



Good Sam Messenger



Fall 2006

Newsletter of Tennessee Good Sams

Vol. X1 No. 2

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



(l-r) Jane Overton, Elton Hatley and Doug Overton. Jane and Doug are Assistant Directors for West Tennessee. Elton Hatley is the President of the Tennessee River Sams.

We are Chapter No. 30 of the Tennessee Good Sams.

Assistant State Directors for West Tennessee, Doug and Jane Overton met with us and organized our chapter on April 17, 2006, in Camden, Tennes-

The Tennessee River Sams of Benton County

by Gwendolyn Lowrance, President-Elect

Tennessee's 30th Good Sam Chapter

see at the Country and Western Restaurant. We started with five camping couples and at our last meeting one more couple joined.

Our get togethers are fun with our president Elton Hatley. I think we are all part Indian for we like to gather around a big fire but so far we haven't done a WAR DANCE.

Fun and fellowship are our main activities, oh yes, we all like to eat. Each of us in the chapter is going to

See Tennessee River Sams page 14

Tennessee Sunshine Travelers

by Janice Smith, President

Tennessee's 31st Good Sam Chapter

Being a newly formed chapter, we have completed our 2nd campout. With twelve chartered members and a very enthusiastic group, we are well organized and on the move!



See Tennessee Sunshine Travelers page 15

From Our State Director



We hope you are having an exciting time at the 2006 Tennessee "Davy Crockett Days" Fall Samboree. The Middle Tennessee Chapters and the State Staff have worked hard to make sure you have a great time in Lawrenceburg. Let them know you appreciate their efforts. Rotary Park is a nice facility for a Fall Samboree. Hopefully our group having a great time here will convince them to provide more power and water sites. That surely must be a determining factor if we plan to return for another Samboree.

Much of my Spring Newsletter article was about Chapter growth in Tennessee. This year we have

added four new Chapters and many new Chapter members. Our total Chapter membership in Tennessee has grown by approximately 60 so far this year. Yet there are still numbers of Good Sam Club members that do not know about the greatest benefit of their membership, that of enjoying the fun and fellowship of belonging to a Good Sam Club Chapter. Some of our Chapters have gotten excited about adding new members to their Chapter. Some Chapters are at their maximum member count and are considering helping start a new Chapter. Catch the excitement, get involved! IT IS FUN!

Planning has already begun on the 2007 Tennessee "Reflections of 1978" Spring Samboree, June 8-10th, at the James E. Ward Agriculture Center in Lebanon. We are expecting a great group of Good Sam Club members attending. We will be celebrating 30 years of Samborees in Tennessee. We will have a new patch on sale to commemorate this event. With the move of the dates to June, we anticipate a better turnout. Plan to bring your children and grand children along. They will have a great time! Activities are planned for the children. We want them to begin enjoying this wonderful RV life style. They are the future of the Good Sam Club and Tennessee Good Sam Chapters.

Terry Minger

From Our State Secretary



As 2006 comes to an end, we look forward to 2007. Good things are happening throughout the chapters. We continue seeing chapter growth and participation. The spirit within chapters is outstanding and that is what being a Good Sam Club chapter member is all about.

"Thank You" to all of the Secretaries and Treasurers who have worked hard this past year to ensure that their Chapter's records have been maintained in an orderly manner. It is vital that records be kept to help preserve the history and legacy of your chapter.

Good Sam Headquarters in California have asked that we send them an updated membership list. I would just like to remind all secretaries that the 2007 membership updates must be returned to me by December 1st. If you have any questions or concerns, just let me know.

On behalf of Terry, Ellie, and myself we wish each and everyone a happy holiday season.

Safe Travels and we hope to SEE YOU IN 2007!

Betty Minger

Assistant State Directors



Assistant State Directors for East Tennessee

The East Tennessee Chapters will be combining their March campout into one big Regional campout. This campout is to kick-off planning for the Tennessee Fall Samboree which is to be hosted by the East Tennessee Chapters. We also plan to make time for the Chapters to share with each other things that have been successful in their own Chapters...campgrounds, recipes, adding new members, etc. George and I are hoping that the campout will be as much fun as it is productive.

In September we went to the West Virginia Fall Samboree and were continually asked where all the Tennessee people were. I hope, as often as possible, that each Chapter will get a group to go to other Samborees in Region Six or elsewhere. Making new friends at these out of state Samborees is just one of the many perks in attending.

Also in September George and I held our first meeting of "at-large" Good Sam members in Roane County. We had a good turn out for the meeting. Support from members of Ole Smoky Sams and K-Town Sams helped to create an interest in starting a new Chapter in this area. We're looking forward to working further with these Good Sam members. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank those Chapter members who gave their time and talents to support us at this event.

Rebecca and George Martin



Assistant State Directors for West Tennessee

NEW WEST TENNESSEE CHAPTERS IN 2006

REELFOOT SAMS - BIG CYPRUS SAMS - TENNESSEE RIVER SAMS

Jane and I have been on the road more than usual this summer and we have both enjoyed camping with those of you that we could. We appreciate the invitations from you to go on your special campouts and have gone when we could. Your newsletters are very informative. I wish we could give awards for wonderful newsletters.

As you know, there are three new chapters in West, Tennessee this year. You may not know that there is only ONE couple from all of these chapters that has ever been in a Good Sam Chapter before. Therefore helping these chapters to get established has been a mission for us. Bylaws and chapter policy has now been established for all three chapters and new members have been voted on. The officers that we appointed in each chapter have strong commitments and have now conducted an election for new officers for next year. What a pleasure it has been to work with these people and to watch them grow in their own right.

West Tennessee and all of Tennessee can be proud of these chapters and their presidents. West Tennessee is busy and all are working hard. Contact us if we can be of any help.

Happy Camping
Jane and Doug Overton

Chaplain's Corner



Gwen and Bob Lowrance. . .

In his book, Clowning in Rome, Henri Nouwen reminds us of a powerful story.

“There was once a sculptor working hard with his hammer and chisel on a large block of marble. A little boy who was watching him saw nothing more than large and small pieces of stone falling away left and right. He had no idea of what was happening. But when the boy returned to the studio a few weeks later, he saw to his great surprise a large, powerful lion sitting in the place where the marble stood. With great excitement the boy ran to the sculptor and said, “Sir, tell me, how did you know there was a lion in the marble?”

While in Rome, Nouwen got to see the works of Michelangelo and began wondering how such an artist could see a David or a Moses or a Mary in some block of stone. Of course, he realized that this kind of artistry took the discipline of skill, the discipline of time, the discipline of applying what he had been taught and using it to its fullest. But equally important it also took the discipline of thought, reflection and vision.

We all know that its one thing to “see” the lion in the stone, and its another to make it patiently, chip-by chip, come out of there. How can you and I realize that? Think about that when your patience begins to run a bit thin.

Wow! Think about what God goes through as he brings out the “lion” in us! How patient God must be--and in that patience, how loving God shows himself. It is because of his patience---don't you think?---that God makes us into the image he wants for each of us.

In his patience, he is chipping away that which makes us into the image he wants for us. Maybe this is

why the bible says that God sent his son “in the fullness of time”---not a day too soon, nor a day too late---that makes the creation (redemption) work of God what it is for our salvation and healing. God saw something and patiently made it happen---for our sake.

Each of us has been given gifts---gifts that include family and friends (even in the Good Sam Club!)---and we come to share---yes, even work that these gifts might be a blessing. So, what are the tools in your hands? What is it you see, say, in an RV chapter like yours? Only a block of stone? Look again. Maybe there is a “lion” there; or, maybe a friendship that can be brought to life with patience and care.

Even in our individual chapters across this state, we have opportunities to share our blessings with another for encouragement, fellowship and service. The disciplines and skill, time and patience can and do “chip away” the heaviness of life. Who knows!---you may find a David or Mary---even a lion(?) that needs what we Good Sam'ers have!

God's grace and peace
---Bob Lowrance.

Editor's Chat



To begin with, I want to thank all those Chapters who provided us with an article for this newsletter. I also want to encourage those Chapters who were unable to supply us with an article to look ahead to the Spring 2007 newsletter. Articles for the Spring Tennessee Newsletter will be due May 23, 2007, at the Editor's desk. Some of you may question why we need such a long lead time.

As Staff Members we normally have to be at the Samboree on Sunday (for the 2007 Spring Samboree

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Editor's Chat

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this will be June 3rd) before the Samboree starts the following Friday. This means that we must have the newsletter printed and in hand-out form no later than the Saturday prior to the Samboree. This leaves only ten days to:

(1) make telephone calls to those Chapters who have not responded to our request for articles;

(2) to download Chapter's articles from the Internet via dial-up (which really, as you know, is not speedy to say the least);

(3) to convert the articles from a variety of formats to our wordprocessor (WordPerfect in our case);

(4) to edit and proof-read the articles for correct grammar and spelling.

After John accomplishes (1) through (4) then I convert these articles into PageMaker which is the program we use for the newsletter layout. After I have completed the layout I print out a "proof" copy which John uses to do a final "proof read" prior to the final printing.

The printing, depending on the number of pages, the number of copies, as well as the number of graphics and photographs included in the newsletter, requires several hours. This is because the newsletter is printed using a Konica-Minolta color laser printer. Our printer is not considered a commercial printer, only a small-office-home (SOHO) type, and therefore is slow, but it does output a fairly nice product.

By the way, we execute all the functions relating to the newsletter via computers and computer related equipment that is owned by us. We use a minimum of two computers and two printers and it seems like tons of paper and gallons of ink. We also, at times use scanners. The Tennessee State Good Sams pay for most of the supplies we use in producing the newsletter.

The procedures listed above are not peculiar to just the State Editor. Every Chapter Editor probably goes through the same routine to a greater or lesser degree each time they publish a Chapter newsletter, generally monthly. We only do it twice a year. So the next time you see your Editor, just say, "Thanks!" Remember Editors need love too.

What would I like to see changed in the above process? I would like to see the Tennessee Good Sams produce an electronic newsletter. Several states already to so, one that comes to mind is Florida. It

would certainly reduce the amount of time spend in preparing the newsletter and eliminate the cost to zero. The Newsletter Editor could upload the newsletter to the Tennessee Good Sams Web Site and anyone who has access to the Web could download the finished product. The downside of this is that not everyone is connected to the Internet. This could be solved by having each Chapter Editor/Secretary download the newsletter from the Tennessee Good Sam Web Site and make copies for those who do not have access to the Web. Just some thoughts for you to think about. See you in Lawrenceburg.

Boots Hoover

Chapter News

Ole Smoky Sams

Chapter 2

by Patricia Elliott

Ole Smoky Sams continues to venture into new, and fun, places. We really enjoyed working on last spring's stage decorations. Boots Hoover did an outstanding job of drawing and laying out the artwork on the canvas so that the rest of us could look like real artists. Working together to accomplish a single purpose is truly fun.

Following the Spring Samboree, we were all pretty excited when our Chapter was featured in the Summer 2006 edition of *Home and Garden TV Ideas*, a supplement to the Knoxville News Sentinel newspaper.

Our June campout was held at Greenbrier Island Campground in Gatlinburg with six rigs in attendance. Getting there was an experience in itself. If you've ever driven Route 416, you'll understand. If anyone ever tells you to go that way – don't! The highlight of that weekend was a side trip to "The Apple Farm."

In July six rigs went to Berea, Kentucky - what a beautiful town! As we explored the town we found a little restaurant called, *The Wild Mint*. If you play your cards right, the owner will pull up a chair and entertain you with her stories. The Klodzinski's joined us for their first Ole Smoky Sams campout and, for some reason, decided to join us permanently.

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Chapter News - Ole Smoky

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Our Chapter made a mid-year visit to The Ronald McDonald House to deliver several bags of aluminum cans and tabs and provide cash donation. As always, anything that you do for them is appreciated.

Dale Hollow Dam was the destination for seven rigs in August. Our Corp of Engineer parks are a favorite destination of Ole Smoky Sams. They offer large beautiful sites and a perfect place to commune with nature. Dale Hollow has a nature walk complete with water falls and it is close enough to walk to the fish hatchery for an educational visit. If you feel adventurous, you can wander around the park near, or after sunset, and intermingle with the wildlife. You might even run into Pepe-Le-Pew or his family. The cute little black and white residents seem to be used to sharing their park with people and I've heard, if you don't bother them, they won't bother you. Of course, it does make for an exciting trip back to your RV after dark.

We recently returned from a "non-official" campout at Creekwood Farms RV Park in Waynesville, North Carolina followed by the "official" campout at the North Carolina Fall Samboree in Marion, North Carolina. There were eight rigs in attendance at Creekwood Farms and five rigs at the Samboree. The campout at Creekwood offered us an opportunity to meet new potential members and explore the Maggie Valley area. We also enjoyed being entertained by local musicians at the campground. North Carolina put on a very nice Samboree at The Tom Johnson Rally Park, Marion, North Carolina. The location is an excellent one, especially if you enjoy checking out all the new RVs that the Tom Johnson RV dealership offers.

CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN SAMS

Chapter 3

by Margie Therrien

In June the Cumberland Mt. Sams met at Dale Hollow Dam Campground, Celina, Tennessee. We enjoyed a delicious Potluck Supper on Thurs. Eve. At our business meeting we voted on issues that were presented at the Spring State meeting and voted to give Jean Taylor a donation to be used for gift packages to Military personnel who are serving overseas.

In July we met at the Defeated Creek Campground and it was HOT. Some members enjoyed the beach, sitting around visiting, playing Mexican Train Dominoes with a fan blowing on us! and taking siestas in the afternoon. Some of us went to LaVilla Restaurant in Carthage while others had a cookout on Tuesday evening. Another evening we celebrated Ken and Frances Smith's 50th anniversary...they brought a delicious decorated cake and on another evening we had cookies and ice cream.....new member Priscilla Sutton brought the cookies. At our business meeting we accepted Lee and Sherry Fieldman and Howard and Priscilla Sutton as new members of our Chapter.

In August we met at the Bean Pot Campground in Crossville, Tennessee. Thirteen boxes were packed to be mailed to military personnel in IRAQ and it was decided to continue this project again next year under the leadership of Jim and Jean Taylor. Our August campout and meeting was the highlight of the year with most members attending at Long Branch Campground, Center Hill Dam. We had a Hot Dog cookout on Wednesday evening with many goodies. Several men prepared breakfast on Thursday morning after being canceled on Wednesday because of rain. Margie Therrien demonstrated a craft project called No Sew Quilting using a cookie tin and Donna Skultety brought the supplies so that we could paint flowers, etc. on glass bowls. On Wednesday afternoon we had a White Elephant auction with Auctioneer Cal Therrien.....a lot of fun! At our business meeting we elected new officers for 2007. After our business meeting we had our usual potluck supper. We were happy to welcome our Assistant State Director Jerry Cowell for a short visit.

MID TEN GOOD SAMS

Chapter 4

The next campout is our famous "BLOWOUT" at Long Branch Campground October 13th-15th, 2006. We will have a potluck on Friday. Saturday the Chapter will provide the hamburgers, you will need to bring your trimmings and a dish to pass.

Floating Mill Campground - September Campout

We had nine member rigs: David and Sybil Butts, Jimmy and Wanda Collins, Jerry and Lila Cowell, Jerry and Karen Halliday and Mildred Roberts, Norman

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Chapter News - Mid Ten Continued from page 6

Hutchinson,

Ron and Rachel Merritt, Curtis and Joyce Posey, Tom and Bettye Smith, and Ralph and Mabel Thomas. One visitor rig: R. C. and Carol Booher.

Friday evening we had our potluck. Saturday night we went out to eat, and had our meeting. Paul and Betty Gentry joined us and they brought a guest, Donna Cunningham.

DUES ARE DUE!! \$10.00 per rig.

Please remember to bring to the blowout: prizes for bingo games, Chinese auction items (remember they don't have to be new) ice cream freezers if you have one (chapter will provide the ice).

The unlimited membership amendment which was passed in May 2005 was not legal and therefore has been rescinded. Mid Ten will have a maximum of 30 rigs.

Officers for 2007

President Ron Merritt
Vice President Tom Smith
Secretary Shernell Lowry
Publicity Susan Allen
Treasurer Bettye Smith
Wagon Master Prince Reed
Chaplain Paniel Lowry
(Chaplain Paul Gentry - back-up)

Congratulations to all the new and returning officer's. Members please support and help them through out the year.

Fall Samboree: October 20th-22nd, 2006 at the Lawrenceburg Rotary Park. Theme is "Davy Crockett Days."

Miscellaneous

Ron and Rachel will host a ham breakfast at our November campout.

Joe and Jenny had their baby on August 24th, Jamie Elizabeth 9lbs, 21 1/2 inches long.

Updated roster will be handed out at Long Branch.

Let's have a good turn out for the blowout! See ya there.....

SCENIC CITY SAMS Chapter 5

WHAT DID WE DO IN 2006?

by Sue Robertson. Editor

It's difficult to put into a short semi-annual newsletter all the wonderful things we've done as a Chapter. One activity which we are most proud of is the club's continuing support of family members and friends who are serving in Iraq. Together the Chapter gathered and donated over 200 small toys which were sent to our soldiers for their use in sharing the message of love and support for the children of Iraq.

We've lost Chapter members and family members this year who have gone on to be with their Lord. We've gathered together and supported each other through these trials and tribulations. We've camped, ate, and shopped our way around a 100-mile radius of Chattanooga.

As always we enjoyed a great soup supper in January with Buster Smith's 91-year-old father as our special guest. In February we dressed up and joined our best "sweetie" for a valentine celebration. Of course March is one of our favorite months - we dust off the rigs and bring them out of storage for a fun-filled camping season. At Chester Frost we enjoyed sitting around the fire telling tall tales. In April we camped at the Little Mt. Marina Campground in Guntersville, Alabama. It is a lovely park on the shores of Guntersville Reservoir. We enjoy this area because of the park setting, the lake, and the excellent shopping and restaurants close by - two of our favorites are Top of the River and the Catfish Cabin. That was the last campout attended by one of our long-time members, Edith Cox. She passed away the next week - we were very glad to have had the weekend with her in Guntersville. May brought the Samboree in Lebanon. It had rained prior to the event and the parking was "interesting." Ranny Coulter had to do a little mud boggin to get his rig parked just right. We had seven rigs attend this year.

Ahhhh, June on a mountain top in Crossville, Tennessee - the Roam and Roost. This private park is one of our favorites with great hosts, well maintained grounds and bath facilities, not to mention the pavilion

Chapter News - Scenic City

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and small lake close by. The flea market and Muddy Pond are always a club favorite as well when we are in the area.

We tried something different this year for July - usually we go to Big Meadows in Townsend but this year we decided on River Plantation in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. It's a great park, nice large pull-thru parking, and swimming pool. There is plenty to keep you busy in the area, including Dollywood and the outlet malls!

August saw us trying yet another new park - or an old one revisited - Noccalula Falls in Gadsden, Alabama. The park has been renovated and is a nice place to visit or revisit as the case may be.

In September we were back at Sequoyah Caverns in Hammond, Alabama. We like this park nestled next to the mountains with large, wooded sites and plenty of areas to hike and enjoy nature. It is a great park to sit back, relax, and enjoy! We will be finishing out this year's camping at the Plum Nelly Park, Ellijay, Georgia, in October and back to Chester Frost in November. After that - Christmas!

We currently enjoy a membership of about 21 families with an average turnout of 10 to 15 rigs for each campout. Some of our members winter in Texas and Florida while some of them have to stay around town and work! We have a great group who enjoy and respect each other. We wouldn't have it any other way.

2006 Camping Schedule

January 21 - Soup Supper, Knights of Pythias

February 18 - Valentine Dinner, Golden Corral, Hixson Pike

March 17-19 - Chester Frost Park, Hixson, Tennessee - Hosts - Cooper/Beavers

April 21-23 - Little Mt. Marina, Guntersville, Alabama - Hosts - Coulter/Day

May 12-14 - State Samboree, Lebanon

June 23-25 - Roam and Roost, Crossville, Tennessee - Hosts - Clouse/Stacey

July 21-23 - River Plantation, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee - Hosts - Hughes/Foust

August 18-20 - Noccalula Falls, Gadsden, Alabama - "Going Out to Eat"

September 15-17 - Sequoyah Caverns, Hammond, Alabama - Hosts - Stieg/Parrott

October 27-29 - Plum Nelly, Ellijay, Georgia - Hosts - Robertson/Moore

November 17-19 - Chester Frost Park, Hixson, Tennessee - Hosts - Cox/Flatt

CLUB OFFICERS - 2006

President - Ranny Coulter - 706-866-6175

Vice President - Ronnie Robertson - 706-375-5130

Treasurer - Charlie Foust - 423-421-7360

Secretary - Melanie Parrott - 423-842-2232

Wagon Master - Don Stacey - 423-899-1592
(Camping reservations)

Historian - Louise Stieg - 423-227-6973

Publicity - Jack Cooper - 706-375-2725

Legislative Representative - Pete Day - 706-866-1157

Good Samaritan - LeAnn Flatt - 706-891-0710

Sunshine Girl - Mary Moore - 423-842-0384

Telephone Committee - Linda Cooper, 706-375-2725 - Joan Beavers, 423-875-9421

Newsletter - Sue Robertson - 706-375-5130,
ssrobertson@tva.gov

Sue Robertson, Newsletter

Scenic City Sams Chapter

Music City Sams

Chapter 6

On August 9-13, 2006, the Music City Sams camped at Baileys Point in Scottsville, Kentucky, with seven members present. While there we took a boat ride into the Lost River Cave in Bowling Green, Kentucky. It happened to be one of our members first time ever into a cave, but she made it just fine.

On September 7-10 we camped at Cages Bend in Hendersonville, Tennessee.. This was our annual BBQ cookout. We had 14 members and 3 associate honoraries present. Our President Floyd Long and Richard Sabaski spent time on Saturday morning cooking the meat as other members prepared the trimmings. All was enjoyed.

The Music City Sams have welcomed six new members whom we met and visited with at the Spring Samboree. They are: James and Sheri Spradley, Joe and Pat Phillips, and Jim and Barbara Kelly.

Have a Good Sam Day,

Jeanette Hahn

Secretary/Treasurer

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Chapter News **Continued from page 8**

River M Sams **Chapter 7**

Activity During the Summer **Months 2006**

During the summer months The River M Sams have enjoyed campouts at nearby state parks in Mississippi and Tennessee. Due to the high price of gasoline, illnesses and other commitments that prohibited travel to further destinations, we decided to camp closer to home this summer.

You know what? We found the camping and fellowship experience was just as wonderful as a destination a little further away and we also did our part in conserving energy that has been in short supply because of our war efforts and national emergencies such as hurricanes. We did not sacrifice our good times and fellowship activities.

In other activities this summer we participated in picking up litter in Shelby farms with an other Memphis area Good Sam Chapter. We were very active in supporting our adopted charity, The Alzimers Day Care Center located in Bartlett, Tennessee.

We also found time to celebrate some of our members lifetime achievement of being married over 50 years. The River M Sams has eight couples who have been married over 50 years. We celebrated Leonard and Marie Stacks 60th wedding anniversary, River M Sam members since 1982. There are eight couples in our chapter that have been married longer than 50 years.

Leonard and Marie Stacks celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary at the China Pan Restaurant, hosted by the River M Sams

West Tennessee Traveling Sams **Chapter 11**

During recent years, our chapter has continued to grow with a great group of people enjoying travel, great fellowship, and a good time seeing the country. We have a total of 20 families in our membership at this time.

Some of our members rang in 2006 at a New Year's Eve party at Joe and Pauline Belew's house. Our January meeting was a meal at Crenshaw's Christmas Tree Farm. Dallas and Martha Hallman were host and hostess.

In February, our group met at Reelfoot Lake for a luncheon. Bert and Sidney Meece and Buddy and Genrose Rodgers were in charge of this event. They provided special napkins and great candy for party favors. At that time, a new chapter had just been formed in West Tennessee. The president of the Reelfoot Sams, Ed and Shirley Rose, met with us to have a time of sharing and to gain information about Good Sam and group camping.

Our camping season using our rigs is from March through November. We begin and end the season at Natchez Trace State Park near Lexington. The Blackwells, Bowmans, Johnsons, Lindseys, and Meltons braved the cold weather in March to camp. The Bakers, Belews, Blurtons, Fiddlers, Hallmans and Sorensens drove up for the meeting and to eat at Sparkeys in Lexington.

During the months of May and October, members of our group attend the Spring and Fall Samborees. Five of our members traveled in a convoy to Wilson County Fairground for the May Samboree. Sid and Bettye Blackwell led the convoy, with Jim and Elizabeth Baker, Alan and Iva Arnold, Bert and Sidney Meece and Buddy and Genrose Rodgers following. Joe and Pauline Belew went early and assisted with the parking.

During the Spring Samboree, our group was responsible for the horseshoe tournament. This was a new experience for us and the group enjoyed participating in this new responsibility. In addition to providing an auction item, our chapter made a \$100 cash gift to the Ronald McDonald House fund raising.

On June 3, 2006, we participated in the annual "clean-up" day. We chose to clean the Cypress Grove City Park. We have cleaned this park in previous years. After the clean--up, the group brought out the picnic baskets and had a big picnic. It was fun!

The June campout was at Piney Campground in the Land Between the Lakes. We had a good attendance at this campout.

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On July 4th, the Arnolds and Meltons were in Titusville, Florida, to witness the liftoff of the space shuttle. It was a very exciting time witnessing history in the making.

The July campout was at Piney Grove Campground and we had a lot of potluck at the campout. On Wednesday night, Rosie and Tommy Bowman furnished barbeque from Scott's barbeque in Lexington. Some of us enjoyed a country dinner on Thursday night. Pat Lindsey brought white beans, fried squash, fresh tomatoes and we added other dishes. Joe Belew cooked ribs and everyone added a dish.

August campout was at Montgomery Bell State Park. Noel and Betty Johnson and Bradley and Gale Sorensen were host and hostesses for this campout. We had a white elephant auction and Noel was the auctioneer. These funds are used for our treasury and as a gift to Ronald McDonald House.

The September campout was at Cheatham Dam on the Cumberland River. The Blurtons, Bowmans, Hallmans, Lindseys, and Arnolds attended this campout. The Lindsey's brought their grandchild, Lucas Gibson.

We look forward to seeing the camping schedule for the 2007 camping season. We hope to have some new traveling ventures on that schedule.

Happy Camping
Alan Iva Arnold
President and Secretary
West Tennessee Traveling Sams

K-TOWN SAMS Chapter 21

From The President

The September camp-out was a wonderful weekend. Great camping weather, cool mornings and evenings, with warm afternoons. It doesn't get much better than that!

It was hosted by Nancy Pierce and Susan Pangle, Bob and Ruth Anne McIntyre, Marvin and Carolyn Owens, Hubert and Ann Rollen, and Bruce and Mary Bell. They had a "Back to School" theme which

worked out great with plenty of good food for all.

We had 13 rigs, with 2 of those rigs being guests. Our weekend guests were Bill and Sharon Jurkonie, Kay Samuel, and Hubert and Ann Rollen's son, Keith. Saturday afternoon, Bob and Tommy's sister, Jackie and her husband Pete Flippen joined us, along with Johnny and Linda Branum. Saturday evening Tommy and Jean, Dennis and Karen, and George and Rebecca came for the meeting.

Nancy Pierce presented the slate of officers for 2007. They are:

President - Debra Galbraith
Vice President - T. C. Cruise
Secretary - Mary Bell
Newsletter Editor - Tommy McIntyre
Treasurer - Karen Hoomes
Wagonmaster - Bill and Vi McClister
Asst. Wagonmaster - Bob and Judy Morris
Historian - Jack Ivester

They will be installed at our December 2006 meeting.

Once again, our 2007 membership dues are due now! After November 1st they are considered delinquent. Delinquent members will be dropped from our membership list. If you have not done so yet, please mail your \$20.00 check, made payable to: K-Town Sams to:

Karen Hoomes
1265 Russell Ln.
Lenoir City, TN 37772

Tommy McIntyre suggested we go back to opening our meetings with prayer and saying The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Everyone agreed. Johnny Branum has a flag he will bring to each meeting. It was decided we will start this at our October meeting. Thank-you Tommy for your suggestion.

We will "pass the hat" at our October and November meetings to raise funds for our Christmas Angel tree buying. It was decided at the August meeting to do this instead of having a fund raiser at our Fall Samboree.

Better close, hope to see you at our Fall Samboree!
Happy Camping,
Debra Galbraith, President

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Chapter News - K-Town Continued from page 10

From the Wagon Master

Attention all K-Town campers, remember our October campout will be The Fall Tennessee State Samboree in Lawrenceburg. The 2006 Tennessee "Davy Crockett Days" Fall Samboree is scheduled for October 20 - 22nd. You do not want to miss a time for fun, food, and fellowship with Good Sam Club members from all over the U.S. Come and enjoy games, door prizes, early bird days (10/17 - 19th), morning and evening hospitality times, golf tournament, catered dinner - Saturday, ice cream social, raffles, commercial vendors, RV dealer displays, costume parade, evening program along with great entertainment.

Come and join us!

Our K-Town Sams Christmas Party will be on Dec. 9th, 5:30 pm at Ramsey's Restaurant. Cost will be \$16.75ea or \$33.50 per couple. You can make your check out to me, Bill Baird. I will in turn give all the money to Karen Hoomes, who will send a check to Ramsey's. I will need to know those planning on going by no later than Dec. 1st. I will have to notify Ramsey's and give them a head count. If you give your money to me and then have to cancel for some reason, I will of course give you a refund. Please let me know as soon as possible whether you are planning on attending.

Bill & Alice Baird

Host and Hostess - November campout, Smoky Bear Campground, Gatlinburg.

Jim and Jean Harbin, Johnny and Linda Branum, and Don and Judy Warren will be our Hosts/Hostess' for this campout. The theme will be, "County Fair." There will be a Fairest of the Fair, Talent Contest, and a baking contest. Get your costumes ready as the Fairest of the Fair will also be open to the MEN! I'd say that if Dub wears his Tutu, the rest of us men might as well just stay in our rigs! We won't stand a chance! Judy Warren did mention that they would have some "unbiased" judges!

On Friday evening, the Hosts/Hostess' will furnish the refreshments and desserts.

On Saturday evening, bring your favorite dish; as long as it is consistent with what you would buy at the fair, i.e., hot dogs, hamburgers, Bratwurst with onions. Get the picture? Fair Food.

Come ready to have a fun time!

Important dates to remember

Oct.4 - The **Red Hat** Ladies will have their Mystery Cruise on this date. Husbands are welcome. Contact Judy Morris, 693-9320 for more details.

Oct.20-22 - Fall Samboree, Rotary Park, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee

Nov.17-19 - Campout, Smoky Bear Campground, Gatlinburg. Bill Baird will collect your \$20.00 deposit at the Fall Samboree in Lawrenceburg.

Dec. 9 - This is the date for our Christmas Party. The location is set for Ramsey's Restaurant, one block off of Merchant's Road on Central Avenue Pike.

From The Editor

Our November campout will be held at Smoky Bear Campground, Nov. 17-19. Bill Baird will be collecting the \$20 deposit for this campout at the Fall Samboree. For those of you who can not make the deadline for turning in your deposit, you may call the campground at (865)436-8372 or toll free at 1-800-850-8372. I would not wait too long before you make your reservations as this campground will fill up fast and there are only 49 spots!

One last thing - don't forget that along with the Chapter dues that Debra mentioned, the **Associate Members** dues are also due and will become delinquent on the same date, Nov. 1st. The Associate Members dues are \$5.00 and you can pay them to our Treasurer, Karen Hoomes. Her address is listed on page 1 of this newsletter.

Consider This

The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that care.

Charles Schultz

Until next month-KEEP SMILING

Tommy McIntyre

Cherokee Trail Sams Chapter 23

Cherokee Trails of Chattanooga Tennessee. has not let the HOT weather this year stopped us from going camping and enjoying the great fellowship with our friends.

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Chapter News - Cherokee Trail Continued from page11

In May for the Good Sam Clean Up Day, we again headed out to the Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park to do our part in the clean up. We had 12 of our members to help with the clean up. These were Amanda Spencer, Jim Tucker, Leo and Reba Lovett, James and Shirley Smith, Ray and Glory Boydston, Gary and Daisy Inman, and David and Shirley Gasaway. After the clean up we had a nice picnic in the park.

Sad to say we only had 2 rigs from our club at the May Samboree, but we did meet Don Fredericks from California there who has since become a member of our chapter.

The Samboree is always a highlight for us, and the "Rocking 50's" this year really brought back some good memories.

Daisy Inman won 1st place in the singles at washer toss, and played a mean game at Bean Bag Baseball.

June was off to Roam and Roost in Crossville, Tennessee, where the weather could not have been any better. We had such a great turn out and more fun than a barrel of monkeys. We had our own little game tournaments that weekend and the winners are:

Washer Toss: 1st place Tim Harris, 2nd Don Fredericks.

Bean Bag: 1st. Tim Harris, 2nd Larry Ramsey.

Galloping Dominoes: 1st William Boydston, 2nd. Gary Inman.

Mexican Train: Louella Hood and Evelyn Keith.

Doubles In Bean Bag: Gary Inman and Leah Randall.

We also had volley Ball, Horseshoes, and the two little boys that were with Gary and Daisy Inman kept the fishing poles hot. They each caught around 55 fish apiece. Everyone was into the games this weekend. We had 10 rigs at this campout.

July campout was held at Hales' Bar Marina in Chattanooga, Tennessee. What a hot July, but it did not stop us. We had 12 rigs to camp this weekend and among the 12 was Terry and Betty Minger. They seemed to really enjoy themselves, and we loved having them with us and hope they come back some time. We had another couple to visit with us, Roy and Gail Solomon. They were a lot of fun to be with.

On Friday at lunch time everyone that was there decided that we were hungry, so 11 of us loaded up and headed for the Catfish house only to find it closed. Never fear on to another restaurant to have a great meal.

This campground, when it gets all the bugs worked out, will be a nice little campground. The water system is one thing they were still working on and if you used the water you had to boil it, so we all just brought our own water. Since it was so hot, some kept the swimming pool in use, while others went out on Larry and Sharon Ramsey's pontoon boat.

August we tried another new campground, Caney Creek in Harriman, Tennessee. A beautiful sitting on the Watts Bar Lake. We had a special guest, Pat Bott, an associate member of ours that came all the way down from Indianapolis, Indiana. to be with us for the weekend. It was great having her with us again. Again the nice swimming pool was put to use and Larry brought his pontoon boat again this month. It was so nice out on that lake.

We now come to our September campout that was held at one of our favorite places, River Country in Gadsden Alabama. We had 7 rigs to attend this campout, and one of the couple was Doug and Sandra Ellis who has just returned from a 3-month trip in Europe. They have a daughter over there and it gives a good excuse to travel to Europe. On Friday night we all loaded up in cars and headed over to the famous "Top Of The River" Catfish House. Some of the best catfish ever to be eaten.

We held our little auction at this campout that we have been planning on for several months, but not as big a crowd as we would have liked, but had lots of fun anyway.

Several of us are planning on going to the Fall Samboree and once again checking out a new place. We know that the entertainment and fellowship with be as great as ever.

Shirley Gasaway

Sam's Dixie Travelers Chapter27

The Sam's Dixie Travelers were very active these past five months! We have recruited several new mem-

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Chapter News - Sam's Dixie Travelers Continued from page 12

bers, Fred and Virginia King, Kevin and Monica Oster, and Rollie and Shirley Buhrmann.

We attended the Spring Samboree in Lebanon and really enjoyed the "Rockin' 50's" theme of the Samboree. Our group helped out with the bean bag baseball tournament and the walking event. The entertainment was some of the best we have experienced at our Samborees.

June 2006 found us at the KOA in Sweetwater, Tennessee where several members brought teenage grandchildren. We had 19 members and five guests at the outing. Can't you imagine the thoughts that went through their minds as they watched the 'older generation' playing games? We all had a chance to just sit and chat and relax – was a wonderful time for all. And several members toured the Lost Sea, visited the quaint stores in Sweetwater, and stopped at the Sweetwater Valley Cheese Store. We were all excited to hear about Fred and Sue's plans to go 'full-time' – actually it might have been envy!

Volunteer RV Park in Heiskell, Tennessee was our destination for July with 11 members and five guests present. We celebrated Ron and Loretta Masterson's granddaughter Amanda's birthday. What a surprise for her! Everyone was pleased that George and Rebecca Martin, our ASD for East Tennessee joined us.

One of our new camping spots for 2006 was Peace Valley Campground near Murphy, North Carolina in August with 17 members and 2 guests in attendance. It was truly a 'peaceful' place situated alongside the river and had a delightful enclosed meeting area. We played lots of cards, had lots of good food and fellowship, and still managed to elect our officers and select our campgrounds for 2007!

If you have not camped at Chester Frost Park, Hixson, Tennessee, you are in for a treat. One of our largest outings of the year (22 members and eight guests) found us in the screened meeting area for a pancake breakfast prepared by Don and Mary Smith, John and Dene Tittle, and Jim Ed and Judy Smith. Our breakfast event is usually a potluck but we had a special treat this month. Other members provided the trimmings to include meats, beverages, and sticky buns.

We were quite pleased when Tennessee State Directors Terry and Betty Minger joined us for the weekend. They brought lots of good news about Good Sam and several 'goodies' for us.

Rebecca Merritt, our only single traveler, had the misfortune to lose her RV and tow car in an accident in South Carolina in September. She suffered burns to her legs, a broken foot and injuries to her hand. Although she is recovering, I'm sure she would welcome cards, thoughts and prayers. She expects to be home from the Hospital by October 4 so a mailing address for her is: 1639 Ganasita Trail, Chattanooga, Tennessee 3406. We hope she will soon be back on her feet and able to camp with us again. She will miss the Fall Samboree, one of the first Tennessee Samborees that she has missed; she has been adding state flower patches to her Century Club Patch.

We welcome visitors and new members. For more information, please contact President Ron Masterson (423) 365-4392 or Vice President Don Smith (423) 432-3315.

Marlene Thomas, Secretary/Newsletter Editor
(931)707-8650

BIG CYPRESS SAMS

Chapter 29

by Pat Potter

The Big Cypress Sams started out with six charter members and we now have nine rigs. Our first campout of the season was at Cypress Lakes RV Park at Calvert City, Kentucky, On April 7 - 9, 2006 with the Potters, Roses, Gatewoods, Gibsons, Hortons attending, with one new prospective member visiting with us. The hosts were Nancy and Ronnie Gatewood. We had a weenie roast on Friday evening and a potluck dinner on Sat evening. We camped with Reelfoot Sams for the weekend and enjoy games and fellowship.

Our May campout was the Spring Samboree held at James E. Ward Fairgrounds in Lebanon, Tennessee. We had five rigs at the Samboree, for most of the group it was a new experience.

Chapter News - Big Cypress Continued from page 13

The June campout was held April 7-9, 2006 at Kentucky Dam village near Calvert City, Kentucky. Members that attended the campout were the Potters, Newsoms, Gatewoods, Gibsons, and Hortons with the Roses driving up to spent the day with us on Saturday. Hosts for the weekend were the Potters. We had root beer floats around the campfire Friday evening. Then Saturday morning they had omelets in a bag (to everyone surprise they turned out very well) with delicious side dishes. We went to the Catfish Kitchen for our evening meal. We had a short church service at our campsite on Sunday morning.

The July campout was held at picturesque Columbus Belmont State Park overlooking the Mississippi River on July 21-23, 2006. Members attending were Potters, Hortons, Newsoms, Gatewoods, Gibsons, and James Newton. We also had six prospective members visiting with us. Host for the weekend were Regina and Ed Horton we had a delicious barbeque meal with all the trimmings with a patriotic theme. Later in the evening we had homemade ice cream and goodies around the fire. We played beanball baseball dominos and enjoyed each other company.

The August camp out was held at Piney Campground at Land Between the Lakes on August 18-20, 2006. Members that attended the campout were Gatewoods, Hortons, Newsoms, Potters, Stocktons, and Burdettes. We were glad to have four visitors with us, the State Director Terry and Betty Minger and Joe and Francis Wilkerson (friends of Nancy and Ronnie Gatewood.) The hosts for the weekend were William and Betty Newsom and Mary Sue and Murry Gibson.

Friday evening we had a barbeque with all the fixing. Saturday morning we had a Belgium waffle breakfast with a lovely potluck. We went to Cindi for our supper meal. The weather was hot, hot, hot but with the help of several fans and Mother Nature's shade we had a great time and still managed to play lots of games. Sunday we went to the chapel-in-the woods for our church service before heading home.

The September campout was held at Pin Oak RV Camp at Natchez Trace State Park on September 15-17, 2006. Members that attended the campout were Potters, Gibson, Roses and the Gatewoods. The hosts for the weekend were the Potters. We had omelets in a bag with delicious side dishes, and then, for our

evening meal we had a weenie roast with Jim Potter making homemade french fries and a potluck meal. We had Ronnie and Nancy Gatewood's grandchildren visiting with us. We again played beanbag baseball and dominos.

Our October campout will be our Fall Samboree at Lawrenceburg, Tennessee on October 20-22, 2006. We will have five rigs attending and after that we plan to caravan to Florence, Alabama.

Depending on the weather we may have a campout in November. And plan to have a float in the Martin Christmas parade with our annual Christmas party after the parade. For our community project we help deliver meals for a little boy who lives in Martin who has cystic fibrosis.

All in all it has been a great year and a great group of campers. We enjoy each other company and look forward to meeting many new friends along the way.

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Tennessee River Sams *Continued from page 1*

reach out to others and try to get them to join our chapter.

We elected new officers for year 2007 at the September meeting, they are:

President Gwen Lowrance
Vice President Walter Krupa
Secretary/Treasurer . Barbara Krupa
Wagon Master Elton Hatley

We are looking forward to our October Samboree which I know will be another great experience...See you in Lawrenceburg.

Tennessee Sunshine Travelers

Continued from page 1

We first camped at Clarksville RV Park in July with 10 rigs and that included a guest! A total of 21 adults and 2 children were in attendance. Our second campout was held at Cedar Creek with six rigs for a total of 13 adults in attendance. We were pleased to have our returning guest from July! And we welcomed our newest members, Jay and Joan Shoup, from Charlotte! They are no longer known as "guests."

Our chapter camps on the third weekends during March thru November. The other months (Dec - Feb) we meet for fellowship dinners.

Our camping schedule for 2006 is as designated:
September 15-17 Long Branch (Corps of Engineer Campground) Sites 1-14

October 20-22 Tennessee Fall Samboree

November 17-19 Clarksville RV Park

December 16 Montgomery Bell State Park - Noon

We love to have guests! So if you are reading this and do not belong to a chapter, come and fellowship with us. Just "watch out" you may get too much attention!

Our temporary Officers are:

Janice Smith President - jsmith49@bellsouth.net

Vic Sands Vice President

Rita Sands Secretary- rsands@elantragate.com

Janie Powers Treasurer - janie924@webtv.net

Bill Stewart Wagonmaster-
stewart317@hughes.com

Mike Smith Chaplain

We chartered our chapter, Tennessee Sunshine Travelers, on June 16, 2006. The twelve members are Rich, Jill and Robert Adkins, Dover; John and Barbara Anderson, Pleasant View; Paul and Katy Binford, Chapmansboro; Jerry and Lila Cowell, Shelbyville; Charles and Debbie Fisher, Clarksville; Jeff and Jeanette Hahn, Ashland City; Phil and Lois Matisak, Mt. Juliet; Lonnie and Sue Meredith, Clarksville; Dave and Janie Powers, Ashland City; Vic and Rita Sands, Fairview; Mike and Janice Smith, Pleasant View; and Bill and Molly Stewart, Bon Aqua.

E "Davy Crockett Days" October 20-22, 2006

Everyone is excited about attending our *first* Samboree as a Chapter! If you haven't made your reservations made, do it now while there are still a few water and electric sites available; otherwise, there is plenty of "dry camping." REMEMBER the *Early Bird* camping starts Tuesday, the 17th! Plan on early bird if you can.

30th Anniversary Patch Contest

Keep working on ideas. If you can't make the September campout, you can submit your drawing/ideas to any Officer via mail or email before Sept 15th.

Here are the rules for the contest:

- 1) Each Chapter can submit one drawing of a proposed patch.
- 2) The patch MUST contain the Good Sam Club logo and mention the 30th anniversary.
- 3) All drawings of a proposed patch must be submitted to the State Director prior to the opening of the Fall State Committee Meeting at the Fall Samboree in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee.
- 4) The State Director will appoint a committee of visiting VIPs at the Fall Samboree to pick the winning entry.
- 5) The Chapter submitting the winning entry will be awarded \$100. The award will be presented and the winning entry will be unveiled during the Friday evening opening ceremony at the 2007 Spring Samboree.

We are working hard for the \$100 award!

LET'S RECOGNIZE..... ROBERT ADKINS

Robert is our official "**Tab Collector.**" He lives with Rich and Jill Adkins. Rob collects our soda cans, pulls the tabs for the collection box, and then recycles the cans for a friend. He is a BIG HEART for helping the Ronald McDonald House for the collection of tabs! We Appreciate you Rob!

Submitted by: Janice Smith, President