



# Good Sam Messenger



Winter 2003

Newsletter of Tennessee Good Sams

Vol. XIII No. 4

Tennessee Good Sam Web Site: <http://www.tngoodsam.com>

## From Our State Director

Betty and I would like to take this opportunity to thank every Chapter member for the trust you have placed in us as State Director for the Tennessee Good Sam Organization. We hold your trust with the highest regards and will do our best to make you proud to call us your State Director.

Good Sam is the largest RV club in the world with approximately one million members. We in Tennessee make up a small portion of that number. With approximately 1,200 Good Sam members in Tennessee, we certainly have a very big opportunity to start some new Chapters and to add to the membership of the present Chapters.

Your Director along with the Assistant State Directors will be working closely with the Chapter Presidents to make contact with every one of the Good Sam members of Tennessee that are not in a Chapter. We believe that by doing so, we can attain our goal of starting new Chapters in each area of the state. There are a number of ways this goal can be reached. However, it is not attainable without the help of every present Chapter member. As the assistant directors and your Chapter President begin to make plans for contacting these Good Sam members, offer your assistance. It will be a rewarding experience for you and the new Chapter member.

### Tennessee Good Sam Web Page

Additionally, we are committed to keeping the lines of communication open between the staff and the Chapters. Give us your feedback. We will make sure you are heard. We are excited about the possibilities, if we are all in step. If you have not done so yet, go to the Tennessee Good Sam web pages (<http://www.tngoodsam.com>). They have been completely updated for 2004. Give us your feedback. We want your suggestions, as well as your comments about the content. Help us get the word out about our web pages by telling your friends and neighbors about it. When you go camping, visit

with other campers. Invite them to camp with your Chapter or visit our web pages to find a Chapter near them to join.

The Wagon Masters are working to put together the 2004 Chapter camp out schedule for your Chapter. When you get your copy, make plans to attend every camp out possible. Go to the camp outs with the expectation that you are going to have a loads of fun and fellowship with your fellow Chapter members. Betty and I are looking forward to camping with every Chapter, as soon as we can. We want to get to know all of you on a personal basis.

### Tennessee Spring Samboree

We are looking forward to seeing every one at the Tennessee "Going To The Circus" Spring Samboree in Lebanon, Tennessee, May 14th-16th, 2004. See your Chapter President for a registration form or go on the web pages and print one. You may turn it in through your Chapter to receive a \$5 discount. See your Chapter President for the cut off date. Or you can mail it directly to Betty (no discount). The address is on the form. We are going to have a fantastic time. We are already making plans for the entertainment and vendors. The staff is working on their responsibility areas and the Chapters are working on door prizes and items for the goody bags. Come and take part in as many activities as you can. We know you will have a good time!

### Tennessee Fall Samboree

Make you plans now to attend the Fall Samboree at East Ridge (Chattanooga), Tennessee, October 1st through the 3rd, 2004. We will be at Camp Jordan. This is a great facility for a Samboree. Mark your calendar now. You will not want to miss this Samboree. Be on the look out for more information, as it is available.

You have trusted us to provide leadership. We trust you for your support. We know you will support us!

Terry Minger,  
State Director

## Assistant State Directors

### East Tennessee

Sherry Kenney  
Assistant State Director for East Tennessee

I have been a member of Good Sams for 12 years. I have had the opportunity to get to know several of the Good Sams members in the East Tennessee area. My goals are to be here to help in anyway I can.

I will do my best to make sure all East Tennessee chapters are kept up-to-date, and informed of future events. In the East Tennessee area we have the opportunity to start several new chapters and I hope I can count on each of you to help me in doing so.

I would like to thank Terry and Betty Minger for having the confidence in me to accept this challenge.

If I can be of any assistance to any chapter in East Tennessee please e-mail me at:  
[asd-east@tngoodsam.com](mailto:asd-east@tngoodsam.com)

Thanks and Happy Camping

### Middle Tennessee

Jerry and Lila Cowell  
Assistant State Director for Middle Tennessee

Most of the Chapters in Middle Tennessee have concluded their events for 2003 and are preparing for the 2004 camping season. Some of the members have decided to abandon the cold weather of Tennessee and have temporarily located in warmer localities.

The Davy Crockett Sams recently donated monies to the Ingram South School and to a local nursing home.

All of the chapters are promoting the Tennessee Spring Samboree and expect to have the usual good showing.

Please contact Jerry and Lila Cowell via e-mail at [asd-middle@tngoodsam.com](mailto:asd-middle@tngoodsam.com) for any required assistance or for information.

### West Tennessee

Doug and Jane Overton  
Assistant State Director for West Tennessee  
We can tell you that West Tennessee is excited.

We all look forward to this year and we are all excited about the prospects of new members, new friends and new camping experiences with old friends.

It seems everyone has been in South Texas or Florida for January or February. Getting back home, we have all begun to work.

Being Assistant State Director for West Tennessee is new and exciting for us. We are available to work with all eight chapters in West Tennessee in any way that we can. We plan on camping with each West Tennessee Chapter at one of their campouts this year.

Some chapters are already working on the winter membership drive. That is such a great way to make money for the chapter and make new friends at the same time.

Bluff City Sams is already working on exceeding their own \$1,210.00 cash donations in 2003. Chapter President Jack Sams thinks 2004 will bring even more for Ronald McDonald House and St. Jude. Keep up the good work.

Some of the Fish Fry Sams are starting a project for 2004. This is a program that allows a person to be a mentor or pal to a child that needs love and attention.

Our e-mail address is [asd-west@tngoodsam.com](mailto:asd-west@tngoodsam.com) if you need to contact us.

See you at the Samboree,

## Chaplain's Corner

(Ben Neal, Chaplain's article will return in the next issue).

## Editor's Chat

### Stop, Look and Listen!

First of all John and I would like to extend best wishes for a very happy and healthy new year to all members. We wish past Director Billy Jones and Juanita the best of everything, even fishing on the river bank.

## **STOP.....**

Stop just for a few minutes to take note of what is going on around you. This year we have a new Director, Terry Minger, to lead us in new experiences and with the support of the remaining Tennessee Staff Officers as well as the new incoming Staff Officers, this should be a year to remember. As a new member of the Staff, please excuse the time delay for getting started on my duties and please help me to relay needed information.

The Good Sam Messenger is an excellent method of relaying information to all the State Chapters.....It is important to know, What, When, and Where as they relate to chapter news. So remember, the information that is included in the Good Sam Messenger must contain complete data such as Names, Places and Dates.

## **LOOK.....**

Look back to see all the wonderful friendly people you have met through the Good Sam Club and look forward to the friendships that you will form in the coming years. We still have a mission to accomplish in helping with the needs of others and in preserving the environment for the RV lifestyle. The Tennessee State Staff is available to help accomplish that objective with your support.

## **LISTEN.....**

Listen to each other and listen to your chapter president. He will pass on pertinent information. The Good Sam Staff of Tennessee is starting the year off with a realistic goal and that is in the words of our Director: COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE. We have many ways in which to keep in touch, e-mail, telephone, cell phone, postal service, and don't forget another means of communication is the Tennessee Good Sams Web Site: <http://www.tngoodsam.com> and last but not least is the Assistant State Directors (ASD's). This could be one of the most important forms of communication of all, but ONLY IF we use them to their fullest potential.

The ASDs are your lines of communication with your own group as well as with the State Director. Talk with them about ideas you may have, or even problem areas that you think may need to be explored. The ASD for the East Tennessee area is Sherry Kenney, Middle Tennessee is Jerry Cowell and West Tennessee is Doug Overton. (See the roster for the e-mail address and telephone number).

Communication is a two way street, so ask questions, know what is going on and most importantly

participate in the activities of your chapter. I don't have to tell you that it's more fun participating in the activities together than going it alone. That's one of the reasons we joined a Good Sams Chapter!

Now let us not ask, "Are we having fun yet"?, but let's go have some fun!

We can do just this and accomplish our objectives at the same time.

## **Chapter News**

### **Golden Circle Sams**

The Golden Circle Sams camped out at Reelfoot Lake in August 2003 and followed that up with the September campout at Natchez Trace where Harold and Jean Jackson acted as hosts. There was plenty of ice cream and cake and watermelon and a little bit of card playing at the September campout. The Golden Circle Sams spent their last campout of 2003 at Cherokee Landing. The remaining 2003 meetings were held at various local restaurants.

### **Officers for 2004**

Jerry Rayl has been elected as the chapter president, Joe Ozment is the vice-president, Mildred Rayl is the secretary, Frank Oller is the treasurer and Neal Thompson is the Wagon Master.

### **Ole Smoky Sams**

The Ole Smoky Sams held their final campout of 2003 in November at the Bean Pot Campground in Crossville, Tennessee. There were ten member rigs and one guest rig attending the campout. The group ate the evening meal at the Cumberland State Park Restaurant.

At the Ole Smoky Sams Christmas party there was no exchange of gifts between members, instead each individual member donated a Wal-Mart \$10 gift card to the Knoxville Ronald McDonald House.

The January 2004 meeting and supper was held at the Knoxville Ronald McDonald House. Inasmuch as each member provided a double portion of "pot-luck" dishes, residents of the House were invited to dine with the Ole Smoky Sams. In addition, members furnished appropriate items for use by the House.

The Ole Smoky Sams will conduct their February meeting at the Golden Corral Restaurant. Their next campout is scheduled for the weekend of March 26, 2004 at the Trav-L-Park in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

## Chapter News

### Officers for 2004

Pete Leitnaker was elected as the chapter president, Bob Montgomery is the new vice-president, Phyllis Phillips is the Secretary, Sharon Leitnaker is the treasurer and Kyle Chandler is the Wagon Master.

### Cumberland Mountain Sams

The James E. Ward Agriculture Center was the site for the October 2003 campout of the Cumberland Mountain Sams. Like the other Tennessee Good Sam chapters, this chapter combined their October campout with the Tennessee Fall Samboree. Eleven member families and two prospective member families attended the Samboree. Several members won prizes for participating in Galloping Dominoes, Mexican Train Dominoes and Skipbo.

The November meeting was held at the Cumberland Mountain State Park Restaurant and the December Christmas Dinner was held at the home of Cal and Marjorie Therrien. The January meeting was held at the Golden Corral Restaurant in Cookville, Tennessee. The February meeting is also scheduled for the Golden Corral Restaurant in Cookville.

### Officers for 2004

The officers for the Cumberland Mountain Sams are: Calvin H. Therrien, president, Wallace Neal, vice-president, Marjorie Therrien, secretary, Billy Austin, treasurer, and Jimmy D. Taylor, wagon master.

### Mid-Ten Sams

The Mid-Ten Sams spent their November 2003 campout at the Cedars of Lebanon State Park, Lebanon, Tennessee. There were 17 member rigs and 2 guest rigs with 28 members and six visitors. All enjoyed the Saturday potluck "soup" supper.

The Mid-Ten Sams Chapter met at the Fairlane Church of Christ in Shelbyville, Tennessee for their Christmas Dinner. They met at Ryans Restaurant in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, for their January meeting.

### Officers for 2004

Officers elected for the year 2004 are: President: Jerry Cowell, Vice-President Jerry Halliday, Secretary: Carolyn Carder, Treasurer: Karen Halliday, and Wagon Masters: Eddie and Kathie Simms.

### Scenic City Sams

The Scenic City Sams camped out at the Chester Frost Park, Hixon, Tennessee (near Chattanooga), for their November 2003 campout. There were six rigs at the campout. There were nine families for the meeting and supper.

The Christmas party was held at Buster and Sarah's Banquet Hall where the Chapter participated in a Chinese gift exchange. The group enjoyed a Soup Supper at their January 2004 meeting.

### Officers for 2004

The Scenic City Sams officers for 2004 are: Dan Stieg, president, Ranny Coulter, vice-president, Joyce Day, secretary, Charlie Foust, treasurer, and Don Stacey, wagon master.

### Music City Sams

The Music City Sams spent their November 2004 campout at Cedars of Lebanon State Park, Lebanon, Tennessee. There were 14 units with 27 members present for the campout. A chili "cook-off" was held on Saturday with Jeanette Hahn winning first place.

The Christmas Party for the Music City Chapter was held at the Hermitage House Smorgasbord in Donelson, Tennessee. There were 35 active members and four honorary members present for the party. The Christmas festivities included a bake sale, door prizes and singing.

### Officers for 2004

Music City Sams officers for the year 2004 are: Joel Tompkins, president, Butch Long, vice-president, Barbara Gilliam, Secretary/Treasurer and Bill Gilliam, wagon master.

### River M Sams

The River M Sams traveled to the Holiday Travel Park in Marion, Arkansas, for a successful November 2003 campout. The Chapter celebrated their annual Thanksgiving Dinner during the campout. One of the highlights of the campout was the 90th birthday party for Margie Ellington. Margie in referring to the River M Sams said: "Truly great friends are hard to find, difficult to leave and impossible to forget."

On December 5-6, 2003, the Chapter camped out at Wall Doxey State Campground in Holly Springs,

Mississippi. They savored a catered dinner and Christmas Party and exchanged gifts with members.

#### Officers for 2004

River M Sams officers for the year 2004 are: Cleve Holt, president, Libby Montegue, vice-president, Doris Galey, secretary, Wilma Miller, treasurer and Buster Miller, wagon master.

### **Golden Squares Sams**

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#### Officers for 2004

The following individuals were elected as officers for the year 2004: John Howell, president, Judy Payne, vice-president, Doris Heskert, secretary, Sue Poole, treasurer and Burt Poole, wagon master.

### **Fish Fry Sams**

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The November 2003 meeting of the Fish Fry Sams was held at the LePanto Restaurant, Paris, Tennessee, with 34 members present. The Chapter took up a collection for Hoof Beats of Hope, an organization that provides assistance to mentally and physically handicapped children.

Fish Fry Sams' December meeting and Christmas Party was held at the East Wood Church of Christ. The group enjoyed a potluck turkey and dressing meal and played "Dirty Santa." There were 28 members at the Christmas Party. The January 2004 meeting was held at Tom's Steak House.

#### Officers for 2004

Fish Fry Sams' officers for the year 2004 are: Buddy Raines, president, Earl Mealer, vice-president, Jane Overton, secretary-treasurer, Joy McCutcheon, wagon master.

### **West Tennessee Traveling Sams**

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#### Officers for 2004

West Tennessee Traveling Sams elected the following officers for the year 2004: Marjorie Fiddler, president, Larry Lindsey, vice-president, Janice Richardson, secretary, Gail Sorensen, treasurer, Dallas Hallman, wagon master.

### **Bluff City Sams**

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The Bluff City Sams traveled to the Wall Doxey State Campground in Holly Springs, Mississippi, for their November 2003 campout. An auction was conducted during the campout on behalf of the Ronald McDonald House. The auction was considered a big success. The Chapter also enjoyed a Thanksgiving Dinner during the campout.

The Bluff City Sams ended their 2003 Chapter

activities with a Christmas Party at the Southwind TPC Clubhouse. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to several member for their charity work and activities work.

In 2003, the Bluff City Sams broke a Chapter record for money donations for the Ronald McDonald House by contributing over \$1,200. .

Bluff City Sams will launch the 2004 season with a meeting at Joe's Crab Shack, Memphis.

#### Officers for 2004

The officers for Bluff City Sams for the year 2004 are: Jack Sams, president, Nelson Pilcher, vice-president, Joann Glover, secretary, Jim Mitchell, treasurer, and Walter Glover, wagon master.

### **Memphis Sams**

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#### Officers for 2004

The following individuals were elected as officers for the year 2004: Wiley Reaves, president, James Stovall, vice-president, Margie Reaves, secretary, Shirley Erwin, treasurer, Margie Ward, wagon master.

### **Carroll County Sams**

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The Carroll County Sams held their 2003 November campout at the Pin Oak Reservoir in West Tennessee. There were seven member rigs with 14 persons attending the campout. There were two visiting rigs. In addition, four more individuals visited on Saturday.

The 2003 Christmas Party for the Carroll County Sams was held at Mr. Market in McKenzie, Tennessee. Twenty members attended the party. After the Christmas Dinner the group exchanged gifts and played "dirty santa."

Carroll County Sams held their first meeting of 2004 at the First Bank Activities Building. It was a soup and chili supper.

#### Officers for 2004

The officers for the Carroll County Sams are: Elma Holmes, president, Bertie Douglas, vice-president, Jo Holmes, secretary-treasurer, and Joe Haywood, wagon master.

### **Davy Crockett Sams**

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The Davy Crockett Sams met at the Point Mallard Campground for their November 2003 campout. Nineteen members attended the campout and there were 10 visitors during the campout. During the meet-

ing the Chapter voted to donate \$150 to a Ingram South School and \$50 to a local nursing home.

For the December meeting, the Davy Crockett Sams met in the Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, City Administration Building. Twenty-three Chapter members attend the Christmas dinner at the Admin Building. The first meeting of 2004 for the Chapter was held at Shoney's in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee. It was a breakfast meeting.

#### Officers for 2004

The elected officers for the Davy Crockett Sams for the year 2004 are: James Martin, president, Norman Marston, vice president, Lorene Chandler, treasurer, and Linda Rochelle.

#### **K-Town Sams**

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The K-Town Sams held their November campout at the Trav-L-Park in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Members in 16 rigs and three families in cabins attended the campout. In addition, nine more members visited during the campout. The Chapter welcomed two new members during the campout. On Saturday evening the group celebrated with a Thanksgiving meal. At the meeting, the K-Town Sams voted to spend \$500 to purchase gifts for the children from the Angel Tree located in the West Town Mall, Knoxville.

The K-Town Sams held their Christmas/December meeting/party at the Eagle Point III Clubhouse. There were 47 members present for the Christmas Party. It was reported at the meeting that the Chapter was able to purchase toys for 35 children from the Angel Tree. With the discount from K-B Toys, and additional donations from members who helped in the shopping, the total value of the toys amounted to almost \$700!

In January 2004 the K-Town Sams had two events. The first event was the first winter campout and was held on January 2-3, 2004, at the Volunteer Family Campground, Knoxville, Tennessee. The second event was the January Chapter meeting held at Ryan's Steakhouse in Alcoa, Tennessee.

#### Officers for 2004

The following officers were elected to lead the K-Town Sams during the following year: Bob Morris, president, Audrey Hines, vice-president, Tommy McIntyre, secretary, Jack Ivester, treasurer, and Dennis Hoomes, wagon master,

#### **Cherokee Trails Sams**

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The Cherokee Trails Sams held their November meeting and campout at River Country Campground, Gadsden, Alabama. Members in six rigs participated in the campout and the Thanksgiving Dinner. The group also enjoyed a Saturday morning community breakfast.

The Christmas meeting and dinner for the Cherokee Trails Sams was held at Home Folks Restaurant in Soddy Daisy, Tennessee. The 36 members and two children who attended the meeting and party exchanged gifts during the party.

For the January meeting, the Chapter met at the Presbyterian Church in Chickamauga, Georgia, for a "soup supper." Twenty-five members and children enjoyed the soup and chili.

#### Officers for 2004

The following officers were elected to lead the Cherokee Trails Sams during the following year: Ron Matterson, president, Don Smith, vice-president, Shirley Gasaway, secretary, Sue Miller, treasurer, and John Tittle, wagon master.

#### **Tennessee Single Sams**

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#### Officers for 2004

The following officers were elected as officers for the Tennessee Single Sams for the year 2004: Jo Morgan, president, Jack Noble, vice-president, and Joy Mitchell, secretary and treasurer.

#### **Middle Tennessee Travelers Sam**

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#### Officers for 2004

The following officers were elected as officers for the Middle Tennessee Travelers Sams for the year 2004: Eddie Kerr, president, Bruce Guenther, vice-president, Pam Rochell, secretary and treasurer and Jimmy Rochell, wagon master.

## **Tennessee State Staff 2004**

Minger, Terry (Betty) - State Director  
6582 Cariage Glen Drive  
Bartlett, TN 38135-1555  
(901) 387-1412  
e-mail: director@tngoodsam.com

Cowell, Jerry (Lila) - ASD for Middle TN\*  
201 Oakwood Drive  
Shelbyville, TN 37160-2119  
(931) 684-0642  
e-mail: asd-middle@tngoodsam.com

Day, George (Carol) - Wagonmaster  
(April - October)  
148A Self Hollow Road  
Rockford, TN 37853-3400  
November - March  
1400 Zillock Road #S1026  
San Benito, TX 78586-9730  
(956) 399-4650  
e-mail: wagonmaster@tngoodsam.com

Douglas, Ernest (Bertie) - Asst. Wagonmaster  
16595 Highway 77  
Huntington, TN 38344-5782  
(731) 986-9836  
e-mail: asstwagonmaster@tngoodsam.com

Harbin, Jim (Jean) - Hospitality  
1016 Catoosa Lane  
Knoxville, TN 37914-8910  
(865) 932-4599  
e-mail: hospitality@tngoodsam.com

Hoover, Lois "Boots" (John) - Publicity  
5320 East Sunset Road  
Knoxville, TN 37914-4304  
(865) 524-2001  
e-mail: publicity@tngoodsam.com

Jones, Billy (Juanita) - Past State Director  
608 Franklin Drive  
Paris, TN 38242-5649  
(731) 642-0882  
e-mail: jonestngs@hotmail.com

Kenney, Sherry - ASD for East TN\*  
148 Self Hollow Road  
Rockford, TN 37853-3400  
(865) 681-9803  
e-mail: asd-east@tngoodsam.com

Pincheon, Mildred (Tom) - Treasurer  
4392 Walden Cove  
Mempis, TN 38125-3038  
(901) 753-1080  
e-mail: treasurer@tngoodsam.com

McRae, Copper (Lila) - Past State Director  
1400 Zillock Road #X-1344  
San Benito, TX 78586-9730  
(956) 399-4838  
e-mail: None

Minger, Betty (Terry) - Secretary  
6582 Cariage Glen Drive  
Bartlett, TN 38135-1555  
(901) 387-1412  
e-mail: secretary@tngoodsam.com

Myers, Jerry (Sue) - Asst. State Director  
April - October  
P.O. Box 457  
Powell, TN 37849-0457  
(865) 938-6307  
November - March  
1400 Zillock Road B-78  
San Benito, TX 78586-9730

Neal, Ben (Lela) - Chaplain  
1405 River Bank Drive  
Collierville, TN 38017-2666  
(901) 853-6381  
e-mail: chaplain@tngoodsam.com

Overton, Doug (Jane) - ASD for West TN\*  
1595 Elkhorn-Noble Road  
Paris, TN 38342-  
(731) 642-8665  
e-mail: asd-west@tngoodsam.com

Rayl, Mildred (Jerry) - Recording Secretary  
21 Seavers Road  
Jackson, TN 38301-9586  
(731) 427-0798  
e-mail: recsecretary@tngoodsam.com

Thomas, Ralph (Mabel) - Photographer  
1907 Diana Drive  
Murfreesboro, TN 37130-4656  
(615) 893-5090  
e-mail: photographer@tngoodsam.com

Williams, Nancy (Hollis) - Registrar  
April - December  
835 Nathan Drive  
Columbia, TN 38401-6704  
(931) 380-9169  
January - March  
Sebring Grove RV Park  
4105 US 27 South, Lot 12  
Sebring, FL 33870-5599  
e-mail: registrar@tngoodsam.com

\*Assistant State Director