

<b>Sequoyah Hiking Club</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
<b>Officers</b>	1-To plan and enjoy hikes in local areas.
<i>President</i>	2-Little organization
Paul Gamble	3-Few rules
<i>Vice-President</i>	4-No by laws
Bobbie Arp	<b>Meetings</b>
<i>Secretary</i>	4th Monday of each month
Liz Yates	<b>Dues</b>
<i>Treasurer</i>	\$12 per year
Johanna Cooley	<b>Footsteps</b>
<i>Editor</i>	Monthly newsletter
Helen Maxwell	

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 12, Sunday - Ft. Loudoun, 3 miles, easy; Meet at old Wal Mart parking lot at 2:00 PM; Leader - Johanna Cooley, 442-3643.

December 13, Monday - **December meeting; covered dish supper at Richard and Betty Spurling's home at 6:00 PM.**

January 24, Monday - Hiking club meeting at Bert's Hometown Grill at 7 PM. Randolph Brown, executive director of the Foothills Land Conservancy, will give a slide presentation on the Smith Bend Project. **Don't miss.**

## NOTICE

**YEAR 2000 DUES WILL BE ACCEPTED ANY TIME. THEY ARE DUE IN JANUARY.**

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



## SEQUOYAH HIKING CLUB

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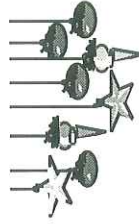
**TAKE ONLY PICTURES \*\*\*\*\* LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS**  
Issue # 12  
December, 2000

## NOVEMBER MEETING

As usual the November meeting occurred at Bert's Hometown Grill with Luci Alexander, Bobbie Arp, Tom Burris, Johanna Cooley, Joyce Denton, Paul Gamble, Lee Roy Holt, J. D. Jones, Houston & Freda Lowry, Richard & Betty Spurling and Liz Yates attending the meeting.

There is \$357.39 in the treasury. Some postage for mailing *Footsteps* will come out of this total. With 2000 dues being payable in January, our treasury will increase soon.

Considerable discussion took place concerning hikes and activities this winter.



## SMITH BEND PROJECT

Topic of January Club Program  
Randy Brown to be Speaker

Randolph Y. Brown the executive director of Foothills Land Conservancy, will be the guest speaker at the January 24, 2000 Sequoyah Hiking Club meeting. The Conservancy office is located in Maryville. The organization is led by a volunteer Board of Directors.

Smith Bend is a unique, 2500 acre tract of land on the Tennessee River 4 miles downstream from Watts Bar Dam. It is home to almost every species of wildlife native to the region. It is especially important for waterfowl and sandhill cranes.

Wildlife biologist Jim Zimmerman says that Smith Bend is the only property remaining in East Tennessee that offers significant potential for waterfowl development.

The Conservancy is dedicated to protecting land which is necessary to provide environment for native

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**FOOTHILLS  
LAND  
CONSERVANCY**

Foothills Land Conservancy Logo

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**HIKES**

**Chestnut Top**

The destination of the hiking club on a beautiful Saturday, Nov. 13 was Chestnut Top. Betty Spurling, Dave Johnson and J. D. Jones hiked 9 miles choosing to return from Chestnut Top by the 4.5 mile route rather than going down by the shorter, 2 mile trail taken by the other hikers. Luci Alexander, Tom Burris, Johanna Cooley, Faye Daniel, Marie Henry, Freda Lowry and Liz Yates. Golden rod, purple asters, partridge berries, closed gentian and an unidentified, little purple flower were seen along the trail.

**LITTLE RIVER**

Luci Alexander, Tom Burris, Faye Daniel, Joyce Denton, Lee Roy Holt, J. D. Jones, Freda Lowry and Liz Yates hiked the easy 6± mile Little River trail on Wednesday, November 17.

**FT. LOUDOUN**

Paul Gamble led Bobbie Arp, Faye Daniel, Joyce Denton, Marie Henry, J. D. Jones, Darlene Lovingood, Freda Lowry and Liz Yates on a new and longer Ft. Loudoun trail hike on Sunday afternoon November 21.

**TOWNSEND WALKING TRAIL**

On Wednesday, December 1 Tom Burris, Johanna Cooley, Freda Lowry and Betty Spurling traveled to Townsend, TN to walk on the walking trail that runs through Townsend parallel to the highway. This is always a pretty area from Halloween until Thanksgiving with the decorations and flower beds prepared by the motels located along the trail. The trail is paved and easy. It is 3 miles long. The group

walked the length of the trail and then back making this a 6 mile walk.

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

In the minds of many outlanders, violence, fighting and feuding was a way of life in the mountains. That was not so in the Smoky area. The old time Smoky hillman may have been very jealous of his rights and willing to defend them with his life if need be, but wholesome family warfare was not known. Do not be misled by violent sounding and sanguinary place names.

It was the custom to let pigs run wild in the woods to fatten on the mast from oak, chestnut and beech trees. On one occasion the hogs grew so wild they could not be driven in, and it was necessary to have a big "hog killing" Continued page 3, col 1

**SMITH BEND PROJECT**

Acquiring Smith Bend holds the highest priority for the Foothills Conservancy at this time; however, land on Abrams Creek and Kyker Botoms, among other acquisitions, have already been procured for the purposes of the Conservancy.



Sandhill Cranes at Hiwassee Wildlife Refuge

in the woods. Resulting blood from the butchering brought the name, **Bloody Branch** to the nearby stream. Nor do **Hostility** and **Battle Hollow** commemorate any sort of personal conflict. It has been told that the rough, rugged and laurel choked terrain was "so horse-tile ye had to battle yer way through."

The road from Little River and Elkmont to Park headquarters goes through **Fighting Creek Gap** then follows the valley of **Fighting Creek** down to Sugarland Visitor's Center. The name does not refer to any battle or physical combat in the community. It was so called because of a long continued bickering in the community over the location of a schoolhouse.

Next month a story of a name that does come from an act of violence will be related.

\*From That's why they call it ... by Paul M. Fink

**HOLIDAY DINING**

That holiday turkey dinner just would not be the same without a side of cranberry relish, cranberry sauce or molded salad with cranberries. But, did you know that cranberries are one of only three native North American fruits?

The others are blueberries and Concord grapes. Long before the Pilgrims arrived, the native North American Indians were using cranberries as food, medicine and fabric dye. The name came from the fact that the pink cranberry blossoms resemble the heads of cranes; so the words "crane berry" became shortened to cranberry.

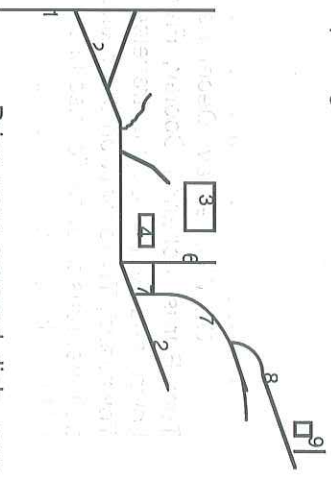
If you like the taste of fresh cranberries and would like to enjoy

them at other times of the year when they are not available, just slip a few bags of fresh cranberries into a freezer bag, freeze and keep up to a year. Use in recipes without thawing.

**DECEMBER MEETING**

The December meeting of the club will be a covered dish meal at the home of Richard and Betty Spurling on Dec. 13 at 6:00 PM. Everyone should bring a favorite dish of food. The Spurling's home is at 1228 Jackson Drive, Madisonville. Turn off the Hiwassee Road onto Oak Grove Road. Go past Madisonville Middle School (old Madisonville High School) and pass the first road on the left which is Green Road. Turn left at the next road which is Lincoln Drive. Turn left onto Jackson Drive, which is the second street off Lincoln, and continue to the top of the hill. The Spurling's home is on the left and has a concrete drive flanked by two brick pillars.

Map: 1- Hiwassee Rd 2- Oak Grove Rd 3- Middle Sch 4- Mon Co Sch Bd Bldg 6- Green Rd 7- Lincoln Dr 8- Spurling's home



Bring your covered dish, your appetite and your Christmas Spirit!