

# FOOTSTEPS

NEWSLETTER of SEQUOYAH HIKING CLUB

\*\*\*\*\*TAKE ONLY PICTURES \*\*\*\*\*JANUARY 1999 \*\*\*\*\* LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS \*\*\*\*\*



## Sequoyah Hiking Club

### Officers

President

Paul Gamble

Vice-President

Bobbie Arp

Secretary

Liz Yates

Treasurer

Johanna Cooley

Editor

Helen Maxwell

### Purpose

1-To plan and enjoy hikes in local areas.

2-Little organization

3-Few rules

4-No by laws

### Meetings

4th Monday of each month

### Dues

\$12 per year

### Footsteps

Monthly newsletter

## DECEMBER MEETING

The monthly meeting on December 28 was again at Bert's Hometown Grill with Lucy Alexander, Bobbie Arp, Joyce Denton and grandson John Denton, Paul Gamble, Lee Roy Holt, J. D. Jones, Houston and Freda Lowry, Clayton Pannell and Sue West present.

The club was reminded that it is once again time for annual dues to be paid. There have been a number who have already paid 1999 dues. Dues can be paid at any regular meeting or sent to the treasurer, Johanna Cooley.

A pizza party was planned for the February meeting at Bert's. The club will pay for the meals of all members. If you have not done so, this will be a good time to come to a party and pay your 1999 dues!

## HIKES

The hike at Fort Loudoun on Sunday, December 13 was called off because of rain. The hike was rescheduled for January 6 and was lead by

Lucy Alexander and Sue West. It was cold and snowing that day, and we have not heard if it was taken or canceled.

January 9 was the day the Rabbit Creek hike was planned. At this time there has been no report on whether any hikers went to Rabbit Creek.

## Cucumber Gap Trail'

This is one of the most delightful short hikes in the Great Smokies. Wildflowers bloom along it in great numbers in spring. It has no high hills. It connects Little River Road, on the east, with Jake's Creek, on the west. One starting point is the gate on Little River Road, above Elkmont. Freda Lowry will lead the club on this hike on February 3.

## Maryville-Alcoa Greenway<sup>2</sup>

The Greenway is an eight mile trail from Spring-

brook Park in Alcoa to Foothills Elementary School on Montgomery Road in Maryville. It connects Springbrook Park to Bicentennial Park and Sandy Springs Park, both in Maryville. There are many entrances and exits to the Greenway so almost any length walk can be taken on it.

Sequoyah Hiking Club will hike a portion of this trail on January 20. If the weather is bad an alternative walk can be in the Foothills Mall in Maryville.

## BE SUN WISE Even in the Winter?<sup>3</sup>

When ultraviolet light causes harm to living organisms, the culprits are two parts of the spectrum known as UV-B and UV-A. Most burns and tanning are dues to UV-B, which is more powerful in summer. But in winter it can still burn, and both parts can intensify as they reflect from surfaces such as snow and ice. Some of the worst sunburns are seen in skiers.

Levels of UV-A do not drop dramatically in winter like those of UV-B. UV-A penetrates deeper into the skin's layers than UV-B and probably play a roll with UV-B in the development of melanoma, the most deadly skin cancer.

Ultraviolet light can also damage the human eye. It promotes macular degeneration as well as cataracts.

The simplest way to protect from sun damage is to use sun screen, cover up with clothing that does not allow the sun's rays to penetrate (white or light colored clothing is best), and wear sun glasses that screen out ultraviolet light.

## HOW MANY SPECIES?<sup>4</sup>

How many species exist on the earth? No one knows. Biologists began naming and classifying the world's plants and animals more than 200 years ago, but they still do not know how many species exist. Estimates range from 3 million to 100 million or even more. Taxonomists - biologists who specialize in identifying and classifying life on the planet - have named approximately 1.7 million species. Each year about 13,000 more species are added to the list of known species. The following is a list and approximate numbers of classes of identified species:

Mammals - 4,000	Algae -26,900
Amphibians - 4,200	Protozoa - 30,800
Echinoderms - 6,100	Mollusks - 50,000
Reptiles - 6,300	Fungi - 69,000
Birds - 9,000	Non insect anthropds - 123,400
Earthworms - 12,000	Plants - 248,000
Fishes - 18,800	Insects - 751,000

(cont p-2)

<sup>1</sup> Carson Brewer, *Hiking in the Great Smokies*, page 63

<sup>2</sup> Smoky Mountain Visitors Bureau, Blount Partnership, bulletin

<sup>3</sup> Lisa Drew, *National Wildlife*, Dec/Jan 1999,p -18

<sup>4</sup> Laura Tanglely,*National Wildlife*, Dec/Jan 199, p - 32

This question takes on increasing significance as plants and animals vanish before scientists can even identify them. When you hike, look at bugs; you may be the only one to have seen that species -- or the only one who ever will.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 17, Sunday - Benton Falls - 3.2 miles, easy; leave Wal Mart at 2:00 PM; leader - Helen Maxwell, 423-442-4970.

January 20, Wednesday - Greenway, Maryville; 6 miles, easy; leave Wal Mart at 8:30 AM. If the weather is bad, the group will walk in Foothills Mall. Leader - Freda Lowry, 423-442-2161.

January 25, Monday - The January meeting will be a pizza party for the members of the Sequoyah Hiking Club. The club will pay for the member's meals.

February 3, Wednesday - Cucumber Gap; 7.2 miles, easy to moderate; leave Wal Mart at 8:00 AM; leader - Freda Lowry, 423-442-2161.

February 13, Saturday - Oswald Dome; 8 miles, moderate; leave Wal Mart at 7:00 AM; Leaders - Bobbie Arp, 423-442-1923 and Paul Garfield - 423-442-9382.

→ **Reminder** ← ← ←  
*If you are going on a hike, it will be helpful for you to let the leader know that you are going.*



**SEQUOYAH HIKING CLUB**  
Helen Maxwell, Editor  
951 Laurel Lake Circle  
Madisonville, TN 37354



Liz Yates  
4600 LittleValleyRd  
Loudon TN 37774

