

A PAGE ABOUT THE AREA DEVOTED TO Information For Visitors



Paint Rock Tints Due To Minerals

Paint Rock in Madison County gets its name from a rather large outcropping of rock stained various colors by minerals.

Recognized by the Indians as a special place because of the majestic beauty of the mammoth mosaic, Paint Rock has down through the years attracted many visitors who come to marvel.

Whether the brightness of the colors is increasing or decreasing with the passing years is a question that can always provoke an argument with plenty of support on both sides. It is a fact however, that the passing of time has brought a mellow richness to the color mixture.

All streams flowing down the slopes of the Great Smokies eventually wind up in the Gulf of Mexico.

Where's Elmer?!



Panhandling Bear Manhandles Car — Believe It?

Another of Highlander Bart Leiper's apparently inexhaustible fund of bear stories has to do with one that did not have a driver's license, but was nevertheless a road hog in some respects.

A visitor to the Smokies, sporting a brand new convertible, paused at one of the parking overlooks for a bit of lunch which he brought with him. After spreading it beside him on the front seat, he opened the right-hand door to admit the breeze, but in addition, a huge bear.

Out flew Mr. Motorist, slamming the door on his side as he went. In making his entrance, Bruin had in some manner hooked a claw in the door handle so that the other door was closed. This mattered little so long as food remained.

When the lunch was downed, the bear started searching for the exit, and while so doing let a heavy paw descend upon the car horn. The horn was new and the horn was loud. Out went the bear as abruptly as the driver before him, but — through the convertible top!

Raiders Liked Southern Cooking Far Too Well

Licksillet Creek in Yancey County was named for an incident that occurred near the end of the War Between the States.

Some of Kirk's men went through the neighborhood, ate all the food they could find, and even "licked the skillet clean," the natives said.



HEINTOOGA OVERLOOK, some 25 miles from Waynesville, offers a "wide-angle" view of the Great Smoky ridge. A part of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park itself, Heintooga lies scientifically distant from the main ridge to afford an excellent view of Clingman's Dome, Mt. LeConte and their neighbors.

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Heintooga Nature Walks In August Give Promise Of Autumn's Approach

HOMING HORSES

MILROY, Minn. (AP) — Farmer Astor Lovald thinks there may be some homing pigeon blood in his team of black horses.

The animals wandered off recently, and a search disclosed nary a trace. Days later, Lovald traveled to a farm 13 miles away, where he had formerly lived.

There, wandering around the deserted yard, were Lovald's horses.

The first hints of fall in the Smokies should be offered to hikers Saturday as the nature walks from Heintooga Overlook continue into August.

Conducted by a Great Smoky Mountains National Park naturalist, the trips start at 10:30 a.m. and at 1 p.m. and last about an hour and a half. They are scheduled for every Saturday in August.

Although the Smoky Park presents flora and fauna worth the study of trained scientists, these particular walks are designed chiefly for the amateur who would like to improve his acquaintance with the varied forms of animal and plant life found there, without putting too much of a strain on either his feet or his brain.

From the Heintooga Overlook itself the visitor sees a spectacular panorama of the high ridge of the Smokies, constantly changing as clouds drift across the upthrust peaks. The color spectrum is very nearly reversed from that of the ocean to which it is often compared. Here the deep green is literally at your feet, as you look down on the tops of leafy trees or the darker blue-green of their evergreen cousins. The tone lightens almost imperceptibly as the distance increases, to the far-off haze of "Old Smoky" which gives the range its name. It's hard to be sure, many a day, whether the last blue-grey on the horizon is a mountain-top or a summer cloud.

For the visitor who likes a close-up, the Park offers more than 52 species of fur-bearing animals, some 200 birds, 36 reptiles, 37 amphibians and 80 fishes.

Want ads bring quick results.

'Turkish Baths' Could Be Called Cherokee Baths

Cherokee Indians were taking "Turkish baths to drive away spirits that cause disease" at least 300 years ago, according to archeologists.

And the braves really earned their fame, they say, because they wound up their steam bath with a quick plunge into an icy mountain stream.

The Cherokee sweathouse is described as a "low, dome-shaped building made of logs and covered with earth." The floor might be as much as three feet below ground. Entrance was a narrow passageway.

For the baths, rocks were heated in a central fire, then raked out on the floor where special "medicines" were poured over them to make steam. The patients sat on willow couches along the walls while the steam poured upward around them.

A replica of a sweathouse has been built at Oconaluftee Village on the Cherokee reservation.

Ravens living in the secluded heights of the Great Smokies are among the shyest of birds. They are larger than crows and their plumage appears jet black rather than a glossy black.

North Carolina Shares Great Smoky Mountains Park With Tennessee

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park lies almost equally in North Carolina and Tennessee, and consists of 461,000 acres.

Some of this area is part of Haywood County, including Mt. Guyot on the Tennessee line, near Old Black, and Big Cataloochee, all over 6000 feet high, with numerous other peaks and even valleys more than a mile high.

Yonaguska Buried On Soco Hillside, Cherokees Say

On a wooded hillside overlooking Soco Valley stands the half-rotted stump of an enormous chestnut tree. At the foot of this tree, or near it, say the Cherokees, was buried the body of Yonaguska, one of the great peace chiefs of the tribe.

Upright stones marking many graves are thick on the hillside. Clay is fresh and red on recent graves, showing that the old burying ground is still in use.

The Blue Ridge mountains in Western North Carolina form the great water divide between the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico.

Assembly Slates Leader Training During August

The August program of the Methodist Church's southeastern summer assembly at Lake Junaluska will feature two leadership conferences for directors, officers and teachers of Christian education.

Sponsored by the Methodist General Board of Education, Nashville, Tenn., a leadership school for church workers will be held August 3-14, and a conference of church school superintendents is scheduled for August 14-16. The leadership school will comprise two terms, August 3-8 and August 10-14, according to the Rev. M. Earl Cunningham, Nashville, who will serve as dean. He is director of the board's Department of Leadership Education.

The school curriculum will include a general section of 17 study courses, a laboratory section for workers with children, a workshop for directors of Christian education, a seminar for secretaries of conference boards of education, and a series of platform addresses by eminent educators and theologians.

Resource leaders and speakers will include: Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, St. Louis, Mo.; Dean John K. Benton of the Vanderbilt University School of Religion, Nashville; Dr. Frank A. Lindhorst of the College of the Pacific, Stockton, Calif.; Dr. Donald M. Maynard, Boston University; Dr. J. Lem Stokes II, president of Pfeiffer College, Misenheimer, N.C.; Dr. Henry M. Bullock, Nashville, editor of Methodist church school publications, and Dr. John Q. Schisler, Nashville, executive secretary of the Local Church Methodists of Education.

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The Rev. Walter Towne, will be in charge of the church school superintendents conference. He is director of the education board's Department of Christian Education. He said that superintendents states will attend, as well as church school officers, chairmen of education, and assistant superintendents membership cultivation.

The Great Smokies are the Smokies' paradise, for here are found 1400 varieties of trees, shrubs, plants and growing things—more than found in any similar temperate zone.



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