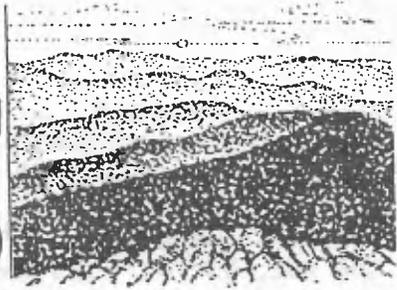


# TENNESSEE TRAILS

The monthly newsletter of the Tennessee Trails Association



## 1994 TTA ANNUAL MEETING

The TTA State Annual Meeting was held at Happy Hill Acres near Clarksville during the first weekend in November. Eighty members registered for the event, and most came. Food was prepared on site by members of the nearby Dotsonville Community Center. Numerous door prizes were awarded throughout the weekend.

On Friday, we gathered at the dining hall for a sumptuous potluck dinner. After seconds (and thirds by some of the members who shall remain nameless), we listened as Ernst "Raven" Banfield gave a most enjoyable program of songs, stories, and a slide show about Sunshine's (Raven's wife) and his 1985 Appalachian Trail thru-hike.

Saturday morning, with rain threatening, we left for planned hikes. Carl Gadsey, Wanda Cumberland and James McKenzie led a group over a section of the Trail of Tears near Port Royal. Carl shared his great wealth of knowledge about the Trail of Tears with those present. Afterwards, this same group went on to Dunbar Cave Natural Area, where they either toured the cave or hiked a nearby trail.

Other members went to Ft. Donelson National Battlefield with Robert Alley and Suva Bastin. James Neblett took a group to Cross

Creeks, while J.R. Tate led a group on a leisurely walk around the lake at Happy Hill Acres.



Ernst "Raven" Banfield

Then the rain came down! The storm struck at noon and knocked the power out at the camp. J.R.'s group was safely entrenched in the dining hall enjoying songs by Raven and eating breakfast leftovers. Other groups got wet, but most persevered and finished their hikes. The power was finally restored, and Raven was able to give a repeat performance of his thru-hike, in addition to the regularly scheduled program about his trip to Isle Royal.

Eventually, all members returned to camp, most wet and all tired and hungry. After the "ayce" spaghetti dinner, we were entertained by the Mary Kay Dancers, a local clogging group. All of the members got to show off their dancing skills (more or less), under the expert and delightful direction of Mary Kay. What fun!



Bravo, Evelyn Tretter!



Bob Barnett, Auctioneer Extra-ordinaire in his "Yellow Passion Shorts"

Later, the general membership meeting was presided over by President Rob Weber. Then Bob Barnett, decked out in "passion yellow" shorts, and assisted by Paul Goldstein, started the auction. Things became heated when the live rabbit was put on the auction block and was immediately bid on by a member who wanted its precious little fur for fishing lures. (Horror of horrors!) A collection was taken to "Save the Rabbit" and was successful, much to the relief of the rabbit. As happens each year, some interesting items showed up the auction. This time, a genuine can of sun-dried, road-killed possum; a "How to Cook Your Pet" cookbook; plus the perennial Bob Barnett Duck Cap, and a certain type toad were among the items featured.

On Sunday morning after breakfast, Raven led us in a rousing rendition of "This Land Is Your Land," followed by a reading of the 121st Psalm and a very touching "Amazing Grace." Events on Sunday morning included a slide presentation on the Colorado Rockies by Raven, a tour of old historic Clarksville led by Marguerite Rubel, and a walk around Happy Hill Acres.

The Clarksville Chapter certainly enjoyed being the host for this year's annual meeting. They hope that all the members had as much fun as they did. And wish to thank all of those there for their help in making the meeting a success. See all of you next year!

J.R. Tate  
Chapter Chairperson

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**DUES ARE DUE!**

*It's time to renew your membership for 1995. Please use the membership form found on the back page of the newsletter and send your dues to Membership Director, TTA, P.O. Box 41446, Nashville, TN 37204. Don't forget! We value your membership.*

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**PINEY RIVER  
JOINT TSRA/TTA MEETING**

*Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association has invited TTA to join them on January 11th at Cheekwood in Nashville for a slide presentation and talk with David Rhyne concerning the Piney River. David, a past president of TTA, is pushing for State Scenic River designation for the Piney River located on the Cumberland Plateau, which he calls "a jewel in an almost*

*natural state." TTA, whose members have hiked the river's trails for years, supports the Scenic River designation.*

*Furthermore, the trails, if extended, could one day serve as a portion of the Cumberland Trail. This will be an excellent presentation, so come out and join us. More to follow in January's newsletter.*

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**TRAC (TENNESSEE RAILS TO TRAILS)  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Jim Johnson and Bob Barnett are representing TTA on the TRAC. Long time (and lifetime) member, Bob Richards, has also been serving as a voluntary consultant.

The fledgling organization's mission statement is:

The mission of the Tennessee Rails-Trails Advisory Council (TRAC) is to advocate the planning, development, and management of rails-trails throughout the State of Tennessee for the purposes of appropriate recreation, preservation of rail corridors and alternative transportation, in order to benefit the general public, communities, commerce and tourism.

The group is developing a brochure and putting together a promotional slide show. They are seeking to support rails-trails projects in progress throughout the state. The Advisory Council has representation from West, Middle and East Tennessee.

For more information about TRAC, when it meets, and current projects call:

Bob Barnett 832-6484 (evenings)  
Jim Johnson 356-6246 (evenings)  
Bob Richards 532-0753 (days)

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

A huge THANK YOU goes out to the Clarksville Chapter for making this year's annual meeting a great success. J.R. Tate and his members supplied us with a weekend of hiking, eating, and socializing. They entertained us with the songs, stories, and slides of Raven, an A.T. thru-hiker, and gave us a taste of the Tennessee original--clogging. Thanks to all the membership who came to the meeting.

Congratulations go out to our two annual award recipients this year. Arleen Barnett took home the Bill Stutz Award for her long term work with TTA. You all know Arleen as the editor of our excellent newsletter--a thankless job. She has also been responsible for preserving TTA's archives, and the 25th anniversary dinner. Dennis Horn received the TTA Award for his efforts in preserving Short Springs thru its designation as a State Natural Area. Many of you know the beauty of Short Springs thru its blooms in spring, and we appreciate Dennis' tireless work.



The membership voted in several new members to our State leadership at the annual meeting. We welcome Jim Johnson of Nashville as our Vice President. Jim has been active with TTA for several years now and has great leadership ability. The membership approved the by-law change to allow for a new position on the State Board--a Membership Director. We welcome Ninez Giles of Nashville to this position--a difficult, but very important position to TTA. Our newest Board Representative at Large is Heloise Shilstat of Murfreesboro. Heloise is a BIG hiker, thinking nothing of covering A.T. lengths in a day, and we welcome her. A big thank you goes out to James T. Jones of Jackson who served for years as a Board Rep. and to Bob Barnett who served as Vice President in 1994.

*At the annual meeting we made the Cumberland Trail a leading issue for TTA in 1995, and as a group we must decide whether or not to revive the C.T. In January we will publish a C.T. proposal that will give us direction on this issue, and in February we will hike Brady and Black Mountain, Section 5 of the C.T., to see what work needs to be done. We hope to have work parties scheduled this spring on Section 5 to include trail work, blazing, and signage. TTA, as the founder of the Cumberland Trail in 1969, must take the leadership in reviving the C.T., and we are counting on our member support on this issue. More will follow in the January newsletter.*

*1994 was an excellent year for TTA and I am grateful to all those dedicated people who helped make it a success. 1995 will be even better.*

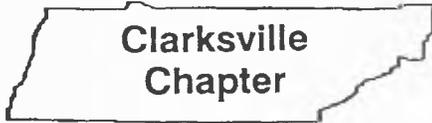
*Happy Hiking and may Santa not lose the trail!*

*Rob Weber  
TTA President*



## CHAPTER NEWS

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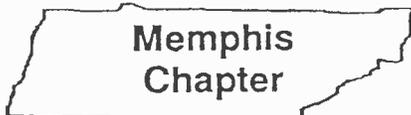
Meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Community Room at Governor's Square Mall.

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**DEC. 4 (SUNDAY) - PORT ROYAL HISTORIC PARK AND TOUR OF HILLS MILLS.** Class I. Wanda Cumberland 358-3338 or James McKenzie (502) 424-5285.

**DEC. 10 - RADNOR LAKE STATE NATURAL AREA, NASHVILLE.** Class II. Paul Smith 270-8766 or Wanda Cumberland 358-3338.

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

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**DEC. 15 - CHRISTMAS PARTY!** At Memphis Botanic Garden, 750 Cherry Road in Audubon Park, 7-9 p.m. It's potluck--bring your favorite dish to share. We'll provide utensils, coffee, etc. As usual, we're collecting X-mas goodies for the critters at Lichterman. Items such as baby foods, cotton balls, gauze, bandages,

nuts, seeds, and low-salt, low-sugar cereals would be welcome.

**DEC. 11 (SUNDAY) - MUD ISLAND AND DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY WALKING TOUR.** Call Betty Porter (901) 363-0213.

**DEC. 31 - NEW YEAR'S EVE HIKE AT WAPANOCCA.** End 1994 with a hike at Wapanocca Wildlife Refuge. With a little luck maybe we will see a lot of ducks and geese. Meet at the Visitor's Center at 8:00 am. To get to the Refuge follow I-55 into Arkansas to the Turrell-Twist exit. Drive toward the Mississippi River and go under the railroad to the Visitor Center. For information, call Betty Porter (901) 363-0213.

**EAGLE TOUR, REELFOOT LAKE  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1995**

Twenty 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.

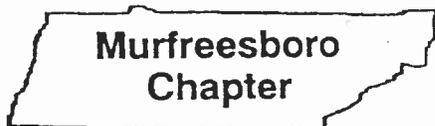
After the bus ride we will eat lunch at a local restaurant. If there is time, we will tour the Visitor Center/Museum where there is an earthquake simulator and a display cage for injured eagles.

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

Anyone staying overnight can join us on Sunday morning for a look at the Canadian geese on the north refuge and a 6-mile walk into the east refuge. We may find time for a fried apple pie!

Reservations for the bus ride are required. 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. Bus tickets are \$2.00.

It is approximately 120 miles from Memphis to the Air Park Inn. Take Hwy 51 North to Dyersburg, then Hwy 78 North through Tiptonville to the Air Park Inn. Call Betty Porter at (901) 363-0213 for further details or to make reservations for the bus..



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

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**DEC. 17 - CHRISTMAS PARTY AT HELOISE SHILSTAT'S.** Heloise will be hosting the traditional Murfreesboro Chapter Christmas party at her lovely home overlooking the Stones River.

You're welcome to come as early as 4:30 pm if you think you can't find it in the dark (which is a real possibility--Rob and I

ende **JAMES H. FYKE, Jr.**  
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severa.

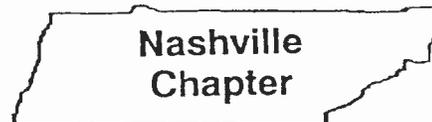
chapters .

dish to share, etc. weather permitting,

Heloise is planning a full moon hike on her property. The address is 3719

Lascassas Pike (an aqua mailbox). Call Heloise for more specific directions 896-6278.

Heloise is also planning a New Year's Day Frozen Head hike for anyone who is interested in joining her.



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

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**DEC. 8 (THURSDAY) - CHRISTMAS PARTY.** The Nashville Chapter of TTA and the Audubon Society will hold their traditional potluck/slide show presentation Christmas party at Cumberland Museum at 6:30 pm. TTA members are to bring food, beverages, plates, napkins, utensils, cups. Audobon members will also be bringing food and decorating. Please call Arleen or Bob Barnett at 832-6484 (home) or Arleen at work (343-0013) to coordinate who will bring the paper goods and wine/cider/soft drinks. Usually 50-75 members attend this event. Bring a few slides too!

MYSTERY HIKE #1  
NOVEMBER 12, 1994

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*uge THANK YOU goes out to the  
annual meeting a great success.  
weekend of hiking, eating, and  
songs, stories, and slides of  
of the Tennessee original--c  
the meeting.*

Meets the first Tuesday of each month at  
First Union Bank in Sparta.

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DEC. 3 - MYSTERY HIKE #2 with Ross  
Cardwell. Mileage unknown. Strenuous.  
Meet at First Union Bank in Sparta at 9 am.  
Contact Bonnie Greene 836-3696.

DEC. 11 - CHRISTMAS PARTY AND DEC.  
CHAPTER MEETING. Meet at First  
Union Bank in Sparta, Sunday at 2:00 pm.  
Covered dish dinner, Christmas carols led by  
Paul & Nora. Bring a child's gift to be donated  
on behalf of the chapter to needy children.  
For party details, contact Bonnie Greene 836-  
3696. For gift details contact Jessie Brown  
526-3752.

TENTATIVE DEC. 26 THRU JANUARY 1.  
Bonnie Greene and Paul & Pam Miller are  
planning to organize some spur of the moment  
"let's go hikin'" hikes into Virgin Falls, the  
back way, 5-7 miles, strenuous. If the weather  
is right, Cliff and Barbara are game to take a  
group into Colditz Cove, 2 miles, easy. If you  
would like to be on the CALL LIST contact  
Bonnie Greene or Paul D. Miller. If we decide  
to go, we'll call you.

Rusty is seriously ill as I write this.  
Consequently, Pam and I missed Ross' first  
mystery hike. However, I got a full report  
from the group when we joined them for soup  
at Bonnie's. There were 13 along on the hike,  
which ended up being an easy 8-miler in to  
England Cove. Ross was accompanied by  
Jack, the dog, Bonnie, Paul R., Gwen, Judy,  
Cliff & Barbara, Carmen Canale, Jessie Brown,  
David & Carol Anderson and their son and his  
girlfriend. The day was gorgeous. The  
scenery was very pretty. The warm  
temperatures caused several flowers to bloom  
again, including a Princess tree. No one saw  
any deer but several disgruntled deer hunters  
were encountered, wondering why these  
strangers were scaring the deer away. Ross  
pointed out that he had written permission to  
hike there and that the deer would all be up on  
the ridges around the cove where the hunters  
were, and the hikers were in the cove bottom  
where the hunters should not be. Anyway,  
neither group was too thrilled about the other  
being there, but it spoiled no one's day.

We dined into the night on Bonnie's soup,  
laughing until our sides hurt as everyone got  
into telling tall tales. Bonnie explained the  
difference between being naked and nekk'ed.  
If you missed it, ask her next time we're on  
the trail.

--Paul D. Miller

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PHILIP BREDESEN, MAYOR

**METROPOLITAN BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION**  
Centennial Park Office      Park Plaza at Oman Street      Nashville, TN 37201



**JAMES H. FYKE, DIRECTOR**  
(615) 862-8400

September 30, 1994

Mr. Rob Weber  
Tennessee Trails Association Inc.  
269 Harpeth View Trail  
Nashville, TN 37082

Dear Mr. Weber:

Our greenways symposium was a great success. Over 170 people attended the reception and lecture, over 150 attended the workshop, and the speakers were excellent. We were most pleased and grateful to have the Tennessee Trails Association as a participating sponsor.

Greenways for Nashville and the Metro Greenways Commission very much appreciate your organization's enthusiasm and support, and your financial assistance was important help in defraying the symposium's expenses.

Much of the fate of greenways in Davidson County depends on this kind of cooperation and help. Again, our many thanks.

Sincerely,

*Shain Dennison*

Shain Dennison  
Greenways Director

**MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Unless you have a lifetime membership in TTA, your membership expires on January 1 of each year. All TTA memberships are based on the calendar year and not 1 year from the month you join. Please register me as a member for the calendar year 1995 (Jan-Dec) with the type membership checked below.

<input type="checkbox"/> Student	6.00	MAIL DUES TO:	Membership Director
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Family	15.00		Tennessee Trails Assoc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting	30, 40 or 50		P. O. Box 41446
<input type="checkbox"/> Life	150.00		Nashville, TN 37204

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ PLEASE LIST ME WITH THE FOLLOWING CHAPTER:

CLARKSVILLE  EAST TENN.  JAMESTOWN  MEMPHIS

MURFREESBORO  NASHVILLE  UPPER CUMBERLAND  AT LARGE

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**All newsletter submissions are due by the 15th of each month. Mail to Arleen Barnett,  
Newsletter Editor, P. O. Box 41446, Nashville, TN 37204**

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**TTA 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.**

**1995 TTA LEADERS**

PRESIDENT:	Rob Weber (615) 952-2949
VICE PRESIDENT:	Jim Johnson (615) 356-6246
CORRES. SEC/TREAS:	Judy Van Cleve (615) 473-8136
SECRETARY:	Evelyn Tretter (615) 859-0566
BOARD REP:	Heloise Shilstat (615)896-6278
BOARD REP:	Bertha Chrietzberg (615) 896-1146
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MEMBERSHIP:	Ninez Giles (615) 297-2281
CUMBERLAND TRAIL:	Bob Brown (615) 352-7474
ADOPT-A-TRAIL:	Jerri Bull (901) 363-4408
CLARKSVILLE CHAPTER:	J.R. Tate, Chair (615) 326-5453
EAST TENNESSEE	Harold Draper (615) 689-7757
MEMPHIS CHAPTER:	Debbie Gilbert, Chair (901) 454-0613
MURFREESBORO CHAPTER:	David & Colette Dill (615) 273-2707
NASHVILLE CHAPTER:	Jim Poteet (615) 377-4777
UPPER CUMBERLAND CHAPTER:	Paul D. Miller, Chair (615) 526-9259

\_\_\_\_\_  
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Come Hike With Us!  
P. O. Box 41446  
Nashville, TN 37204