

Cherokee Hiking Club Dinner and Meeting

Thursday, September 13, 2012, 6-9 PM

The Outpost in Tellico Plains, followed by a tour of the Charles Hall Museum

Presentation: Early Logging Days in the Tellico Mountains (the Tellico Ranger District of the Cherokee National Forest), presented by Pam Hall Mathews

Join us for dinner at the Outpost Pavilion in Tellico Plains (on the Cherohala Skyway next to the Exxon Station) at 6 PM, to be followed by a PowerPoint presentation at 7PM at the Outpost by Pam Mathews on the early logging days in the Tellico Area. Following her presentation, we will all go the short distance to the Charles Hall Museum, Building 2, where she will show us artifacts from the logging days.

Pam Hall Mathews, the daughter of Charles Hall, is a local historian and a clinical psychologist who published the definitive history of the Tellico Plains area last year (*A Pictorial History of the Tellico Plains, Tennessee Area (1849-1949)*). Pam is a member of the Cherokee Hiking Club and maintains a section of the Benton MacKaye Trail up Sycamore Creek together with her husband, Kent. Charles Hall, her father and former mayor of Tellico Plains and founder of the Tellico Plains Telephone Company, for whom the museum is named will also be present at the meeting to answer questions.

So, join us at The Outpost Pavilion in Tellico Plains, Thursday, September 13th at 6 PM first for dinner (your tab), then as Pam Hall Mathews delivers a PowerPoint presentation on the early logging days in the Tellico mountains. Local documents and pictures from *The Charles Hall Collection* will illustrate the operations of the small scale lumber companies of the late 1800s and the larger enterprise of Babcock Lumber Company. Babcock began their extensive logging operation in the Tellico mountains in 1906. Topics will include the sawmill, the Company store, the building of the logging railroad, harvesting the timber, the tools used, the oxen and horses used in the venture, the engines used in the logging operations including the Shay engines, the skidders, and the log cranes. Finally life in a logging camp will be described not only with pictures, but with the recorded stories of the local logging families. The Museum will display several of Babcock Lumber Company's legal documents and maps, along with some of the logging relics that are housed in the Museum. Charles Hall will be available to answer questions and to speak about visiting the recently abandoned logging camps as a young boy and the information he learned from the loggers and their families. His pictorial collections of the logging railroad days include over 750 pictures specific to the Tellico, Citico, and Slickrock areas and many documents.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED