *The Historic Cumberland Plateau, An Explorer's Guide*, recently published by the University of Tennessee Press as part of its new "Outdoor Tennessee Series." In the book, Russ gives in-depth information on the geology and history of the Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Alabama while providing a guide to the national and state parks and forests, natural areas, and historic communities throughout the region. In addition to maps and photos, the book includes directions to hiking trails that travel to canyon overlooks, waterfalls, caves, and natural arches. A description of the Cumberland Trail includes a brief history of the Tennessee Trails Association and its involvement in establishing the trail. The book is available in local bookstores, from UT Press (615/974-3321), or from Mountain Laurel Place, P. O. Box 3001, Norris, TN, 37828 (\$14.95 plus \$2.00 shipping and \$1.23 sales tax). Russ and his wife, Sondra, are coauthors of the Tag-Along Books hiking guides, *The Best of the Big South Fork*, *The South Cumberland and Fall Creek Falls*, and *The Best of the Great Smoky Mountains*.

You ask if we need anything—Ann wants an elephant, Nancy and I would like a Xerox machine, and I'll take a piano. Also if you could spread some farm animals around the lawn so the rooster alarm clock can function I'll feel right at home.... We want a bouquet of wildflowers, world peace, and 27 people to go over the ELF fence.... If you are unable to fulfill all these wishes, we'll take a watermelon instead.

**Kathy Kelly**  
letter from Ashland County jail  
July 1985

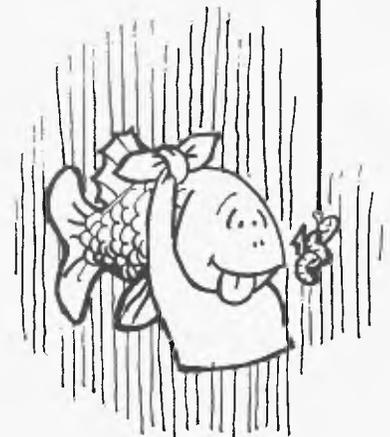
I am for a nuclear freeze. Even in the summertime.

**Andy K.**  
Seattle, Age 8  
*Please Save My World*

Dear Mr. President,

Please wear mittens in the White House so you won't be able to put your finger on the button.

**Andy S.**  
San Francisco, Age 9  
*Please Save My World*



## JUNE HIKES & ACTIVITIES

Date	Chapter	
5		NATIONAL TRAILS DAY!!! Get out and hike!
5	Nashville	Long Hunter State Park, Bob Barnett (615) 832-6484
5	Nashville	4th Annual 39th Birthday Nightlife Hike, Downtown Nashville, Bob Barnett (615) 832-6484
5-6	Nashville	Natchez Trace Pkwy Day Hike/Overnighter, Bob Brown (615) 352-7474
6	Memphis	Mud Island/Harbortown Walk, Glenda Graff (901) 371-0332
12	Cookeville	Frozen Head State Park, Paul & Pam Miller (615) 526-9252 or 836-3696
12-13	Nashville	Gregory Bald Campout, Smoky Mtns., Allen Willett (615) 794-6058
19	Clarksville	Big South Fork/Blue Heron, James Neblett (615) 387-3317
19	Cookeville	Scott's Gulf Overlook, Bonnie Green (615) 836-3696 or 526-9252
19	Murfreesboro	Harpeth River Canoe Float, Heloise Shilstat (615)896-6278 or 254-5461
27	Memphis	Bear Creek Float Trip, Tishomingo State Park, Mississippi, Ken Novak (901) 377-9127

APRIL 19, 1993

VOL. IV NO. I

# BLACK FOX WETLANDS NEWS

Since the Black Fox Wetlands League was first formed we have concentrated on two priorities. First and foremost has been the protection of the spring and its watershed. Our second priority has been to promote the development of environmental education programs which would utilize the wetlands resource once it was secured. We have long envisioned use of the wetlands as a natural lab for teaching science to school groups in our area, and the spring as a focus for demonstrating the history of Rutherford County.

That idea took a giant step forward on March 31, when members of the League met with city leaders to discuss the possibilities. Credit for the meeting must go to Representative Bart Gordon for his work in passing legislation to involve the Nashville District Corps of Engineers in a planning process. In brief, the Corps has been enlisted to study the watersheds of both the Black Fox spring and the spring at Oaklands mansion, to identify current and potential land uses, and to study the feasibility of establishing an environmental education center in association with Black Fox wetlands.

The planning meeting was conducted by representatives of Lose and Associates, the firm which has been hired to master plan the Stones River trail and a city-wide bike system. They have also contracted with the Corps of Engineers to prepare a plan for the Black Fox project, while staff of the Corps will work on the Oaklands plan. There are many questions to answer before any concrete progress can be made toward developing an education center, not the least being who will run it and how will it be funded. Those questions and others will be considered in depth by the planners and the planning committee during the spring and summer, with a proposal in August.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

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 1993 (Jan-Dec) with the type membership checked below:

_____ Student	\$ 6.00	MAIL DUES TO:
_____ Individual/Family	15.00	Tennessee Trails Assn.
_____ Supporting	\$30, \$40 or \$50	P. O. Box 41446
_____ Life	150.00	Nashville, TN 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: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LIST ME WITH \_\_\_\_\_ CHAPTER

HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT TTA? \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*  
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

\*\*\*\*\*

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.

1993 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:	Jerri Bull, Coordinator (901) 363-4408
	Bob Barnett, Coordinator (615) 832-6484
	Jack Murphy, (615) 537-9827
Cookeville Chapter:	Ron Ferrara, Chair, (615) 893-3515
Murfreesboro Chapter:	Debbie Gilbert, Chair, (901) 454-0613
Memphis Chapter:	Bob Stephenson, Chair, (615) 672-4064
Nashville Chapter:	Roger Greer, Chair, (615) 648-8769
Clarksville Chapter:	

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

