

We are having a beautiful spring with warm days and cool nights. The dogwoods have been so pretty this year. Most of the trees have budded out with that wonderful “new” green that they have this time of year. We have had a fair amount of rain so the streams are running good which is such a relief from the last couple of dry years that we have had.

Besides just enjoying spring in the Smokies, there is lots happening in Gatlinburg and the surrounding area this month.

May 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm is the 24<sup>th</sup> annual *Dollywood Parade in Pigeon Forge*.

The *Gatlinburg Scottish Festival & Games* : May 15 - 17. 28th Annual Scottish clans meeting featuring Highland athletics, bagpipe competitions, Highland dancing, border collie demonstrations, haggis hurling, entertainment, whiskey tasting, food & merchandise vendors. Website/Link: <http://www.gsfg.org>

Pigeon Forge May 15-17: 1955, 1956, 1957 *Chevy Classic Roundup*

*Gatlinburg Fine Arts Festival* : May 16 - 17 The 5th annual Gatlinburg Fine Arts Festival is a family-oriented event featuring quality artists from around the country, delicious cuisine, and music in a beautiful mountain setting. Volunteers from the community produce the festival to benefit the Sevier County Arts Council and Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, an internationally recognized visual arts center which provides creative experiences year round. The Gatlinburg Fine Art Festival features over 50 professional artists and craftsmen and it annually awards \$5,000.00 in cash prizes.

Pigeon Forge May 29: *Loretta Lynn* in concert at the Country Tonight theater. Call 1-800-792-4308 for more info.



Here's a postcard of Johnson's Inn from the 1980's before we moved the office up to the creek and built the deluxe rooms. The big trees in front provided some wonderful shade in the summer. Unfortunately the birds also loved to roost in the leafy tree limbs. It would cause quite a mess as well as being pretty noisy at times. Jean came up with the solution of putting a fake snake up in the tree to scare off the birds. This worked fairly well until an unsuspecting guest that was relaxing in one of the lounge chairs happened to look up into the tree and see this large snake hanging from a branch. She nearly had a heart attack. Needless to say, we removed the snake and learned to live with the birds!

We hope you all have a wonderful spring. Give Vickie, Connie, Fonda or Richard a call if we can help you with your vacation plans.

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