



WILDERNESS WILDLIFE WEEK

PIGEON FORGE ★ TN

May 18-22, 2016

Experts Biographies

Jay Aldrich is retired from the business world. He worked extensively within the commercial fresh cut flower industry, from growing, to importation, and distribution. He had the pleasure of working with Martha Stewart, whereby he developed her Martha's Flower Internet fulfillment business. He also worked with Hallmark Cards developing an initial test to sell flowers within the Gold Crown Stores. His career spanned 30 years in this field. Now retired, he is a Volunteer with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the National Park Service for 10 years along with his wife Sandra. He began as an Adopt a Trail Volunteer, working on the Trails Forever Projects, and currently volunteers within the Resource Education Department of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Both Jay and his wife, Sandra, have donated their time with the Friends of the Smokies and have donated over 1,400 hours to the park service.

Sandra Aldrich is a retired school teacher who taught special needs primary in Miami, Florida to 5th grade reading specialist and 5th grade language arts teacher. Now retired after 28 years of teaching, she has been a Volunteer with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the National Park Service for 10 years. She began as an Adopt a Trail Volunteer working on Trails Forever Projects, and currently volunteers along with her husband Jay, within the Resource Education Department of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. She is also a children's author. Both Sandra and her husband, Jay, have donated their time with the Friends of the Smokies and have donated over 1,400 hours to the park service.

Jeff Alt is a talented speaker, hiking expert and award-winning author. His Appalachian Trail book, *A Walk for Sunshine*, has won six awards including a Gold Medal in the Book of the Year Awards. Alt has walked the 2,160-mile Appalachian Trail, the 218-mile John Muir Trail with his wife, and he carried his 21-month old daughter on a family trek across a path of Ireland. Alt is a member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA) and is the author of three books: *Get Your Kids Hiking: How to Start Them Young and Keep it Fun*, *Four Boots One Journey* (John Muir Trail) and *A Walk for Sunshine* (Appalachian Trail). Alt presents in and around the National Parks. His adventures and hiking expertise have been featured on ESPN, Hallmark Channel, Discoverychannel.com, CNN-Radio, Fox News, in the AP, USA Today, LA Times, Philadelphia Enquirer, the Knoxville-News Sentinel, Scholastic Parent and Child and many more.
E-mail: jeff@jeffalt.com

American Eagle Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization dedicated to the mission and vision of preserving the USA's majestic eagles and fragile environment for future generations to enjoy. They are also dedicated to caring for other birds of prey, many of which have been injured or orphaned. Their goal is to rehabilitate raptors for reintroduction into the wild, yet provide a home for those that are permanently disabled. At the Dollywood based facility, they are federally licensed caregivers to more than 60 resident birds that are non-releasable due to physical handicaps or accidental imprinting with humans. Some are trained for educational purposes, while others are placed in captive breeding projects. As a result of their reproduction efforts, they have released dozens of eagles into the Great

Smoky Mountains.

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Lois Armstrong has been painting and selling her work professionally for 27 years at art and craft shows in the eastern United States. She works in watercolor, oils and the ancient art of Scrimshaw.

Louise Bales is a self-taught artist who lives “off the traveled path” in Gatlinburg, as her family has for generations. The quality of Louise Bales’ delicately detailed watercolors reflects her dedication to her craft. The scope of her subject matter and the rich and abundant wildlife of her mountain home are the expression of a woman whose roots are deeply planted in the rich soil her family has owned for generations.

Website: www.louisebales.com

Stephen Lyn Bales is a native of Gatlinburg, Tennessee and is also a senior naturalist at Ijams Nature Center in Knoxville. Bales is also the author of two books: *Natural Histories* and *Ghost Birds*, both published by UT Press. He's been a presenter at Wilderness Wildlife Week for 11 years.

Dr. William M. (Bill) Bass III is a Diplomate American Board of Forensic Anthropology (D-ABFA), world renowned, and is Professor Emeritus from The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. After years of dedicated service, the University of Tennessee has built a new forensic center in his honor: “William M. Bass Forensic Anthropology Building”. Dr. Bass is a third generation in his family to have an education building name after him. The new facility is located below the current "Body Farm". Dr. Bass has the largest skeletal collection of modern skeletons in the U.S. and has started a cremains collection as well. Dr. Bass is a legend in forensic circles. In 1980, he created the world's first laboratory devoted to human decomposition: The University of Tennessee's "Body Farm". Dr. Bass has written or co-authored more than 200 scientific publications, many of them based either on the research facility's work or on actual cases he has helped solve and prosecute. During half a century in the classroom, Dr. Bass has taught thousands of students, including many of the foremost forensic anthropologists practicing in the United States today. Dr. Bass continues to be active in the forensic field by lecturing, testifying at trials from past cases and consulting on current ones from all over the U.S. Additionally, Dr. Bass and co-author, Jon Jefferson, have written nine books, and as of 2012 signed with Harper Collins for two more books [2013 -2014]. *Death's Acre*, *Carved in Bone*, *Flesh in Bone*, *Beyond the Body Farm*, *The Devil's Bone*, *Bones of Betrayal*, *The Bone Thief*, *The Bone Yard*, *The Inquisitor's Key*, *Jordan's Stormy Banks*, *Cut to the Bone* and *The Breaking Point*. Dr. Bass has been immortalized by novelist Patricia Cornwell as [Dr. Thomas Katz]. From the Lindbergh baby, *The Big Bopper*, current and cold cases, Dr. Bass turns each one into a learning experience and helps bring answers and closure to the victim's family and loved ones. Dr. Bass looks forward to his presentation and hopes people come prepared to ask questions and learn how forensics have changed and improved over the years.

Leon Bates graduated from the University of Georgia (B.S. Forestry) and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (M.S. Botany) and retired from TVA as a Biologist/Botanist and later served as an Urban Forester/Horticulturist. He has presented programs and led nature walks for more 50 years including 18 years as a guide for the Smoky Mountain Wildflower Pilgrimage.

Danny Bernstein is a hiker, hike leader, and outdoor writer. She has been a committed hiker for over 40 years, having completed the Appalachian Trail, all the trails in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the South beyond 6000, and the Mountains-to-Sea Trail across North Carolina. Currently, Danny leads hikes for Carolina Mountain Club, Friends of the Smokies, Great Smoky Mountains Association, and Family Nature Summits. She has also written two hiking guides for the Southern Appalachians, and a travel narrative on hiking the Mountains-to-Sea Trail. Her book *Forests, Alligators, Battlefields: My Journey through the National Parks of the South* will come out in 2016, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service.

Danny actively blogs online at www.hikertohiker.com.

Burt Bicksler has more than 40 years of experience in developing software and hardware for companies including Eastman Kodak, Microsoft, Intel and many more. He also has 20 years writing and using free and Open Source computer software.

Susan Bicksler has incorporated time saving tips in food storage and preparation for many years and found ways to reduce the amount of salt, fat, and sugar in her home-made recipes. It's a way of eating and enjoying food, without resorting to fad diets. Staying active outdoors is also a major part of her philosophy in creating a more independent and enjoyable life, no matter what age.

Boogertown Gap, Keith Watson and Ruth Barber, will be at their booth full time when not conducting programs to talk about their Old-Time Music, its heritage, and its place in Great Smoky Mountain life, as well as demonstrate, educate, and offer hands on playing of some of their instruments, especially the wooden musical spoons. They will have for sale at their booth all four of their CD recordings, as well as musical spoons, penny whistles, and BTG stickers. They will even have a map to show you where Boogertown is! Come by for a lot of fun.

Website: www.boogertowngap.com

E-mail: boogertowngap@comcast.net

Mike Braun is an avid hiker and backpacker. As a Backcountry volunteer in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, he assists visitors with backpacking trips and permits. Mike is a certified 'Leave No Trace' Master Educator, promoting outdoor ethics where he can. He has also adopted several campsites and trails in the GSMNP, monitoring and cleanups where necessary.

Tom Brosch owned and operated a popular hiking store near Great Smoky Mountains National Park for 15 years. His deep knowledge of history on the park, the people who lived there and the location of the many trail systems provides him with ample skill to serve as the Wilderness Wildlife Week Assistant Transportation Director.

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Cades Cove Preservation Association was established to preserve the history, heritage and families that once called Cades Cove home prior to the formation of GSMNP. The "CCPA" volunteers clean the churches, repair trails to the old home sites and cemeteries and help the park service where needed in Cades Cove. The CCPA also maintains the Cades Cove museum located in the historic Thompson-Brown log house in Maryville.

Website: www.cadescovepreservation.com

Glenn Cardwell retired as a Park Ranger from Great Smoky Mountains National Park. He grew up in "Big Greenbrier" and now lives in Pittman Center, TN where he serves as Mayor.

Jack Carman is a graduate of Mississippi State University and a retired aeronautical engineer. An amateur botanist and recipient of several photography awards, Jack is the author of Wildflowers of Tennessee, Tennessee's first color photographic field guide.

E-mail: jcarman@WildflowersTn.com

Bill Carter is a retired United Methodist Minister who enjoys travelling, especially in waterfall country. He presents a few dozen of the hundreds of waterfall slides he has taken over the last 30 years. Bill served local churches for 28 years and was a conference administrator in the church his last 14 years in ministry.

Kendall Chiles is a freelance nature photographer with more than 30 years of photography experience. His photographs have appeared in numerous books, magazines and brochures. He is an instructor for the University of Tennessee/Smoky Mountain Field School and is President of Southern Appalachian Nature Photographers.

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Tom and Pat Cory have taught photography workshops locally, across the U.S., and internationally since 1987. They specialize in nature and travel photography which they very much enjoy. Tom and Pat have been presenters at numerous camera clubs and organizations, including Wilderness Wildlife Week, for many years.

Website: www.TomandPatCory.com

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Brad Cottrell has been a photographer for many years. His interest is primarily in landscape and wildlife photography. Brad has also judged the LeConte Photographic Society monthly competition. Since retiring ten years ago, Sharon and Brad have travelled extensively throughout the United States, Canada, British Isles, and Europe using photography to document the beautiful scenery enjoyed during these travel opportunities. They have travelled to most of the National Parks in the U.S. and Canada. In 2011 they travelled to Europe on a 91 day trip going to 21 different countries. In 2013 they travelled again to Europe for 80 days going to 22 countries including Scandinavia, Russia, Hungary, Czech Republic, Ireland, Iceland, Greenland, and Newfoundland. They have presented several slideshows on Nova Scotia, the American Southwest, and Europe to Southern Appalachia Nature Photographers, Le Conte Photographic Society, Camera Club of Oak Ridge, Blount County Photo Club, Photographic Society of East Tennessee, and Wilderness Wildlife Week in Pigeon Forge.

Sharon Cottrell has been a photographer for many years. Both Sharon and her husband Brad's scenic photos of the Appalachian region have been popular items in art galleries in Gatlinburg and Townsend, and they have won many photography contests. Sharon started photography about 10 years ago and since then she has won over 50 photo contests including 10 winning photos for the Knox Heritage Art and Architecture Tour. Most recently she won the 2012 Insight Vacations International Photo Contest with her photo of Santorini which has been published in the Insight Vacations 2013 Tour Catalog and in the AAA *Going Places* Magazine. Sharon has twice judged the Camera Club of Oak Ridge yearly salon and the LeConte Photographic Society monthly competition. She enjoys landscape, travel, and architecture photography. Brad started photography over 40 years ago. He has earned the Certificate in Photography from Pellissippi State Community College and has won many Dogwood Arts Festival photo contests.

Justine Cucchiara is Park Manager at Seven Islands State Birding Park. After completing her Bachelors of Science in Wildlife and Fisheries Management with a minor in Forestry, at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Justine was given the opportunity to apply her education directly to her position as Lands Manager at Seven Islands. Justine's passion for habitat restoration and conservation and everything that blooms, slithers, flaps or sings has found a happy home at Seven Islands State Birding Park, where she is free to let her inner 'bird nerd' fly!

Dr. Janet Dalton is an elementary school principal in Morristown, Tennessee. Having had prior experience with both free ranging and captive black bears, she volunteered with Appalachian Bear Rescue four years before becoming their weekend curator in 2013. Janet also organized and trained den watchers from around the world to record standardized data 24/7 from a den cam of expectant female black bears. The result was four years of data collected that covered the birth of cubs until their emergence in spring. Janet is not only a skilled storyteller, but also is passionate about ABR's methods in rehabilitating bears with minimal human contact in order to ensure their success in the wild.

Ruth Caughron Davis was born to Kermit and Lois Shuler Caughron while they lived in the Dan Lawson house in Cades Cove. She lived in the Cove until she married in 1965. Her parents were the last family to live on the Cades Cove Loop Road. Ruth and her late husband John Davis (both educators), lived and farmed un nearby Walland. They have two sons, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Ruth is a charter member of the Cades Cove Preservation Association.

Bill Deitzer is an adjunct professor with Cincinnati State College. He has led hikes for the University of Cincinnati Continuing Education Dept. and its Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. He has hiked in all 50 states, 51 national parks, and has hiked all 800 trail miles in the Smokies. He is a member of the Highpointers Club and Appalachian Trail Conference.

Rosemary Deitzer is a retired association manager and meeting planner. She is on the Board of Trustees for the University of Cincinnati's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and volunteers for Hospice of Cincinnati.

Kim Delozier grew up living and working on his family's farm in Sevier County raising cattle, hogs, and chickens. Kim graduated from the University of Tennessee with a degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science. He began his career with Great Smoky Mountains National Park in 1978 working as a wild hog hunter. Kim retired in 2010 after 32 rewarding years of service. During his career, Kim's involvement primarily focused on nuisance black bear management, wild hog control, white-tailed deer management, small (skunks, raccoons, bats) animal management and re-introduction efforts for elk, peregrine falcons and red wolves. Currently, Kim works for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation focusing on elk restoration in the east.

Discover Life in the Smokies (DLIA), a non-profit organization established on Earth Day 1998, coordinates the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory (ATBI) to catalog every living creature in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. In a few short years the DLIA through the ATBI has far exceeded all expectations. DLIA-supported scientists have discovered an astonishing 931 species new to science, 7,636 species that were not previously known to exist within GSMNP. The species new to science include 36 moths, 42 spiders, 78 algae, 56 beetles, 26 crustaceans, 58 fungi, 20 bees and bee relatives, 16 tardigrades and 270 bacteria. DLIA's presentation will take you through the process and introduce you to some of the fascinating new species discovered.

Kenneth H. Dubke was born and reared in the area of Mankato, MN. He attended the public schools in the area and spent close to five years in the army. After his discharge from military service he attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. For five years he was in business for himself at Elizabethton, TN. In January 1966 he entered into the National Park Service at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace, Kentucky. In the following November, he transferred to Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, and retired in 1991 as the District Ranger at Point Park on Lookout Mountain. Ken has had a life-long interest in natural history, especially birds. This interest was intensified when he moved to Tennessee. He is a past president of the Tennessee Ornithological Society as well as their local Chattanooga Chapter. For several years he served the TOS as their Conservation/Education Committee Chairman and for many years as the official statistician of the local chapter. Most recently Ken has been concentrating his time on establishing a breeding population of the Golden Eagle in the Southern Appalachians and working with others in establishing a new migratory population of the endangered Whooping Crane in the eastern United States. He is also involved in restoring a breeding population of ospreys in East Tennessee. In addition to the above, Ken is a member and active in numerous other local, regional, state and national environmental organizations.

Mark A. Dunaway is an Assistant Professor of Biology at Walters State Community College. He holds Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Biology from East Tennessee State University, and specializes in avian communication and nature recordings. He developed *Birds in the Classroom*, an educational project for K-12 schools in Tennessee to introduce science-based topics through a hands-on approach designed to educate both students and teachers in the identification of native bird species. He also co-authored and provided recordings for *Bird Songs of the Smokies*. He is currently partnering with Dr. Fred Alsop on a CD set for the Blue Ridge Parkway, titled *Bird Songs of the Blue Ridge Parkway*. In addition, he is part of a team, led by Dr. Fred Alsop that is working on *Birds of Tennessee*, which will be the official state bird book.

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Wilma Durpo brings more than 30 years of exploration of the Smoky Mountains into her presentations. She is an educator, naturalist, and speaker whose PowerPoint presentations exhibit the beauty and spirit of Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Jim Eastin is a minister, photographer, performer, and storyteller who helps people share their joys with words, music and the visual arts. He has been performing in the area and teaching people to use cameras in the Smoky Mountains since 2000.

Website: www.JimEastin.net

Jon H. Elder is a fifth generation life-long Sevier County resident. His mother was a full-blooded member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and his father was a local businessman. Jon's maternal great-grandfather was a Cherokee

Chief; his paternal great-grandfather was the doctor who diagnosed the first case of appendicitis in Sevier County. Jon is a graduate of Sevier County High and the University of Tennessee. He achieved his master's degree from Lincoln Memorial University. He resides on the family farm in the Harrisburg Community with his wife Jamie Beth.

Doug Elliott is a naturalist, herbalist and storyteller known for his lively, fun and informative presentations. He has performed from Canada to the Caribbean and has been a featured storyteller at the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesboro, TN. He has lectured and performed at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto and conducted workshops for the Smithsonian Institution. Doug has led ranger training sessions for the National Park Service and guided people on wilderness experiences from down-east Maine to the Florida Everglades. He was named harmonica champion at Fiddler's Grove Festival in Union Grove, N.C. and has been seen on PBS- Farmers' Almanac TV. Doug is the author of five books, many articles in regional and national magazines and has recorded a number of award winning albums of stories and songs.

Website: www.dougelliott.com

Judy Felts, originally from Arkansas, graduated with a degree in music and later moved to the Nashville area to pursue her music career. She was a performer at Opryland as well as keyboard and vocalist for Grand Ole Opry star, Bill Anderson. Judy started an organization in Nashville in 1995 called "Christian Women Connect" and also serves on the board for ACT (Artist in Christian Testimony) and on the Community Resource Board for the TN Prison for Women. She has also served as a volunteer at the Tennessee Prison for Women since 1999. Judy has been utilized as a keynote speaker, worship leader and soloist for various churches, conferences and mission events. In addition to Judy's solo ministry, she also performs with Lee Porter as a duo with piano, guitar, string bass and percussion. They have performed together for the last eight years and are available for churches, conferences and events. Judy and her husband Mike have been attending Wilderness Wildlife Week since 2000 and have a love for hiking and the outdoors.

Website: www.judyfelts.com

Melanie Fetterolf is an active painter who enjoys working in a variety of mediums; however, her most recent work is watercolor because she enjoys the portability of the medium and painting on site whenever possible. In 1993 Melanie graduated with a BA in Fine Arts with a Painting concentration from Virginia Tech, and after a significant break for motherhood, she currently paints from her home studio in Seymour, Tennessee and teaches watercolor and art classes at the Seymour Public Library. Melanie prints most of her art into note cards, which can be found in a variety of retail establishments, and she sells her artwork at local farmers markets and area Arts and Crafts festivals. Melanie is an active member of the Knoxville Arts and Cultural Alliance, a juried selling member at the Appalachian Arts and Fine Crafts Center in Norris, Tennessee, and exhibits regularly throughout the Knoxville area.

Friends of the Smokies is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting critical projects in Great Smoky Mountains National Park including historic preservation, wildlife management, environmental education and more. As we celebrate the Centennial Anniversary of the National Park Service in 2016, Friends of the Smokies is poised to top \$50 million raised for the Smokies. For more information on becoming a member and supporting America's most-visited national park, visit www.friendsofthesmokies.org.

Keith Garnes is an avid hiker and promoter of all things Tennessee. As a member of the Board of Directors for Friends of Pickett State Park, Keith would like to inspire people to experience and enjoy Tennessee's State Parks and natural wonders through his arches and waterfalls presentations.

E-mail: keithnarcher@hotmail.com

Steve & Regina Garr have been presenting programs on attracting Backyard Wildlife for decades with a special emphasis on attracting desirable wildlife to almost any setting. Steve is a past President and life member of the North American Bluebird Society and spent eight years as a columnist for the *Nature Society News*. Steve and Regina are recipients of an "Environmental Stewardship Award" from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, they were awarded the John and Nora Lane Award by the North American Bluebird Society for their contributions to Bluebird Conservation, and together they are Life Members of the Hummer/Bird Study Group. Steve and Regina are the owners

of “Birds-I-View” wild bird and nature store in Jefferson City, Missouri where they host many free Education Seminars each year.

Website: www.birds-i-view.biz

E-mail: steve@birds-i-view.biz

Robin Goddard is retired from a 32 year teaching career. She has received many educational honors, including the Tennessee Environmental Teacher of the Year. Robin is a VIP (Volunteer In Park) for the National Park Service where she is the interpreter at Little Greenbrier School as the schoolmarm. She also portrays Ann Davis, Mother of the Park, teaches at Tremont and was a 75th Ambassador for GSMNP. Robin is President of the East Tennessee Old Harp singers (shaped note). She works with National Park Community Outreach programs, Jr. Ranger programs and Parks as a Classroom. She has been a volunteer in GSMNP since 1969. Robin received the President’s Highest Volunteer Call to Service Award and in February 2013 she received the George B. Hartzog National Award as the Enduring Service Volunteer for the National Park Service.

Rhonda Goins works as a Naturalist at Bays Mountain Park, where she has been employed for 14 years. She holds a Bachelor’s degree from ETSU in Biology and many certificates in wolf behavior and wildlife rehabilitation. Rhonda is also a member of the National Opossum Society and The Defenders of Wildlife. Being from the southeast, her minors, Geography and Appalachian Studies, come in handy teaching the topography and our Appalachian ways. Rhonda has worked closely with wolves for over 14 years and has designed and implemented the socialization of the Park’s captive wolves. In 2009, she led and directed the capture of the escaped wolves and again in 2010. Rhonda works with all the animals and heads the Herpetarium which houses East Tennessee reptiles and amphibians. When the Herpetarium underwent a total renovation, Rhonda was instrumental in the design and implementation of all animal exhibits and habitats. Most recently, she directed the socialization of the Park’s addition of 4 gray wolf cubs, born in 2014.

Hubert Gray is a retired management executive and former owner of a fine arts gallery in Chattanooga. He continues to be active in the arts and is currently a Chattanooga historian and narrator on the Southern Bell river boat.

Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center’s staff and volunteers in Townsend, Tennessee, are committed to sharing the region’s cultural history. Many of Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center’s volunteers were born and raised in the region, including the meadows, hollows and woodlands that are now part of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The construction of the family cabin - the center of the homeplace - is a function many of them are familiar with.

GSM Outfitters LLC is committed to providing quality outdoor clothing and gear at lower prices while trying to assist its customers in having the best experience for the various activities they plan while in the National Park area. GSM Outfitters wants more than customers it wants friends that can share their experience, communicate and understand the National Park experience.

Missy Tipton Green has lived in Blount County, Tennessee her whole life. She comes from early settlers of the Cades Cove and Tuckaleechee Cove. More of her ancestors are early residents of the Blount County area. Missy enjoys hiking in the Great Smoky Mountains, loves doing family research and genealogy and is an avid historian. She is a charter member of the Cades Cove Preservation Association, serving on the Board of Directors and past president, treasurer and secretary; she has served the co-director of the Cades Cove Museum. Missy has also been a member of the Oliver Reunion Association, Smoky Mountain Historical Society, Myers Cemetery Preservation Association, 2013 graduating class of “Experience your Smokies”, and participates in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park’s Adopt a Cabin program. Missy and her husband reside in Maryville; she has 2 children and 2 grandchildren. Preservation of our local history and the history of her family is very important to Missy, together with Paulette Ledbetter they have authored three books, “From Mineral Springs to Bed Springs”, Arcadia’s Images of America “Cades Cove” and “Townsend” and Missy’s first book she authored “Precious Memories”, was about life in Cades Cove.

Kathy Gwinn is a former History Teacher. For the past 15 years, she has been employed as a Tour Guide for Smoky Mountain Tour Connection. She and her husband Mike, also perform music and storytelling and are known together as “Hills & Hollows”.

Tom Harrington is a retired Insurance Agent. He is a volunteer interpreter with Great Smoky Mountains National Park assigned to Resource Education in Cades Cove. He also works with the National Park's Community Outreach Program. He is a graduate of East Tennessee State University. Tom has been hiking weekly in Great Smoky Mountains National Park for 28 years.
E-mail: t3hiker@ntown.com

Ila Hatter has been delighting people with her extensive knowledge of plants and their folklore for almost 30 years. She edited an ethnobotany book: *Plants of the Cherokee* and has produced a wild foods cookbook, *Roadside Rambles*, and an instructional DVD series: *Wild Edibles & Medicinals of Southern Appalachia*, and *Mountain Kitchen*. She has been featured in magazines such as *Blue Ridge, Country, Our State* and TV networks, including CNN, Turner South, RFD-TV, and A&E. Ila also hosts the UNC-TV (PBS) *Folkways* Program.
Email: ila@wildcrafting.com

Roger Helton is a singer, songwriter, entertainer and multi-instrumentalist. He has been entertaining audiences and ministering in churches for over twenty years. Now residing in Sevierville, Tennessee, Roger has performed regularly in theaters such as Dixie Stampede and Dollywood, as well as performing with the bluegrass band, Greenbrier. Roger has a great rapport with audiences of all ages with his blend of song, humor and instrumental stylings.
E-mail: rogerhelton@charter.net

Roy Henson is a lifelong resident of Tennessee. He is a retired teacher with 33 years of experience. Roy has presented a toy demo at Cades Cove for the past 10 years. Now he does toy making workshops with age appropriate persons in the shows he does.

Maria Holloway grew up in a very large family with five living generations in the same little New England town. Her family emigrated from the Azores to the USA for a better life. At a very young age Maria loved to sew with her grandmother. She stitched a little crazy quilt at seven and has been hooked ever since. Now, Maria is 76 and has lived more of her life in the south. She tells folks, "I am a Yankee by birth, but Southern by choice!"
Website: www.hollowaysquilts.com

Joey Holt grew up in the foothills of the Smokies. Joey has been a lover of the outdoors all his life enjoying activities such as camping and hiking. He has been an avid hiker for several years. Joey is a member of Great Smoky Mountains Association and is a volunteer with Appalachian Bear Rescue. He has been presenting a hiking program at a local camp resort for the past few years where he also does guided hikes for their guests, church groups, and others who just enjoy the outdoors.
E-mail: joeytodd@bellsouth.net

Douglas Hubbard is a photographer whose passion for photography has spanned more than 50 years. At 13 years of age, he contracted his first wedding for pay for which he did his own darkroom work. Doug has served as president of the Camera Club of Oak Ridge; chaired major photographic competitions; presented photographic courses; has completed many formal courses and seminars on Photoshop and various aspects of photography; and has been successful in photography competitions.

Don Huskey & Marcia Huskey Nelson: Don is a long time Pigeon Forge resident and once was a miller for the Old Mill. He has been singing gospel music since he was a young man. His daughter, Marcia Nelson, has also been singing gospel music since she was a small child, and is a member of the First Baptist Church of Sevierville's Celebration Choir and Orchestra. Marcia also composes gospel music and works at the Pigeon Forge Public Library.

William Hurst has won national awards for photography and drawing, as well as winning a scholarship from the Delaware Institute for the Arts. He has studied under several nationally known artists. Since retiring as an insurance executive he has sold his drawings in the Chattanooga area.

Richard Iceland has been a photographer/instructor more than 40 years. His work has been published in People Magazine, The Sunday New York Times, The Bergen Evening Record, Palm Beach Post, Orlando Sentinel, Inside Track Magazine and National Speed Sport News. He is currently working as a photographer for the NASCAR circuit and conducts photo sightseeing tours in the Smokies.
E-mail: photo.fast@yahoo.com

Jim Jenkins graduated from Tennessee Technological University with a B.S. in Wildlife Management. He works for Rocky Top Tours taking people on guided tours into GSMNP and also works with Great Smoky Mountains Association. Jim is very knowledgeable about plant and animal identification and has hiked extensively in GSMNP. Jim has been a tour guide for more than 30 years.

Ken Jenkins, professional photographer and creator of Wilderness Wildlife Week, is known throughout North America. He is an accomplished author of numerous books covering black bears, grizzlies and other wildlife. Because of Ken's vision 27 years ago, WWW is an award-winning event, having won prestigious awards from the International Festivals and Events Association for Best Environmental Program, Best Educational Program, Best Children's Programming and Best Community Outreach Program from among approximately 1,500 award entries.

Karen Jones first became interested in photography as a small child when she would look through that little square window of her mother's Brownie camera and, like magic, it captured time and emotion; to be enjoyed by others for generations. It is still magic, she says, when emotion can be transferred - from photographer to viewer - by an image. As a young adult, Karen continued in film photography, capturing experiences in the ever-changing world around her. With the arrival of more economical digital imaging, there is no end in learning, developing skills, and experimenting with ways to express Karen's vision in hopes that you, the viewer, can share an emotional experience with her. She has admired other photographers and artists' works, wondering what abilities they possess and what techniques were employed to achieve something that evokes an emotional response from the viewer. She continues to learn to convey her own ideas and wants to share any knowledge that may inspire or help others express theirs.

Glenna Julian is a Sevier County Area Master Gardener. She volunteers at the Sevier Senior Center and Kodak Library. Glenna has been featured on The Learning Channel (TLC) and has been a Dogwood Arts Festival and UT Bloomsday speaker. She is a retired USPS rural postal carrier. Glenna's two acre garden is a National Wildlife Certified Backyard Habitat and a Monarch Waystation, which creates, conserves, and protects Monarch butterfly habitats. Her garden in Kodak has been featured in the *Knoxville News-Sentinel* and *The Mountain Press*.
Email: Julian55@bellsouth.net

Joe Kelley served as a National Park Ranger for more than 30 years, mainly in the Great Smokies and on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Special assignments nationwide included major disasters, forest fires, search & rescue incidents, and the NPS Special Events Team. He and his family lived and worked with other GSMNP rangers, staff, and neighbors who were raised and lived in the area before the park was established. Joe was co-author with Dwight McCarter on the book "Meigs Line", which tells of ranger adventures and boundary lines in GSMNP.

Veta King is historian for the Pigeon Forge Public Library. Mrs. King preserves and promotes the awareness of area heritage. In 2010 Arcadia Publishing released a new book by Mrs. King – Images of America, Pigeon Forge with over 200 vintage photographs of the town. Her first book, Mountain Folks of Old Smoky is still in print. She is descended from the first Ogle family to arrive in Gatlinburg. Her paternal grandfather was a foreman for the Little River Lumber Co.
E-mail: vwking@cityofpigeonforge.com

Knoxville Zoo is Knoxville's largest year-round attraction. Located off exit 392A from Interstate 40, the zoo is open every day except Christmas Day. Knoxville Zoo is nationally accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and is committed to the highest standards in animal care and well-being, ethics, conservation, and education. For more information, please call 865.637.5331 or visit www.knoxvillezoo.org.

Leon Konz serves as a Fire Prevention and Firewise Coordinator for the Tennessee Division of Forestry. He has been serving in this capacity and helping homeowners, communities, community planners, fire departments, realtors, and insurance agents for nine years. Prior to that, Leon worked for the National Park Service for 30 years, the last 15 of which he served as the Fire Management Officer of GSMNP.

Matt Kulp grew up in Telford, Pennsylvania and graduated from Souderton Area High School in 1988. He holds a BS in Biology from Pennsylvania State University ('92) and a MS in Biology (fisheries) from Tennessee Technological University ('94). During his junior/senior years at Penn State, Matt worked at the Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research unit as a fisheries technician. Matt began his career with Great Smoky Mountains National Park in May 1994 as a fishery technician and in May 1995 became a fishery biologist with the Park, where he continues to serve. His fisheries management objectives focus on brook trout inventory and monitoring, brook trout genetics, native fish restoration, threatened and endangered fish reintroduction and monitoring, and long-term water quality and fisheries monitoring. He has planned and assisted other agencies on numerous native fish restoration projects around the country. Matt was selected as Employee of the Year at GRSM in 2010. He is Certified Fisheries Scientist with the American Fisheries Society (AFS) and is former President of the Southern Division of the AFS Trout Committee. He is an avid wild turkey and deer hunter and also enjoys fresh/saltwater fishing and woodworking. He enjoys time with his wife Mimi and children Michael and Pauline, all of whom reside in Wears Valley, Tennessee.

Bert Kunze was born in 1938 and grew up in Starnberg (Bavaria) on the foothills of the Alps. For many years he organized mountaineering, skiing, climbing, and hiking trips into the Bavarian, Swiss, Austrian, Italian, Yugoslavian, and French Alps. Bert was also a year-round weekend volunteer with the Bavarian Mountain Rescue team. In 1961, he graduated from the Polytechnical Academy of the University of Munich and began working for Siemens in Munich. Siemens transferred Bert to the U.S. in 1979. He retired to Hiwassee in 1993 where he built his own home. Bert has been Hike Master for the local Mountain High Hikers and was honored twice by the U.S. Forest Service with Lifetime Achievement Awards for his work as a trail volunteer. Bert is also a certified Wilderness First Responder.

Gil Lackey is a freelance writer, editor and photographer from Nashville, Tennessee. He specializes in fictional humor stories as well as "How To" pieces on bowhunting, fly fishing and game cameras. Gil is president of Southeastern Outdoor Press Association (SEOPA).

Bill Landry was the voice, host, narrator, and co-producer of *The Heartland Series*. For more than 25 years, this program has continued to celebrate the people and the land of the entire Appalachian region. *The Heartland Series* has received three Emmy Awards. Bill has written and directed many of the episodes. As a graduate of the Dallas Theatre Center with a Master of Fine Arts degree, Bill considers himself a lover of theatrical crafts that have an educational purpose and has portrayed numerous characters on the series. Prior to joining WBIR/TV, he was an accomplished theatre professional and performed a one-man show, "Einstein the Man," before hundreds of groups and organizations in 38 states and Canada.

Dr. Julie Langenberg currently serves as Vice President – Conservation Science with International Crane Foundation (ICF). She joined the organization in 1987 as ICF's first staff veterinarian, while also researching wild bird health problems for the US Fish and Wildlife Service and teaching wildlife medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine. Along with providing clinical care for ICF's captive cranes, researching health issues for captive and wild cranes, and training veterinary colleagues working with cranes in other countries, Julie served on the International Whooping Crane Recovery Team. Julie left ICF in 1999 to be Wisconsin's state wildlife veterinarian, focusing on investigation and management of wildlife diseases emerging as landscapes, human activities, and climate change. After a decade of government service, in 2011 Julie came home to ICF as Vice President – Conservation Science, an opportunity to apply her diverse wildlife disease experience to investigation and mitigation of disease and pollution risks for cranes that are emerging as we change our world. Julie has a Veterinary Medicine doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania, with post-doctoral training in zoo and wildlife medicine from the University of Sydney, Australia.

Earl Layhue was born in Uniontown, Pennsylvania in 1960; yet, he resided most of his life in Sandusky, Ohio. He met and married his wife Tammi in 1997. The Layhues honeymooned in the Smokies and moved here in 2010. Earl has been a musician and songwriter most of his life. He was inspired to write "The People of Cades Cove" song from his and Tammi's first visit to Cades Cove 17 years ago. Earl finally recorded it for the public on CD December 5, 2013. The CD is titled "Cades Cove and Heartfelt Mountain Memories." Earl wrote every song on the CD.

Paulette Ledbetter descends from early settlers located in the Tuckaleechee Cove and Wears Cove area. She loves to hike in the Great Smokies area along with her husband and son. Paulette is a member of the Cades Cove Preservation Association, serving on the Board of Directors and as past Treasurer as well as past co director of the Cades Cove Museum, Oliver Reunion Association, Smoky Mountain Historical Society and Myers Cemetery Preservation Association and a graduate of the 2013 class of "Experience your Smokies", and participates in the Great Smoky Mountains Adopt a Cabin program. Paulette resides in Maryville with her husband; she has two children and one grandchild. She is also an avid historian and genealogist and supports many programs that preserve the history of our region. Paulette along with Missy Tipton Green have authored three books, "From Mineral Springs to Bed Springs", Arcadia's Images of America "Cades Cove" and "Townsend".

Lee Lewis has been involved in wilderness search and rescue, including technical rescue since 1990. As a volunteer, he has responded to incidents in Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, both in field operations and search incident management. Lee has over 1400 hours of SAR training, and is a graduate of the National Search and Rescue School. He is certified as a Search and Rescue Technician II, Wilderness First Responder, and Man-Tracker. He also instructs area law enforcement agencies in the art of tracking. He is a member of the National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR), and the Society of Professional Access Technicians (SPRAT). Currently, Lee is only one of two people who have hiked all six trails to Mt. LeConte in under 24 hours. Lee has led numerous hikes into GSMNP for Wilderness Wildlife Week and now serves as the Wilderness Wildlife Week Transportation Director.
E-mail: leewlewis@hotmail.com

Dr. Don Linzey received his Ph.D. degree from Cornell University and currently teaches at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. He began working in GSMNP as a Park Ranger-Naturalist in 1963 and has continued doing mammal research in the Park for the past 53 years. He is the author of "Mammals of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 3rd Edition", and "A Natural History Guide to Great Smoky Mountains National Park." He and his wife, Nita, reside in Blacksburg, Virginia but also have a home in Gatlinburg. This is his 15th year as a Presenter at Wilderness Wildlife Week.

Jeremy Lloyd is a native of Western Pennsylvania and has worked in the park at Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont since 1996. He directs Tremont's summer camps, hiking programs, college consortiums and family camps, and teaches several courses in the Southern Appalachian Naturalist Certification Program. Jeremy is the author of Great Smoky Mountains National Park Pocket Guide & Journal and A Home In Walker Valley: The Story of Tremont.

Lost Mill String Band (Jerry and Joan Paul) have been sharing their American Roots Music with visitors and locals of the Great Smoky Mountains since 2005. The duo sings and performs music of Appalachia, both past and present. Joan plays harmonica, guitar and clawhammer banjo and Jerry plays upright bass and bluegrass banjo. They are featured daily on Alewine Pottery's Channel 20 TV in the Great Smoky Mountains area.
E-mail: www.lost_mill@hotmail.com or www.lostmill@lostmill.com Website: www.lostmill.com

Bobbie Lamons Lovell was born in the Lemons Hollow in the foothills of the Smokies. Her passions include art and poetry. Retirement has allowed Bobbie to paint daily, and early morning musings gift her with subjects for poems. The Great Smoky Mountains provide Bobbie with subject matter for both.

Dr. Leo Lubke received his undergraduate degrees, as well as an earned doctorate, from the State University of New York. Leo retired after 33 years in education. He has completed Master Gardener certification in both New York and Tennessee. Leo is a member of Garden Writers Association and writes a garden column for a regional newspaper. Leo

and his wife, Linda, reside in Kodak, Tennessee, where their gardens include vegetables, fruits, flowers and a “Bird and Butterfly Garden” with a waterwheel and pond area.

E-mail: LHLubke@aol.com

Linda Lubke also holds BS and MS degrees in education from the State University of New York. She retired as a K-8 Assistant Principal. She enjoys photography as one of her hobbies. Linda and her husband, Leo, reside in Kodak, TN, where their gardens include vegetables, fruits, flowers and a “Bird and Butterfly Garden” with a waterwheel and pond area.

Dwight McCarter was a backcountry park ranger for Great Smoky Mountains National Park. He was, and still is, one of the best search and rescue man trackers in the nation. Dwight has tracked and found numerous lost children and adults in and out of the park. He has also tracked and found numerous criminals including murder suspects, arson suspects, and assault suspects, in and out of the park. In 2007, David Post, Dave Ledbetter and Dwight found the missing forge hammer that was lost in 1817 at Cades Cove. Dwight was, and still is, very familiar with all aspects of the Smoky’s backcountry.

Renée Michot and **Jim Rigsby** have, since 2013, produced a blog titled "Remembrance" on the Knoxville News Sentinel's website GoSmokies, memorializing the Smoky Mountain backcountry cemeteries. Renée has worked as an editorial photographer for the Appalachian News Express (Pikeville, KY) and sports editor/photographer at the Donaldsonville (LA) Chief. Jim's writing has appeared in the Indianapolis Star Magazine and a variety of commercial websites devoted to Smoky Mountain travel. Both reside in Sevierville for love of the mountains.

Karen Miller is the Education Coordinator for Keep Sevier Beautiful. She has been working with children for most of her career teaching drug prevention and as a youth leader in Ohio. Karen moved to Tennessee where she has been with Keep Sevier Beautiful for over a year working with students to learn litter prevention, beautification, composting and recycling education. Karen can be reached at KSB to schedule a class for your group at kmiller@keepsevierbeautiful.org.

Ruth Carr Miller loves life in the Smokies. If you listen to her, you will know the acorn doesn’t fall far from the tree. She speaks with the same mountain drawl as her late father, the Rev. Melvin Carr. Ruth loves these Great Smoky Mountains and the rich heritage tucked inside every ‘holler’ and on every ridgetop. Her Carr ancestors lived in the Sugarlands section of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and she grew up near the Little Pigeon River in the Pittman Center community. She continues to preserve area heritage through guiding tours for the many, many visitors traveling through on a motor coach.

Doug Mills has been the videographer for “THE HEARTLAND SERIES”, a show highlighting the history, beauty and folklore of East Tennessee for nigh on to 25 years. He also freelances on projects both regional and national in scope. The old man continues to wait for sunrises and chase the sunsets.

Charles Monday is organizer of the musical component of Townsend’s Fall Old Timers Day and their Spring Festival. Charlie also manages the Carolina Bluegrass Boys. Years ago Charlie realized that he had the “gift” of dowsing, which can also be referred to as “water witching.” Through the years, Charlie has discovered many uses for dowsing including locating underground water, graves, pipes, electric lines, old building sites and many other things. Putting this talent to work in Knoxville two years ago, Charlie was instrumental in locating a previously unmarked Confederate cemetery that, until then, was only a rumor.

E-mail: charliemonday@wildblue.net

Lee Morris was raised on sharecropper farms around Martin, Tennessee, where humor helped folks cope with hard times and enjoy good times more. Lee became a pastor at age 18 while a freshman at Union University in Jackson, Tennessee (Class of 1955). He then earned the Master’s of Divinity and Ph.D. at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky while also serving during graduate studies as Instructor of Field Work. Lee pastored rural and small town churches for more than 50 years and served as Chaplain and Prof. of Religion at Berea College, Kentucky for 21 years,

retiring to Oak Ridge, Tennessee in 2000. His "The Preachments," a sermon parody on rural preaching, has entertained hundreds of audiences.

J. Duay O'Neil, a reporter for *The Newport Plain Talk*, a century-plus old family-owned newspaper, has devoted over 40 years to the research of Cocke County, Tennessee's history and its people. His weekly column, "As It Was Give to Me," was recently honored by the Tennessee Press Association as one of the best Personal Humor columns in the state. The column, now in its eleventh year, focuses on local history. He also edits the newspaper's yearly *Smoky Mountain Homeplace*, a keepsake edition appearing each October and devoted to some aspect of Cocke County's history. Last year's publication, "Broken Lives in a Broken County", focused on the Civil War and also received TPA honors. In 2009, as part of the 75th anniversary celebration of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, he devoted an entire year's columns to the Cosby community's history. The author of several books, he is also an accomplished playwright and director, whose works *The Hanging of Dan Potter*, *Under the Apple Trees*, and *Sunset Is Coming* are based on Cocke County's history. He holds B.S. and M.A. degrees from East Tennessee State University and is a retired teacher. He and his wife Karen have one daughter, Amber, who lives in Charleston, South Carolina. Their cat, Jane Austen, allows them to reside with her in Fenwood, built in 1902 by Duay's grandparents.

Chris Ogle is a native son of Sevier County, Tennessee. He works as a Wildlife Surveys Manager for the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) within their administrative Region IV and covers the 21 eastern counties. Chris' job is to inventory nongame wildlife on the agency's Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) and provide technical assistance to private landowners for issues concerning nongame species. He specializes in rare, threatened, and endangered species. Chris holds a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and a M.S. from East Tennessee State University where he conducted a project on tiger salamanders in East Tennessee. He is also heavily involved in the local community. For the past few years he has taught the 8th grade Hunter's Education class at Caton's Chapel Elementary School. Chris also attends and works with many ministries at Richardson's Cove Baptist Church, and serves as Assistant Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 211.

George Owen has led hikes and done intensive trail work in the Southern Appalachians for forty years. He has served as trail maintenance director and trail construction director for both the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club and the Benton MacKaye Trail Association, serving also as president of the latter. George did the layout and supervised much of the Benton MacKaye Trail construction in Georgia. He has also served as conservation director for three trail clubs. For the past six years he has been a guide for Alpine Adventure Trail Tours in the Alps. Leading hiking group adventures from Virginia to California, which has been one of his retirement joys. He has also enjoyed hiking trails in the Smokies, starting with his children, for these forty years.

Dr. Gail Palmer is an award-winning author from Townsend, TN and is also a proud graduate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She has produced two DVDs and three books about the people of the Smoky Mountains. The DVDs are "Sacred Places of the Smokies" and "When Mama Was the Doctor: Mountain Medicine Women." The books include GSMNP: In the Beginning... Fact, Legend & Eminent Domain and two volumes of the Smoky Mountain Tales Series: Feuds, Murder & Mayhem. The Smoky Mountain Tales books are creative non-fiction, true stories told as fiction. Palmer, a native of Blount County, has deep roots to the people of Cades Cove and the Smokies through her mother, Mary Sparks Palmer, and her grandparents, John Marion Sparks and Elizabeth Shuler Sparks. Her goal is to present as true and as real a picture of the people in these stories, their way of living and the events that affected their lives. Palmer's Cemeteries of the Smokies was published by Great Smoky Mountains Association in 2014.

Larry Perry is a popular speaker around the country on photography and the use of software to really enhance digital photography. A certified Adobe Photoshop creative instructor and prize winning nature photographer, Larry has been in photography for more than 60 years. He enjoys sharing his images with assisted living, rest homes and prison around the country. His programs are entertaining, educational and often controversial. Larry is a perennial WWW presenter whose programs are consistently very popular with the audiences.

Jacki and Janis Proffitt are craft artists who continue to draw from their rich history and cultural heritage of Appalachia. Woodworking has been in their family for several generations dating back to some of the first settlers in Sevier County. Proffitt's Woodworks was established in 1979 in the town of Pittman Center, Tennessee by their father, Ellis Proffitt. Jacki and Janis grew up helping their father in his shop learning their woodworking skills from him. For more than 20 years they have been running the family business carrying on traditional Appalachia turnings such as wooden fruit and bowls, candle holders, bud vases and many on-of-a-kind pieces using woods native to the area.

Website: www.proffitts-woodworks.com

Jim Rigsby and **Renée Michot** have, since 2013, produced a blog titled "Remembrance" on the Knoxville News Sentinel's website GoSmokies, memorializing the Smoky Mountain backcountry cemeteries. Renée has worked as an editorial photographer for the Appalachian News Express (Pikeville, KY) and sports editor/photographer at the Donaldsonville (LA) Chief. Jim's writing has appeared in the Indianapolis Star Magazine and a variety of commercial websites devoted to Smoky Mountain travel. Both reside in Sevierville for love of the mountains.

Pamela Rodgers is a native of the Appalachian Mountains of East Tennessee. Her family was one of the first families to settle in what is now the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Pamela earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Leisure Services from Carson Newman College. For a number of years she was employed as a Seasonal Education Ranger for GSMNP. Currently, Pamela holds the position of Backcountry Information Specialist.

John Rose is the cartoonist for the popular, long-running Snuffy Smith comic strip which is syndicated by King Features to clients worldwide. He is the author of two Snuffy Smith comic strip collections, The Bodacious Best of Snuffy Smith and Balls Of Fire! More Snuffy Smith Comics. He enjoys doing Snuffy Smith Chalk Talks and meeting fans of the comic strip. He also creates editorial cartoons for the Byrd Newspapers of Virginia chain. He and his wife and two daughters live in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Rose's website is www.SnuffySmithComics.com.

David Sarten has been an avid Old Harp singer for several years, taking the initiative to host a monthly singing for Sevier County area shaped note singers. His ancestors learned to sing Old Harp in the singing schools of the early 1900s. David serves on various community and state organizations such as with Farmer's Cooperative, the Sevier County Library Board, and others.

Frances Fox Shambaugh is a fifth generation studio weaver producing "Art to Wear" clothing and handwoven wall hangings. She is also a historian and storyteller with many stories of early weaving and crafts in Sevier County and has given many programs and demonstrations in the area.

Kathy Sherrard is a member of the Board of Directors and an educator for Appalachian Bear Rescue. Since her initial experiences with bears in the mid-90s, Kathy has studied the animals extensively. She has presented programs about bears for the last 15 years at WWW and numerous other venues, including schools.

Shultz Family Gospel Singers includes Garry and Dustin Shultz, Alicia Holloway, Lance McCloud, Cory Nichols, Preston Senoglio, and Caleb Bates. The Shultz family began singing gospel music with Garry's father and Dustin and Alicia's Papaw as children. They are an energetic group from the Pittman Center area, and they love singing gospel and following in Don Shultz's footsteps.

Smoky Mountain Historical Society is a private, non-profit organization of volunteers whose mission is to perpetuate the cultural and genealogical studies and histories of the Tennessee counties of Blount, Cocke and Sevier; and to promote a sense of pride through the heritage and connections associated with the Great Smoky Mountains.

Andy Stinnett plays mandolin and performs at several local bluegrass venues and is part of the music ministry at Victory Baptist Church in Sevierville.

Don Taylor is a member of the Southern Highlands Craft Guild. Carving is a hobby which he demonstrates at various events. He specializes in birds of prey and songbirds. Don teaches a carving class at the Sevierville Senior Center.

Glenn Taylor gained experience with forest pests working in central Pennsylvania during the gypsy moth outbreaks of the mid-1980s. After graduating from Penn State with a degree in Environmental Resource Management, he started a National Park Service career path that has followed forest pests and their impacts from Shenandoah National Park to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. When not inspecting every sick tree he sees for forest pests, he enjoys hiking, mountain biking and photographing everything he sees – in the forest.

Pat K. Thomas is one of the artist/owners of the historic Cliff Dwellers Gallery in Gatlinburg, TN. Pat teaches classes and leads workshops at Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts in Gatlinburg, TN, the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC, as well as regional history, art and event centers. Her specialties include book arts and surface design on fabric. Websites: www.facebook.com/seenmymarbles? and www.seenmymarbles.com.

Nancy Thompson learned to spin about 30 years ago after visiting a living history museum in Western Kentucky. Those lessons led her to raising sheep and other fiber animals. Now owner of Smoky Mountain Spinnery in Gatlinburg for the past 16 years, she is still sharing her love of spinning through lessons and historical demonstrations.

Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning is a state-wide environmental advocacy organization with a particular interest in the Great Smoky Mountains and the Cumberland Mountains. We empower citizens with scientific analyses of programs and projects that might affect the natural lands and waters of the GSM National Park and Cherokee National Forest, as well as the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area and Obed Wild and Scenic River. We will be distributing our acclaimed bi-monthly TCWP Newsletter that provide a concise summary of current conservation and environmental in the state.

Website: www.tcwp.org.

Roger Trentham is an eighth generation native of the Smoky Mountains and tries to show his appreciation of the beauty of the Smokies through his photography. Starting as a child, Roger has hiked many trails and waded many streams in the Smokies first fishing and later chasing photos. Roger considers himself very fortunate to have lived most of his life within a mile of the park and enjoys sharing his wilderness knowledge, love of photography and experience with others.

Rick Turner has been a VIP (Volunteer In Park) since 2004 working at the Sugarlands Visitor Center where he enjoys meeting, greeting and directing visitors to Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Rick enjoys learning about, and explaining, the rich history of the land that forms GSMNP and what led up to the formation of the Park. From 2005 to 2012, Rick served as president of the Little River Railroad and Lumber Company Museum in Townsend, Tennessee which led to his developing programs about logging and railroads in what is now GSMNP. Prior to his volunteer work in GSMNP, Rick enjoyed a career as a software developer and is retired from the U.S. Navy.

LaDonna Twyman began making jewelry five years ago. She has always loved jewelry so it was only natural for her to begin making it for others to enjoy. LaDonna has resided in Cosby, Tennessee, for 10 years and refers to the Cosby Creek area as her home. Originally from Memphis, Tennessee, she has always dreamed of living in the mountains making jewelry, a dream which has turned true.

Greg Ward is a full-time fishing guide and outdoor writer from Gatlinburg, Tennessee. He is the owner of Rocky Top Outfitters, co-author of *Ultimate Fly Fishing Guide to the Great Smoky Mountains*, and is the fly fishing instructor for the University of Tennessee's Smoky Mountain Field School held in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Ward is not only an acknowledged expert on fly fishing for trout in the streams of the national park, but he is also renowned as one of country's leading experts on fishing for stream smallmouth bass.

Website: www.rockytopoutfitter.com E-mail: RockyTopOutfit@aol.com

Mary B. Warner has had an interest in doing a variety of arts and crafts since childhood. She has been doing needlepoint as a hobby for about 30 years, and is self-taught from books and other printed material. She has worked on both plastic canvas and traditional canvas using mostly my own designs. Mary especially likes the variations of textures possible by combining different needlepoint stitches.

Keith Watson is a native to Sevier County, Tennessee, who more than 35 years of national birding experience, including East Tennessee and the Great Smoky Mountains. He began his birding experience as a conservationist and birder in the mid-1970's in Knoxville, Tennessee, as a student at the University of Tennessee. During his career with the National Park Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service, he advanced bird conservation in the Caribbean, Appalachian Mountains, Southeast Coastal Plain, and the Piedmont regions of the U.S. After leaving federal service, Keith established the Southern Appalachian Bird Conservancy, a small business to assist local and regional conservationists with bird conservation needs. He has assisted the Great Smoky Mountains National Park with Peregrine Falcon monitoring, Breeding Bird Surveys, Christmas Bird Counts, and special wetland surveys and developed an Avian Conservation Implementation Plan for the US Fish and Wildlife Service for the Piedmont Bird Conservation Region. Together with fellow birders, he has documented birds never before reported for Sevier County, Tennessee.

Robert Webster is a native of East Tennessee who grew up on the Nolichucky River in Greene County. He has worked for numerous resource management agencies and believes in an active approach to lands management. Currently, Mr. Webster is a Forester for Great Smoky Mountains National Park and coordinates the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid program for GSMNP.

Don Wells is President of the Mountain Stewards. The Mountain Stewards, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, formed in 2003 launched in conjunction with others in three states, the National Trail Tree Project to locate, document and preserve Indian Trail Trees which are part of the heritage of Native Americans. In late 2007, the Mountain Stewards launched the Indian Trails Mapping Program to more precisely map Indian Trails from old survey maps of the 1700 and 1800's era. In 2011, Mountain Stewards published their book, Mystery of the Trees and produced the documentary Mystery of the Trees in 2015.

Whaley Family Singers are descendants from the Greenbrier area in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. They keep alive the old time traditional songs of their ancestors in song and story.

Jerry Whaley is an internationally published writer and photographer from Sevierville, Tennessee, who uses state-of-the-art digital and 4x5 large-format field cameras to capture the rich diversity of images in the Southern Appalachian region, especially Great Smoky Mountain National Park. Jerry considers the region a unique photographic treasure that he enjoys sharing with others through his images. His work is marketed worldwide by several stock photo agencies and has appeared in the Sierra Club Calendars, *National Geographic Traveler*, *Blue Ridge Country*, *Outdoor Photographer*, *Peterson's Photographic*, *Backpacker*, *Reiman's Country*, and many other books, magazines, postcards, calendars and trade publications such as *American Park Network's Guide to the Smokies NP*, *Guide to Acadia NP*, *Guide to Shenandoah NP*, and *Guide to Alaska's National Parks*. Jerry's images can be found locally on several postcards and in several books published by GSMA.

David Whitehead has worked for the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency since 1984 as a wildlife officer and wildlife manager for the 8000-acre Tellico Lake Wildlife Management Area and the 330,000-acre South Cherokee WMA of the Cherokee National Forest. David started working with wildlife as a research volunteer in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in 1976 with wild hogs, then with the US Fish and Wildlife Service on the brook trout recovery project and as a zoo keeper at the Knoxville Zoo, working with the large carnivores. In 1983 he worked as a wildlife technician with the National Park Service on wild hog control and black bear management and continues to work with bears and wild hogs as a wildlife manager now. David received a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from UT Knoxville in 1983. His wife, Anita, is a fourth grade teacher at Vonore Elementary. They have two daughters and four grandchildren.

Don Williams is a prize-winning columnist, journalist, short story writer as well as founder and Editor Emeritus of *New Millennium Writings*, an annual anthology of stories, essays and poems. His awards include a National Endowment for the Humanities Journalism Fellowship, a Golden Presscard Award, the Malcolm Law Journalism Prize and many others. A 2011 inductee into the East Tennessee Writers Hall of Fame, he is the author of *Tom Davis and the Graveyard Hosts* (working title) a work-in-progress chronicling the long suppressed history of how a controversial physician, a sheriff and a courageous deputy (Davis) rose up to free their community from the clutches of a secret order engaged in terror, corrupt courts, midnight whippings and murder on a grand scale in the shadows of the Great Smoky Mountains. He is the author of *Heroes, Sheroes and Zeroes (2005) The Best Writings About People by Don Williams*.

E-mail: DonWilliams7@charter.net

Kathleen Williams is not only the Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation's first President and Executive Director, but she now serves as the organization's Senior Advisor. Her work through the Foundation has preserved thousands of acres that conserve beautiful Tennessee natural treasures across the state. Under her leadership, the Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation was recently awarded national accreditation by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. In 2011 Kathleen was recognized as Conservationist of the Year by the Tennessee Wildlife Federation for her leadership with Forever Green Tennessee, a successful effort to restore \$16.5 million for conservation in Tennessee's State Budget.

Crystal Wilson grew up in the shadow of the Appalachian Mountains where herbal medicine runs through the culture, as deep as the roots of the forest from which it is made. Her father carried her through the forests before she could walk, teaching her the plants and trees. She does not remember a time before having knowledge of the forest. Somewhere along the way, Crystal was dubbed a "Granny Woman". It is her most treasured title next to Mama because it is the title given by her people to the medicine keepers. Crystal has grown native Appalachian medicinals on her farm, Turtle Mountain Herbs for the last 20 years. The farm is a botanical sanctuary.

Wilson Family Gospel Singers are five brothers, sons of the late Howard and Vera Wilson, who have been singing gospel music in churches since they were children and singing congregational hymns from the old "Favorite Songs & Hymns" book at Oldham's Creek or Boogertown Baptist Church. They love singing and playing instruments in worship and at Sunday afternoon family gatherings at their family home place. Singing: brothers Jim, David, Hal, Darrell, and Kevin, and Kevin's son Andrew. Singing for the second half: David and Brenda Wilson with Lori, Jason, Braden and Allie Watson, and Rachel and Brandon Truman.

Wings of America is an up-close look at America's magnificent Birds of Prey. This educational program features non-releasable birds including eagles, hawks, owls, falcons and vultures, some in amazing free flight. The program is a dramatic and effective way to learn about wildlife, environmental and ecological concerns.

Todd P. Witcher is the Executive Director of Discover Life in America (DLIA). DLIA is the non-profit coordinating the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory (ATBI) in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Before becoming the ED at DLIA he worked as an educator for Ijams Nature Center in Knoxville, Tennessee for 16 years. Todd has an undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee in Biology (1987), a Masters in Business from Lincoln Memorial University (1991), and a Masters in Education from the University of Tennessee (1997). Todd is an eighth generation Tennessean having grown up in the small town of Red Boiling Springs, Tennessee where the Witcher family has lived since the late 1700's. In his spare time Todd enjoys hiking, traveling, gardening and restoring old houses.

Lois Worthington is a native of Kodak, Tennessee, and lives in the house she was born in. She raised her first butterfly, a Black Swallowtail, in 2006. Retired in 2007, Lois started raising Black Swallowtails, Monarchs, Cabbage White, Fritillaries, and Sulphurs. Researching, raising, photographing and sharing butterflies are her passions. Lois also hikes with the Retired Citizens of the Smokies on Fridays on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Lois is a Master Gardener, enjoys flower and vegetable gardens. She is also a Daughter of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Robin Peeler Wooten is the East TN Park Area Manager with TN State Parks. Wooten has been with TN State Parks for nearly 18 years and has worked in the roles of Park Naturalist, Park Interpretive Specialist, Park Ranger, Park Manager,

Natural Areas Program Manager & now East TN Park Area Manager. She has worked at the following state parks: Montgomery Bell, Radnor Lake, Pickett, Cordell Hull Birthplace, & Sgt. Alvin C. York. Wooten is a graduate of Virginia Tech in Forestry & Wildlife and is passionate about wildflowers and generally all things with leaves and petals and stems.

Joel and Kathy Zachry are the owners and guides for Great Outdoors! Adventure Travel and completed the 2,175 miles of the Appalachian Trail in 2005. They have been instructors for the University of Tennessee/National Park Service *Smoky Mountain Field School* since the early 1980s and are the current directors of the award-winning program in its 36th season.

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