

Trip to Great Smoky Mountains National Park¹ and Other Places in North and South Carolina

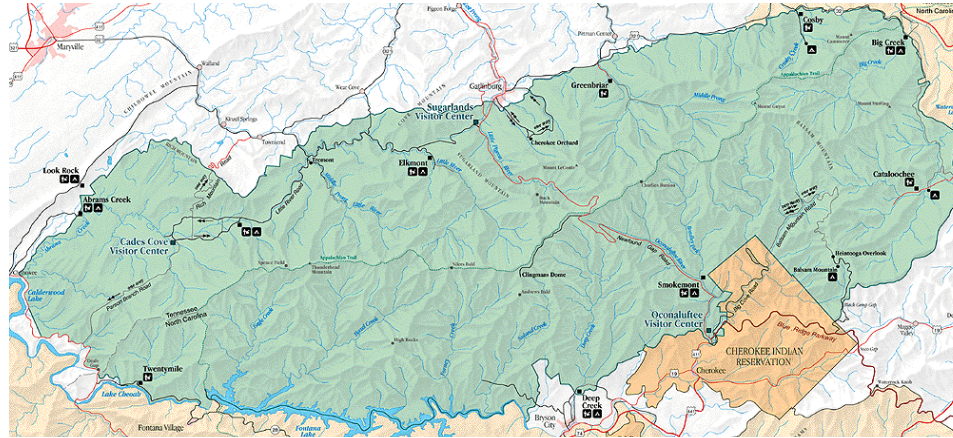
by Sarah Tulloss

3rd Grade, Roosevelt Public School, Roosevelt, New Jersey, U.S.A.

On May 27, 1999, I left to go to the Smoky Mountains. It will take us two days to get there.

I listened to Trout Fishing in America² and “Monsters in the Bathroom.”³ I practiced multiplication tables for the square numbers up to 12 times 12. Then I read.

Then when we got to the motel,⁴ we unpacked; and then I got into my PJs; and then I watched TV; and then I fell asleep.



¹ Maps are from the CD 15 *Major National Parks of the USA* produced by Wildflower Productions and National Geographic Maps. Footnotes added by Dad.

² “Big Trouble” on Trout Records.

³ Performed by Bill Harley on Round River Records.

⁴ In Martinsburg, West Virginia.

On May 28, 1999, we got up and got on the road by 7:15 a.m.; and, when we arrived at the motel⁵ in the Smoky Mountains, we rested up. And then my mom said, “If you want to go in the pool, that would be OK with me.” So I went in the pool. Then we went to a Mexican restaurant.

On May 29, 1999, we went on a mushroom walk;⁶ and we found all different kinds of mushrooms and other fungi.⁷



⁵ In Maggie Valley, North Carolina.

⁶ To and in the 1999 trial transect of the Butterflies of the Soil Project (ATBI of epigeous macromycetes in GSMNP) in the Cataloochee section of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The site is approximately marked by the red pennant on the map.

⁷ Ninety-nine collections, 68 from the transect.

There were coral fungi.⁸ Then my mom and I went back to the parking lot to get my boots, and we saw about 200 butterflies on the way back.



The butterflies are called Pipevine Swallowtails.⁹

When we got to the stream, I went wading in it. Then, if you wanted to go across the bridge, you could.¹⁰ There was only one side to hold on to.



⁸ *Ramaria sp.*, *Clavariadelphus sp.*, *Clavaria sp.* Photo of *Ramaria sp.* from Massachusetts by R. E. Tulloss.

⁹ *Battus philenor* (L.). Illustrations from entowww.tamu.edu/images/animalia/arthropoda/insecta/lepidoptera/papilionidae/battus/philenor.

¹⁰ Photo by Mary Tulloss.

When we got back, we went to a college.¹¹ We took all our mushrooms out and wrote a description of them. My mom did an *Amanita*,¹² and I helped her. Then we put chemicals on it, and it turned orange¹³ all over the mushroom and purple¹⁴ a little. We stayed there until 11:00 p.m.

On May 30, 1999, we went to a visitor center,¹⁵ and I got posters and keychains and cards¹⁶ of the mountains and animals. Then my mom and I and everyone else¹⁷ went for a walk to look for mushrooms. And my mom and I took off our shoes and went wading in a stream. When we were in the water, I saw a turtle and a crayfish. To get to the park, we had to go through 30 miles of a dirt road in the mountains.

On May 31, 1999, my dad went back to the visitor center. He got interviewed for a newspaper, and he took people on walks and tried to find mushrooms. He talked about mushrooms to people. My mom and I stayed at the motel, and we went to the pool three times. We sewed. We played pool.



¹¹ Haywood Community College, Clyde, Haywood County, North Carolina.

¹² Probably, *Amanita muscaria* var. *formosa sensu* D. T. Jenkins.

¹³ Paracresol spot test for tyrosinase—positive throughout fruiting body.

¹⁴ Syringaldazine spot test for laccase—to Dad's eye, negative throughout fruiting body.

¹⁵ Sugarlands Visitor Center, near Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

¹⁶ Postcard copyright by Impact. Will not be used in on-line version.

¹⁷ Photo by Jerry Sheine and Sarah Tulloss. From left to right Laura Weishaupt, Anatheia Brooks, Hank Mashburn, Rod Tulloss, Mary Tulloss, and Sandy Sheine.



On June 1, 1999, we packed to go to my grandmother's house.¹⁸ On the way we stopped at the Carl Sandburg National Historic Site¹⁹. Carl Sandburg was a writer. He wrote poems, songs, stories for children, a novel, and a biography of Abraham Lincoln in six big books. His wife raised goats.²⁰ We went to see the goats and pet them. One of the goats gave nine quarts of milk a day. After that, we left; and, when we got there, we went out to dinner.

On June 2, 1999, we went to get the car washed because it was covered with dirt from the mountain roads. Then we went to the mall, and I got three pairs of pants and 3 shirts. Then we went to Chucky Cheese, and I got 230 tickets. Then we went back to the house for a couple of hours and then went over to my cousin Emily's graduation party. We stayed for four hours. Emily loves Math; so she invited two of her Math teachers. Then, when we were going, there was a thunder storm. It was pouring.

On June 3, 1999, we had a brunch at my cousins' house. Then we went to the pool. Then we went back to my grandmother's house to get ready, but there was a storm. The lights went out, so we couldn't eat dinner. So we had to go to MacDonald's. There was hail and rain. MacDonald's was flooding. After we ate, we went to the graduation. There were 200 graduates. Some read a story. After the graduation, we went back and had cake.

On June 4, 1999, we were at a motel, and I was watching TV, and my mom heard a beeping sound, so she opened the door, and I saw flashing lights. It was a fire alarm. So we went down to the lobby, and a fire department came. There was a baseball team on the third floor—that's where we were. One teenager made a false alarm. We were down in the lobby; and my mom asked the girl at the desk if we can move to the first floor. It would be like \$125 because there's 2 TVs and a jacuzzi, but she gave it to us for the same amount as our first room. So I got to go in the jacuzzi with the jets.

¹⁸ Greer, South Carolina.

¹⁹ Flat Rock, North Carolina.

²⁰ Photos of goats by Sarah Tulloss.