

# FOOTSTEPS

Take only pictures - Leave only footprints!

NOVEMBER, 1999

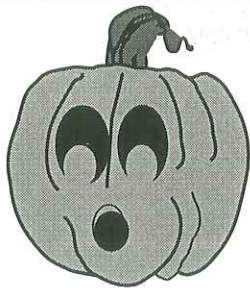
## OCTOBER MEETING

Luci Alexander, Bobbie Arp, Johanna Cooley, Faye Daniel, Joyce Denton, Lee Roy Holt, Elizabeth Johnston, J. D. Jones, Freda and Houston Lowry and Liz Yates attended the October meeting of the club at Bert's Hometown Grill.

The treasurer's report revealed that the club has \$327.83 in the bank and \$27.56 in cash. We are not paying monthly fees for the bank account, but there is some possibility that the bank will begin a monthly charge sometime in the future. The treasurer will monitor this situation and try to keep our funds in a charge free account.

Buying more Sequoyah Hiking Club T shirts was discussed. We need more shirts for new members.

Hikes for the next one or two months were planned.  
The meeting was adjourned.



*May the Hobgoblins  
have treated you well and left  
you with pumpkin pies aplenty.*

## CLUB HIKES

### ABRAMS FALLS

The hike to Abrams Falls on October 6, 1999 was very interesting with a lot of wildlife being seen. A total of 57 deer were seen. Three of them were 8 point bucks. Seven deer were in the fog. One doe had a young one with her. Five wild turkeys were spotted. In addition to the wildlife, blue lobelia, goldenrod, purple asters, small white asters and a lot of beautiful red partridge berries were seen. There was not as much water flowing over the falls as usual because of the dry weather, but they were still beautiful.

Those taking the hike were Luci Alexander, Johanna Cooley, Joyce Denton, J. D. Jones, Freda Lowry and Liz Yates.

## CADES COVE HIKE

Johanna Cooley, Faye Daniel, Dave Johnson, J. D. Jones and Freda Lowry walked around Cades Cove. The day was overcast and misty with a few rain drops, but that did not interfere with the trip. The mountains surrounding the cove were shrouded in mist and were pretty. The group saw over 100 deer and two mother bears, one with one cub and the other with two cubs. A lot of mushrooms were seen.

There were caravans of sightseers, and some approached the bears and cubs to make pictures. The park ranger or workers using hand held megaphones pointedly warned them to get away from the bears and were told that the bears were wild animals and dangerous.

## BENTON FALLS HIKE

The Benton Falls hike was on October 24 which was a beautiful Sunday afternoon. Helen Maxwell was the leader, and hiking with her were Faye Daniel, J. D. Jones, Betty Spurling and Liz Yates.

This trail is on top of a mountain across from Parksville Lake. Going up the mountain to reach the trail, there are several pull-offs by the road with good views of the valley below.

The trail begins along a man made lake with a beach. Also at the trail head there was a nice restroom, the one thing some hikers like to see. Benton Falls are very pretty as they fall down a high rock formation instead of over the rocks. A wild-flower that had not been seen this year was spotted: mountain gentian.

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## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HIKE-A-THON A GREAT SUCCESS

The Hike-A-Thon for Humanity, a cooperative effort of Habitat and Sequoyah Hiking Club, raised about \$4500 for Habitat. This was one of the best fund raisers that Habitat has ever promoted.

### WHY IS IT CALLED.....?\*

The **Pigeon River** and the **Little Pigeon River** were so named to commemorate the wild or passenger pigeon that in the early part of the 19th century moved in such incredible numbers as to darken the sky. The passenger pigeon was a migratory pigeon that is now extinct. When they settled to roost, the weight of the birds broke limbs off trees. Early accounts tell of vast flocks of these birds on both streams. The passenger pigeon was brought to extinction by killing for sport and food. The bird was beyond saving by the last of the 1800's. The last passenger pigeon died in a zoo in 1914. This is ample evidence that man can exterminate a species in a relatively short period of time.

No one knows with any certainty just when or a whose suggestion the **Great Smoky Mountains** received their name. When they first appeared in the public records, in 1777, it was under the name Great Iron Mountains. Twelve years later, when North Carolina ceded its western lands to the Federal Government, an alternative name appears, the Great Iron or Smoky Mountains. For nearly fifty years these two names were in use interchangeably, with the Smoky gaining in common use. After 1840 Iron seems to have disappeared completely.

There is no question about the why of "Smoky". Years ago the writer of That's Why They Call It... asked an aged Cherokee what name his people had for these mountains. His answer was: "Sha-cona-ge."

Pressed for an interpretation, he replied, "Means blue, like smoke."

To anyone who has gazed across these mountain rang-

es, swathed in their ever-present blue haze, until they disappear in the misty horizon, the name is most apt and fitting. The same blue haze was the reason for the naming of the Blue Ridge, further east.

\* From That's Why they Call It... by Paul M. Fink

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### November 13, Saturday - Chestnut

**Top**, 6 miles or more if desired, moderate; meet at old Wal Mart parking lot. at 8:00 AM; Leaders - Helen Maxwell, 442-4970, and Freda Lowry, 442-2161.

### November 17, Wednesday - Little River

6+ miles, easy; meet at old Wal Mart parking lot at 8:15 AM; Leader - Freda Lowry, 442-2161.

### November 21, Sunday - Ft. Loudoun

3 miles, easy; Meet at old Wal Mart parking lot at 2:00 PM; Leader -Johanna Cooley.

### November 22, Monday - Hiking

**club meeting at Bert's Hometown Grill, 7:00 PM. Plan to eat if you wish. Order individually.**

### December 1, Wednesday - Townsend

**walking trail**, 6 miles, paved trail, easy; Meet at old Wal Mart parking lot at 8:15 AM; Leader - Freda Lowry - 442-2161.

***If you are going on a hike or attending an event, it will be helpful for you to let the leader know that you are going!***

## 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



### SEQUOYAH HIKING CLUB

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