



FRIENDS OF SOUTH CUMBERLAND STATE PARK

ADVENTURER SERIES HIKES

The "Adventurer Series" offers more challenging, Ranger-led and often off-trail hikes to features you generally cannot see from the trails. *Participation in Adventurer Series hikes is by reservation only.* There is a \$25 per-hike fee, which includes sack lunch and any off-trail equipment necessary to experience the hike (beyond sturdy hiking shoes and appropriate clothing, which is your responsibility). *Get date and location info – and register for any of these hikes – at [MeetUp.com/Friends-of-South-Cumberland-State-Park](https://www.meetup.com/Friends-of-South-Cumberland-State-Park) – the Friends of South Cumberland MeetUp page.* We will also use MeetUp to inform you of any weather-related cancellations and make-up dates.

Keep track of your hiking achievements with this Hiker's Scorecard!

THE 2017 HIKES | SAVAGE GULF AREA

Retracing the Governor's Expedition

In 1971, Governor Dunn did it by Jeep, horseback, and foot. You'll do it all on foot, from Stone Door, through the Werner Big Timber area, up to Savage Falls.

The Peak Mountain Wetland

Explore a small wetland on the Plateau, near the confluence of Savage Creek and the Collins River, home to rare grasses native only to Tennessee!

Where Horses Went to Hide

Experience Suter Falls, Horsepound Falls and learn about their roles, and the role of this entire area, in the Civil War.

Springs and Caves and Sinks, Oh My!

Discover Schwoon Spring, Peter Rock Cave & Fall Creek Sink in Collins Gulf.

Disappearing and Reappearing Water

Visit Ranger Creek Falls, where the water disappears at the base of the falls, and Big Creek Springs, one of the places where that water re-emerges.

Meanwhile, back at the Greeter Homestead...

Explore the 1800s homestead of the family for which Greeter Falls is named.

All Aboard the Savage Gulf Railroad

Trace the route of the 'Dinky Line' and learn about the role of logging in the history of Savage Gulf and this region.

Beware of Runaway Stagecoaches

See the remarkable engineering of the McMinnville-Chattanooga Stage Road!

Herman's Hideaway

Explore the area below Stone Door, one of Herman Baggenstoss' favorite places.

THE 2017 HIKES | FIERY GIZZARD AREA

Saluting the Men of the Civilian Conservation Corps

Prowl the CCC campsite at Grundy Forest and learn about the young men who built the first trails in South Cumberland State Park, *before* it was a park!

There's a Bulldozer in that Gizzard!

Discover evidence of pre-park industry — bulldozers, stills, abandoned buildings and antique cars — all in the Fiery Gizzard basin!

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❑ **The Moveable Trail**

Experience the newly-rerouted portion of the Fiery Gizzard Trail; learn how it was built, and what it takes to properly construct an all-new trail.

❑ **Head for the Hole**

An exploration of the classic summertime swimming holes along the Fiery Gizzard Trail — Blue Hole, Sycamore Falls and Foster Falls.

❑ **Let's Get Vertical**

Try your hand at sport rock-climbing on the cliffs of the Park's newest addition, Denny Cove. This program is designed for beginners of all ages — a great way to learn and get started in this exciting sport!

THE 2017 HIKES | SHERWOOD AREA

❑ **Finding Your Way Through Lost Cove**

Discover another new area of the Park: the Sherwood Forest, below Buggytop Cave, where you'll see Native American pictographs, rare land snails, and more!

❑ **Who Built *That* Bridge?**

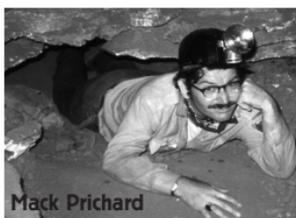
Experience the remarkable geologic formation known as the Sewanee Natural Bridge, and discover the unexpected reasons behind its formation.

WHY ARE WE "HIKING IN MACK'S TRACKS"?

After Governor Winfield Dunn signed the Tennessee Natural Areas Act in May of 1971, the job of identifying exceptional areas with good state park potential began in earnest. One of the most dynamic and dedicated individuals in that effort was Mack Prichard, who devoted his entire career to the State of Tennessee, serving, among other things, as State Archaeologist, State Natural Areas Administrator, and State Naturalist.

In 1971, Mack persuaded then newly-elected governor Dunn to come look at Savage Gulf, a wild and beautiful area with deep canyons, multitudes of waterfalls, and one of the most rich and fragile ecosystems in eastern North America. Working with Tracy City businessman Herman Baggenstoss and other conservation-minded leaders, Mack arranged for Dunn to traverse Savage Gulf, with the first part on horseback; the second part, on foot; and the third part, by Jeep.

Dunn was enormously impressed with what he saw, and returned to Nashville as a champion for acquiring land in this area, specifically Savage Gulf, to create what is now South Cumberland State Park.



Mack Prichard

But Mack's job didn't end there. He had to convince land-owners to get on board and sell their property to the State and press for funding to complete the land purchases. Mack, along with Herman and other environmental leaders, brought countless groups of civic, governmental and environmentally-focused people to the area. He took them on expeditions deep into the forests and canyons to show them the wonders of nature — without the benefit of trails, bridges, or other park infrastructure we now take for granted. In the largely wild and untamed forests of both Savage Gulf and the Fiery Gizzard, Mack preached the gospel of conservation and environmental stewardship to all who would listen.

Some expeditions had more than their share of excitement; not all who followed Mack's call to action were up to the challenge of "bushwhacking" in the canyons of the Cumberland Plateau. While he never lost any hikers, he always gained allies who, after surviving one of Mack's expeditions, became believers in Mack, Herman and what they were trying to accomplish.

And that is why the Friends of South Cumberland are dedicating the 2017 Hiking Challenge to Mack, for all he has done to advocate for nature in this region and at dozens of other special places all across Tennessee.

JOIN THE FRIENDS!
LEARN MORE ONLINE AT
FriendsOfSouthCumberland.org

