



Good Sam Messenger



Fall 2005

Newsletter of Tennessee Good Sams

Vol. X No. 2

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

From The State Director

What a busy and exciting year for your Director and Tennessee Good Sams. We enjoyed another fantastic Spring Samboree in Lebanon, May 13-15th. We visited with several of the Tennessee Chapters and participated in seven State Samborees as well as the Great North American RV Rally in Redmond, Oregon. With all this activity, we are even more excited about seeing our Chapters gain new members.



All Aboard for the 2005 Tennessee Fall Samboree "Railroad Days"

The 2005 Tennessee "Salute to America" Spring Samboree was a huge success. Thanks to all the chapters, volunteers, staff, vendors and RV dealers that contributed to this great Samboree. With 295 rigs represented, we had the largest Samboree in Tennessee Good Sam history. Along with 32 vendors and 3 RV dealers. We will need to work really hard to top that for the 2006 Tennessee "Rockin' 50's" Spring Samboree, May 12-14th.

Tennessee Chapters are the best in the International Good Sam Club. We have certainly enjoyed visiting with several Chapters this year. We have now visited with all but four of the Tennessee Chapters. We will be visiting with them soon. If we have learned one thing, we know that each Chapter is unique in the way they enjoy the RV lifestyle. They are fun loving and caring groups.

Visiting other State Samborees is a great way to gather new ideas and meet more people who enjoy getting together for fun, food and fellowship. Let me encourage all Chapters to plan at least one Chapter campout at an adjoining State Samboree. We know

how much we enjoy having Good Sam Club members from other states visit with us. You won't regret your visit!

The Rally, the new name for the AGI yearly RV rally, will be at the Daytona Speedway, April 7-10, 2006. It is expecting that as many as 8,000 rigs might attend this rally.

As you travel, talk to everyone you met about camping with a Good Sam Chapter. Once they camp with a Chapter, they will most likely want to join perhaps the best camping related experience one can have. What great friends you meet. Some of them become life long friends. Some of our Tennessee Chapters need help building their membership. Be sure to tell everyone you meet about the Tennessee Good Sam web site. The web site is a good place to get information about Tennessee Good Sam. There one can find contact information for all our Chapters. We could also start new chapters in parts of Tennessee where we do not have a Chapter today. We need to encourage families to become part of a Chapter. The Chapter lifestyle is a great place for families and children to develop into the future of the Good Sam Club.

We trust you are having an enjoyable time at the 2005 Tennessee "Railroad Days" Fall Samboree. We encourage your suggestion(s) on what we can do to improve your Samboree experience. We want you to come back to see us often!

Terry & Betty Minger
Tennessee State Directors

Chaplain's Corner

Ben Neal, State Chaplain

When it Is Time to Slow down

Our bodies keep reminding us that we aren't as young as we used to be. As one of our members said at the last Samboree, "I'm older today than I have ever been."

I don't know the young lady's name but the following poem was written by a teen-aged terminal cancer patient in a New York Hospital several years ago. There's a lot of wisdom in her words.

SLOW DANCE

Have you ever watched kids on a merry-go-round?

Or listened to the rain slapping on the ground?
Ever followed a butterfly's erratic flight?
Or gazed at the sun into the fading night?
You'd better slow down.
Don't dance so fast.
Time is short.
The music won't last.

Do you run through each day on the fly?
When you ask, "How are you?"
Do you hear the reply?
When day is done do you lie in your bed
With the next hundred chores
Running through your head?
You'd better slow down.
Don't dance so fast.
Time is short.
The music won't last.

Ever told your child "We'll do it tomorrow."?
And in your haste not see his sorrow?
Ever lost touch, let a good friendship die
Cause you never had time
To call and say, "Hi."
You'd better slow down.
Don't dance so fast.
Time is short.
The music won't last.

When you run so fast to get somewhere
You miss half the fun of getting there.
When you worry and hurry through your day,

It is like an unopened gift...
Thrown away.
Life is not a race.
Do take it slower.
Hear the music
Before the song is over.

My prayer for all of you is that you slow down, remember where you've been, enjoy where you are, and look forward to where you are going.

God bless

Ben

Editor's Chat

I sent out an e-mail asking ALL Assistant State Directors and ALL Chapters to submit an article for the *Good Sam Messenger*. I had much better response for this issue of the newsletter in that nine Chapters and one ASD submitted articles. These responses appear under the *Chapter Overview* column. The difference between *Chapter News* and *Chapter Overview* column is that the information in Chapter News is taken from Chapter newsletters sent to the State Editor and condensed as necessary. The information in the Chapter Overview is basically written by the Chapter representative and that person determines what Chapter information appears in the *Good Sam Messenger*.

The number of items received for the fall newsletter greatly exceeded the number received for the Spring issue, for that I thank each of you that submitted an article. I am optimistic and believe that we will have a 100% participation for the 2006 Spring *Good Sam Messenger*.

Again, I would like to solicit newsletter articles from each Assistant State Director and ALL Chapters, whether it be from the President, the Newsletter Editor/Publicity, or whomever the President designates. I really would like to broaden the scope of the newsletter and I certainly need your help.

At the Fall Samboree the *Good Sam Messenger* newsletter will be distributed a bit differently. A copy of the newsletter will be given to each registrant when they report to **Registration** to receive

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their information packet. If this works out okay, then we will distribute the 2006 Spring *Good Sam Messenger* in the same manner. You may download the Good Sam Messenger from the Tennessee Good Sam Web Site: <http://www.tngoodsam.com>.

A lot of work by Staff Members has gone into preparing for this Samboree and we hope you enjoy it. We welcome your comments. Please see any Staff Member or e-mail Terry: director@tngoodsam.com.

Thank you for attending the 2005 Tennessee Fall Samboree.

Chapter News

[Editor's note. If your chapter is not listed here, it is because I did not receive any newsletters from your chapter. I would like to print information on all the Tennessee Good Sam Chapters, so please ensure that you send a copy of your newsletter to me at boohoo@ntown.net or to 5320 E. Sunset Road, Knoxville, TN 37914-4304]

Chapter 1 - Golden Circle Sams

Members of the Golden Circle Sams presented \$210 to the St. Jude Research Hospital as a result of personal donations and proceeds from the drawing on a chair at the Tennessee Spring Samboree. Members continue to make bibs for the Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse.

During the past several months the Golden Circle Sams have held campouts at Cherokee Landing, Pickwick, Happy Hollow Campground, Reelfoot Lake, and Natchez Trace State Park. They have enjoyed food, like so many of the Good Samers, at Cracker Barrel, Perkins, Ci Ci Pizza, Arnolds, as well as the restaurants at the campgrounds.

Chapter 2 - Ole Smoky Sams

Twenty-two members in eleven rigs of Ole Smoky Sams attended the Tennessee 2005 Spring Samboree. All attending members participated in the Good Sam Cleanup Day at the Samboree.

The Ole Smoky Sams held the June 2005 campout and meeting at Defeated Creek Campground, Cordell Hull Lake, Carthage, Tennessee. Fourteen members

in seven rigs attended the campout. In July the Chapter held their campout at a private campground, Maple Hill Campground in Jamestown, Tennessee, with twelve members in six rigs attending. Eight Chapter members in four rigs traveled to Obey River Campground on Dale Hollow Lake, Tennessee, for their August meeting.

The September campout and meeting resulted in the largest turnout of the season for the Ole Smoky Sams with 23 members and guests in 11 rigs attending. The campout was held at the Ragland Bottom Campground, Center Hill Lake, Tennessee. Guests included Terry Minger, State Director, and Betty Minger, State Secretary. In addition, four other members and one guest attended the meeting and covered-dish meal. Officers for the Chapter for the year 2006 were elected during the meeting.



Several members camped at the Long Branch Campground, Lancaster, Tennessee, the weekend of 14-16 October and proceeded on to Jackson for the 2005 Tennessee Fall Samboree.

The Chapter will windup their 2005 camping season with a campout at the Bean Pot Campground, Crossville, Tennessee.

The Ole Smoky Sams have supported the Knoxville Ronald McDonald House during the year with donations of money and supplies.

Chapter 3 - Cumberland Mountain Sams

Twenty-three members in 12 rigs represented the Cumberland Mountain Sams at the 2005 Tennessee Spring Samboree in Lebanon, Tennessee. At their meeting at the Samboree the Chapter voted to donate \$100 to the Ronald McDonald House.

The Cumberland Mountain Sams held their June campout at Chester Frost Park, Hixon, Tennessee. During the campout the Chapter held a "Chinese Auction" and Margie Therrien held a craft session on 'doodle bug window clings.'

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Defeated Campground on Cordell Hull Lake near Carthage, Tennessee, was the site of the July campout for the Chapter. Donna Skultety and Latricia Neal held a seminar on glass painting. The Chapter also held a book sell during the campout.

In August the Cumberland Mountain Sams met at the Bean Pot Campground in Crossville, Tennessee, for their monthly campout. Twenty-six members and guests were present for the outing. The Chapter celebrated "Thanksgiving-in-August" with an appropriate feast on Thursday night, thanks to the Ladies of the Chapter.

The September campout was held at Long Branch Campground, Center Hill Dam, Lancaster, Tennessee. A hot dog and chili cookout, as well as the Chapter annual fish fry was held during the campout. Loretta Flatt was the instructor for the session on making an 'apple note minder.'

Chapter 4 - Mid-Ten Sams



The Mid-Ten Sams held their June campout at the Defeated Creek Campground on Cordell Hull Lake near Carthage, Tennessee. The Chapter was represented by over 44 members and guests in 19 rigs! The Chapter held a 'potluck' meal on Friday night.

Cedar Creek Campground was the site of the Chapter's July campground with 36 members in 18 rigs present. There were also 12 guests who attended the campout. A potluck meal was held on Friday and Chapter members and guests dined out on Saturday.

The August Chapter campout was held at Montgomery Bell State Park, Burns, Tennessee (near Dickson). The Mid-Ten Sams had their lowest turnout of the season at this campout with only 20 members and two guests in ten rigs. The Chapter nominated officers for the 2006 camping year during the

outing.

The Chapter members journeyed to Long Branch Campground, Lancaster, Tennessee, for their monthly campout in September. Members and guests in 20 rigs were present for this campout. Election of Chapter officers for the year 2006 was held during the meeting.

Chapter 5 - Scenic City Sams

The Scenic City Sams were represented by 17 members and eight rigs at the 2005 Tennessee Samboree. The Chapter was recognized as having the highest percentage of new members in the state of Tennessee and was awarded a \$50 prize.

Roman 'N' Roost Campground in Crossville, Tennessee, was the setting for the June campout. There were 36 members in 17 rigs present for the meeting and campout. Visits to the flea market, outlet mall and pot luck dinner were highlights of the outing.

Members in eight rigs met at the Happy Holiday Campground in Cherokee, North Carolina, for the July meeting of the Chapter. A few of the members tried their luck at the casino...no word on how lady luck treated them.

The August meeting of the Scenic City Sams was held at Big Meadow Campground in Townsend, Tennessee. During the junket several members ventured over to Cades Cove in the Smoky Mountain National Park for an annual bike ride. They were rewarded with a view of the wildlife up close and personal. Pat Hughes provided crafty instructions on repairing holes in t-shirts. The Chapter is providing over 100 small toys to send to the troops in Iraq to pass out to the children in Iraq.

In September the Scenic City Sams journeyed to Little Mt. Marina Campground, Guntersville Reservoir, Alabama. It has been reported that there was lots of eating and shopping during this campout. Pat Hughes organized a craft session on making turkeys, and as the editor said, "turkeys making turkeys." The group held a Chapter breakfast on Saturday morning and dined at the Top of the River for dinner.

The Chapter is scheduled to go to Plum Nelly Campground in Ellijay, Georgia, in October.

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Chapter 6 - Music City Sams

Please see the Music City Sams summary that appears under the Chapter Overview column.

Chapter 7 - RiverMSams

The RiverMSams with 10 rigs held their June campout at the Village Creek State Park near Wynne, Arkansas. Most of those attending went to a "farm fest" in Wynne and enjoyed a stage show featuring songs of the 50's with Charlie Rich, Jr. The Chapter savored a cookout on Saturday.

The July campout of the RiverMSams was held in Mountain View, Arkansas, with members in eight rigs attending. Pickin' and grinin' was the order of the day as there were 10 to 12 groups around the court square every night. The Chapter held a spaghetti supper on Saturday night. In addition, on a Saturday night in July Chapter President Cleve and Shirley Holt hosted a fish fry for Chapter members at their home. Twenty-two members attended fish fry which was reported to have been thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Chapter 9 - Fish Fry Sams

The Fish Fry Sams were represented by members in seven rigs at the 2005 Tennessee Spring Samboree. The Chapter's Thursday night's skit was deemed to be a hit. The Fish Fry Sams had several successful fund-raisers: \$300 profit from the bean dinner, \$600 from auction items and \$130 from the lap quilt.

Members in eight rigs were present at the Chapter campout in June, which was held at Persimmon in Pine Campground. The Chapter decided on what tasks they would undertake at the Fall Samboree, as well as voting on nominees for the State Director.

Fish Fry Sams held their July campout at Ft. Massac State Park in Illinois, which is just north of Paducah, Kentucky.

Chapter 11 - West Tennessee Traveling Sams

The West Tennessee Traveling Sams participated in the Good Sam Cleanup Day on May 28. Members met and cleaned up Cypress Grove Park in Jackson, Tennessee. The Chapter monthly campout was held at Aberdeen, Mississippi, on June 17-19 at the Blue Bluff Campground.

Chapter 17 - Davy Crockett Sams

The Davy Crockett Sams held their June campout at Pickwick Park, Pickwick Dam, Tennessee. The

Chapter's August campout was held at Corinth AL Campgrounds near Double Springs, Alabama; sixteen members attended the campout.

Chapter 21 - K-Town Sams

The K-Town Sams received two awards at the Spring Samboree. One for high attendance with 29 rigs and, two, a flag for highest percentage for 75% of members present. The Chinese Auction conducted by the K-Town Sams brought in \$800 for the Knoxville Ronald McDonald House. The Saturday morning pancake and sausage breakfast was a huge success.

In June, the K-Town Sams traveled to the Renfro Valley KOA, Kentucky, for their monthly campout. The theme for the campout was Bluegrass. Members in 16 rigs were present for the campout. The Chapter voted to donate monies received from the raffle at the Fall Samboree will go to the Angle Tree at Christmas Time.

The Bean Pot Campground in Crossville, Tennessee, was the site of the July campout for the K-Town Sams. Members in 24 rigs showed up for the outing.

King's Holly Haven RV Park in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, was the location for the August campout of the Chapter. Members in 19 rigs were present for the excursion. The theme for the campout was "Big Orange."

The K-Town Sams traveled to the KOA in Sweetwater, Tennessee, for their September campout. Members held the election for Chapter officers for the year 2006 at this campout. It was reported that a check for \$800 had been presented to the Knoxville Ronald McDonald House. This amount represented the proceeds from the Chinese Auction held at the Tennessee Spring Samboree.

Chapter 23 - Cherokee Trail Sams

The Cherokee Trail Sams held their June campout at Volunteer Park in Heiskell, Tennessee. The Chapter held a spaghetti supper on Saturday night.

The Chapter headed for Little Mountain Resort in Langston, Alabama, for their July campout. Members enjoyed a potluck Bar-B-Q supper on Friday, and a covered-dish meal on Saturday. Salacoa Creek Park in Calhoun, Georgia, was the site of the Chero-

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kee Trail Sams August campout. The September campout of the Cherokee Trail Sams was held at Phil & Amanda Spencer's in Ringgold, Georgia. The Chapter plans to travel to Peace Valley Campground in Marble, North Carolina, for an October outing.

Chapter 26 - Overmountain Sams

The Chapter netted \$120 on fund-raisers at the Spring Samboree and will donate that to a local Ronald McDonald House. Overmountain Sams held their June campout at the Smoky Bear Campground in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Creekwood Farm Campground in Waynesville, North Carolina was the site of the Chapter's August campout.

Chapter 27 - Sam's Dixie Travelers

The Sam's Dixie Travelers were recognized as the newest Tennessee Good Sam Chapter at the 2005 Tennessee Spring Samboree, plus a representative from the Headquarters, International Good Sam Club presented the Chapter with their Good Sam charter.

The Chapter selected Volunteer Park in Heiskell, Tennessee, for their June campout. In addition to the usual socializing and games, the group was treated to bluegrass music by the Brushy Valley Boys on Saturday night.

Big Meadow Campground in Townsend, Tennessee, was the site of the July campout for the Sam's Dixie Travelers. Eleven members and two guests were present. A Chapter patch was selected during the meeting on the 15th.

The Sam's Dixie Travelers held the August campout at Roam 'n' Roost Campground in Crossville, Tennessee. The Chapter camped out at the Tellico Plains KOA in Tellico Plains, Tennessee, in September. A fund-raising Bingo Game was held on Saturday night for all campers.

Chapter Overview

Assistant Director for West Tennessee

By the time you read this we are in the midst of the 2005 Fall Samboree in Jackson, Tennessee. As you know, West Tennessee is the host. Preparations seem to go so smooth as we worked with the West Tennessee Chapter Presidents and their chapters. Such cooperation from each President contacted meant so

much to Doug and me. Many times as I would call a President's home I was impressed as each would say, "Hi Jane," knowing my voice as you would know a family member's voice calling home. We were never turned down for help in any way, always met with total cooperation. That is what people mean when they talk about "the Good Sam Family."

Doug and I have been asked to stay on the staff for another two years. With the cooperation and attitude we have received across Tennessee, it would be hard to turn the State Director down.

The new Mississippi State Director has asked Tennessee to put on the skit "Prop Me Up By The Juke Box," that Fish Fry Sams performed at the Tennessee 2005 Spring Samboree in Lebanon. We would like to have at least 25 Tennessee rigs in Greenville, Mississippi, next spring to support Tennessee in doing the skit.

Happy Camping,
Doug and Jane Overton

Bluff City Sams

The year 2005 has been a busy and exciting year for members of the Bluff City Sams.

Chapter members dug into their pockets for donations to provide lunch for all of the hard working staff and volunteers at the Ronald McDonald House in Memphis. Members delivered food trays and provided a meal for 25 staff and volunteers.

On May 20th President Jack Sams, Vice President Nelson Pilcher, Wagon Master Walter Glover and Mac McCullers worked as volunteers with James Cornell. James Cornell participated at the Wings Cancer Foundation Golf Scramble which was held at the Cherokee Gold course in Olive Branch, Mississippi. The Golf Scramble was sponsored by McCullers in memoriam to his wife Kathleen who passed away in February.

The Chapter held its annual Chapter picnic on May 28th at Meeman-Shelby State Park in Millington, Tennessee.

Chapter members Nelson Pilcher and Russell Johnson have been working with American RV in Olive Branch, Mississippi, in pulling trailers to the Gulf Coast to FEMA staging areas. These trailers are later moved to locations for use by hurricane victims who

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have no place to live.

On October 7 and 8, twenty-eight members and guests traveled to Nashville for an Excursion Train ride from Nashville to Watertown, and a two-mile yard sale. The trip was topped off with a visit to the "Cock of The Walk Restaurant," and a trip to the Grand Old Opry.

Cherokee Trail Sams

The Chapter elected the following persons as officers for the year 2006: President David Gasaway; Vice President Phil Spencer; Secretary Shirley Gasaway; Treasurer Amanda Spencer; Wagon Master Gary Inman; Chaplain Leo Lovett; Sunshine Lady Reba Lovett.

Cumberland Mountain Sams

Chapter officers for the year 2006 are: Cal Therrien, President; Wallace Neal, Vice President; Margie Therrien, Secretary; Billy Austin, Treasurer; Gene Winterton, Wagon Master; Margie Therrien, Publicity; Jimmy Williams, Chaplain; Delbert Butson, Legislative Representative; Donna Skultety, Activities Director.

Fish Fry Sams

Since the success of the Spring Samboree, our Chapter has gone through some interesting time. Our June campout was at Piney in order to stay close to our families for Father's Day. Our next trip took us to Ft. Massac in Illinois. We had a good turnout but were saddened by two good friends who chose to withdraw from our Chapter.

August's campout was held at Kentucky Dam and five rigs and one guest were present. We had a wonderful time sharing a meal with the Dogwood Sams and Pennyrile Sams, two chapters from Kentucky. Also, we were pleased to vote in two new members, who we feel will be a great addition to our Chapter.

In September we had three rigs present at Columbus Belmont. Our election took place as three families drove up for our Saturday meeting. The officers for 2006 are: Dave Riola, President; Ken Anderson, Vice President; Rita Riola, Secretary-Treasurer; Linda Anderson, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer; Earl Mealer, Wagon Master; Paul Copeland, Chaplain; and Sandy Mealer, Publicity Chairperson. We are pleased to have

this group of people to step forward and would hope that all Chapter members give them your support. Next year is a milestone for Fish Fry Sams as we celebrate our 25th year as a Chapter. Hope to see all our friends in Jackson for the Samboree.

Golden Squares

This is the Golden Squares' twenty-fifth anniversary year. The Chapter was recognized at the Spring Samboree and received a certificate at the Saturday night session. At a campout late in the summer, the Chapter celebrated with cake and homemade ice cream.

The Chapter has been camping during the summer, but the original camping schedule has been revised. Because of some members' health and because of the cost of gasoline, campgrounds closer to Memphis have been substituted.

K-Town Sams

K-Town Sams is Chapter 21 of the Tennessee Good Sam Organization and the International Good Sam RV Club. We are located in Knoxville, Tennessee, in the heart of Big Orange Country and the University of Tennessee Volunteers. The officers of the Chapter for 2005 are:

President: Rebecca Martin
Vice President: Debra Galbraith
Treasurer: Karen Hoomes
Secretary: Tommy McIntyre
Wagon Master: Bill Baird

At our September campout, we elected the same officers to serve the Chapter for the year 2006. These officers will be installed at our December meeting.

We meet twelve months of the year, although three of these meetings, December, January, and February, are what we call "Dinner Meetings." That leaves us nine months for campouts. Incidentally, some of our members, "The Polar Bears," continue to camp year around, weather permitting of course. One new place we went this year was to Renfro Valley, Kentucky, for our June meeting. We had 17 rigs with 34 members and one visitor present. We are averaging about 20 rigs per campout.

One highlight for KTown, thus far this year has been our annual trip to the Ronald McDonald House

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located in Knoxville. This year we presented Sue Beverly, Director of Ronald McDonald House, with a check for \$800.00. This check represents 100% of the proceeds from the Chinese Auction we held at the 2005 Spring Samboree, and a total of \$2,500.00 KTown has given to Ronald McDonald House over the past three years. Sue Beverly, in turn, presented KTown Sams with a plaque for our continued support of the Ronald McDonald House. In November, KTown members will again gather at the House and prepare a soup and chili supper for all of the residents staying at the house.

Sue Beverly, Knoxville Ronald McDonald House presented a plaque to KTown in appreciation for all of our continued support to the House. K-Town Chapter member Hazel Cox, presented the \$800.00 check to Sue.

Another yearly project of KTown's is to go to the local mall at Christmas time and shop for children from the Angel Tree. Over the last two years, we have contributed over \$1,375.00 to this project.

Our Chapter members enjoy a great satisfaction with these two very worth while projects. It is very gratifying to know that we were able to help these people and provide a Christmas for children that might not otherwise have had a one.

Mid-Ten Sams

It is hard to believe that our campouts for 2005 is coming to an end. We have had some good turnouts this year. We went to a private campground in Alabama—Roaring Pines. It was great having the whole place to ourselves, and they have nice facilities which came in very handy, since it rained a lot.

Our Chapter had a flea market at the Spring Samboree with the proceeds being donated to the Ronald McDonald House. We also collected the pull-tabs from soft drink cans through out the year and donated these to the Ronald McDonald House.

In May we changed our bylaws to provide for an unlimited number of members in our Chapter. In September we had our "Blow Out," which was a huge success. We played lots of games, had great food and homemade ice cream.

We had a total of five new members to join the Chapter during the year.

Our officers stayed the same for 2006, they are: Jerry Halliday, President; Tom Smith, Vice President; Betty Tebeau, Secretary; Karen Halliday, Treasurer; Steve Tebeau, Publicity; Norman Hutchinson, Wagon Master; Panuel Lowry, Chaplain and Paul Gentry, Backup Chaplain.

Music City Sams

The Music City Sams camped at Defeated Creek Campground in June. We had 20 members and two visitors present. On Thursday we were treated to a spaghetti supper thanks to the Hutchesons. A pot luck supper was held on Friday night and on Saturday we enjoyed breakfast at a restaurant at Defeated Creek.

The Music City Sams raffled off a ham at the May Samboree and raised \$200. On June 21, President Floyd Long and Secretary-Treasurer Ardenia Larkins presented a check, together with a huge shopping bag full of soft drink pull-tabs, to the Nashville Ronald McDonald House.

Our July campout was in Cumberland Mountain State Park with 14 members present. We enjoyed a Chapter breakfast on Saturday morning and an ice cream social in the afternoon.

Bailey's Point in Kentucky was the site of the August campout with 21 members attending. Members savored a Taco dinner on Thursday and a Chapter-staff prepared breakfast on Friday. On Saturday we traveled to Franklin, Kentucky for lunch.

In September the Chapter camped at Cages Bend in Henderson, Tennessee with 21 members attending. In addition, we were honored to have State Director Terry Minger and State Secretary Betty Minger camp with us. Members and guests dined at the Cherokee Steak House on Thursday night and on Friday morning we enjoyed a Chapter breakfast. On Saturday we had our annual cookout.

In November we plan to camp at Cedars of Lebanon State Park where we will be making crafts for Christmas.

The Music City Sams plan a Christmas party and will sponsor several children of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home for Christmas. New officers will be sworn in at the Christmas Party-Meeting.

Ole Smoky Sams

The Ole Smoky Sams were pretty well represented

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at the Spring Samboree with twenty-two members in 11 rigs. No award for attendance, but still over fifty percent of the Chapter attended. The card games were hosted by the Chapter and two of our members were the overseers. The Chapter signed up three new member-families during the month of May for a total of six new members.

During the past five months, the Chapter has held campouts at Defeated Creek, Maple Hill Campground (private), Obey River, Ragland Bottom and Long Branch. The Chapter was honored to have Terry and Betty Minger camp with us at Ragland Bottom which, incidentally, was our best-attended campout of the year. Our Wagon Master has been very active in locating cheaper campgrounds to offset the increase in fuel prices, which accounts for the large number of Corps of Engineer parks. Anyway, the Chapter has voice the opinion that Corps of Engineer parks are among the best. The Wagon Master also does a terrific job in locating restaurants near our campout sites.

Officers voted to lead the Old Smoky Sams during the year 2006 are: President Richard Elliot; Vice President Lewis Phillips; Secretary Pat Elliot; Treasurer Betty Whillock; and Boots and John Hoover as Newsletter and Webmaster. All are new except Boots and John. It is good to see "new blood" at the helm of the Chapter.

During the year the Ole Smoky Sams have supported the Ronald McDonald House with money and supplies. The Chapter voted to provide the House with gift cards instead of members exchanging gifts at the Christmas Party. Each member will donate a \$10 WalMart gift card to the Ronald McDonald House during December.

Scenic City Sams - This Year in Review 2005

As with each New Year, some things change and others stay the same. We are happy to report that we have several long-standing members who have been members of our club since the very beginning. We've also added new members for this year, Jim and Joan Beaver, Lynda & Jack Cooper, and Bob and LeAnn Flatt. As we grow, we are able to maintain the high standards of the club and feel blessed to have a group of people who truly enjoy the camping experience together.

As with most clubs we get together at least once each month. During the very cold months of January

and February, we plan our meetings to coincide with our annual soup supper and Valentine's Dinner. At Christmas time we gather to enjoy dinner and exchange gifts (Chinese style!). No matter whether we are camping or just gathering to enjoy good food and fellowship, we carry on the tradition of Good Sam!

During the remaining months we plan monthly campouts at parks within 100 miles of Chattanooga. To provide an opportunity for all to get together, we designate a host for each monthly campout who is responsible for providing Saturday morning breakfast for the whole crowd. We use this time to catch up on all the news and make informal plans for the remainder of the campout. We also get together for Saturday evening dinner, either pot luck or a local restaurant nearby. Our President has the responsibility to "call us to order" after dinner, forcing us to get down to business. Our club takes pride in providing each and every member an opportunity to offer suggestions and ideas on where to eat and camp (often times in that order).

Annually, we participate in a club bike ride around Cades Cove (well, some of us do!), and a float down the Little Tennessee River. Another favorite activity is to gang up and make our yearly trip to Little Lots - bargains galore! We also plan morning crafting sessions at some of our campouts. This year we have made embellished shirts, hanging fish, and stuffed turkeys. Whatever the project, each and every one of them bring lots of fun!

At this year's Tennessee Spring Samboree our club was honored for having the most new members for a club "in our market." Several members have been instrumental in inviting prospective new members to join us as we camp. Once they see how much fun we have, they are anxious to join our great club.

Special Project

As many of you know our solders in Iraq have an opportunity to interact with the children in this war-torn country. It means a great deal for them to have an opportunity to offer a small toy, a kindness to the children they meet. Our club provided over 100 small toys for our solders in Iraq to hand out to the children. Lynda and Jack Cooper shipped them to their son in Iraq for distribution. We are very proud to be a part of this great effort and would like to challenge other clubs to take part in this worthwhile effort!

2005 CLUB SCHEDULE

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January 15 - Soup Supper, Knights of Pythias
February 19 - Valentine Dinner, Town & Country.
March 18-20 - Chester Frost Park (Roy & Melanie Parrott)
April 15-17 - Guntersville State Park (Mack & Ann Bobo)
May 20-22 - Samboree (Lebanon)
June 24-26 - Roam & Roost (Charlie & Nancy Foust)
July 15-17 - Happy Holiday (Buster & Sarah Smith)

August 19-21 - Big Meadow (Dan & Louise Stieg)
September 16-18 - Little Mtn. Marina (Ken & Pam Clouse)

October 21-23 - Plum Nelly (Ronnie & Sue Robertson)
November 18-20 - Chester Frost Park (Don & Arlene Stacey)

December 17 - Christmas Party, Knights of Pythias

2005 CLUB OFFICERS

President Ranny Coulter; Vice President Danny Moore; Treasurer Charlie Foust; Secretary Melanie Parrott; Wagon Master Don Stacey; Historian Louise Stieg; Publicity Dan Stieg; Good Samaritan Sarah Smith; Sunshine Girl Mary Moore; Telephone Chairman Nancy Foust; Telephone Committee: Louise Stieg; and Edith Cox; Newsletter Editor Sue Robertson.

We haven't elected our 2006 officers or camping sites as yet, but look forward to another year of Good Sam camping and fellowship.

West TN Traveling Sams

In June we welcomed new members Neal and Betty Johnson; earlier in the year we welcomed Bert and Sidney Meece as new members. Our campout for June was held at Blue Bluff Campground in Aberdeen, Mississippi.

In July the Chapter traveled to Columbus, Kentucky, and camped out at Columbus-Belmont Kentucky State Park. In August we went to Fulton, Mississippi, for our campout. We also donated \$100 to the Cancer Society during August. In September, because of the gas crunch, we stayed closer to home and camped out at Natchez Trace State Park.

The Chapter members have been busy preparing for the Tennessee Fall Samboree. Our last campout of the year, which will be in November, will be held at Natchez Trace State Park. We will elect Chapter officers for year 2006 at this campout. In December we will hold our annual Christmas Party.

Tennessee Good Sam Roster - 2005

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Roster

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