

March 2010

# Snow, Snow go away come again some other day.

We have certainly had our share of snow this year. It has been beautiful but now its time for spring!



### **An update on road closures:**

*The I-40 slide between Tennessee and North Carolina still has the interstate closed but the NC Department of Transportation estimates that at least one lane should be reopened by late April 2010.*

*The rock slide on the Spur between Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg is close to being cleaned up and a retaining wall is being constructed. Traffic now flows both ways in the northbound side of the Spur but the southbound lanes are*

due to reopen next week.

The city of Gatlinburg is gearing up for spring with [Smoky Mountain Springfest](#) - with the blooming of all the spring flowers and the hanging of the flower baskets. The annual Easter Arts and Crafts show at the convention center starts March 31.



There is also the [Holly and Shamrock parade](#) March 13<sup>th</sup>- a strange combination but quite entertaining.

A few years ago I had the opportunity to attend a Science Teacher's conference at [Tremont Institute](#) (we home schooled at the time, I'm not a certified Science Teacher- just love learning) in Walker valley in the GSMNP. This is a wonderful facility with the mission of educating the public about nature in order to foster a love and appreciation of the outdoors. They are located off Little River Road a little bit before you get to Cades Cove- just outside of Townsend, TN. They offer guided day hikes, overnight hikes, summer camps for children, family weekends, scavenger hunts and lots more. Check out their web site

<http://www.gsmit.org/>

Vickie's restaurant recommendation for the month:

*Calhoun's*

They are located across the street from the Ober Gatlinburg tram( but they have.....PARKING!!!!!!.....FREE!!!!!!)  
Calhoun's has been here about 15 years and I have never had a bad meal there. Their specialty is ribs (they have won awards at rib cook offs) but really everything is good. My favorite is the Oriental Chicken Salad, my husband loves the fried catfish.

We hope everyone thaws out and can come see us soon.  
Gatlinburg is the perfect cure for cabin fever ☺

Vickie Johnson Bradshaw  
Max and Jean Johnson  
The staff of Johnson's Inn

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