



Fall is officially here and Johnson's Inn has donned our autumn apparel. We are gearing up for a busy October and there is plenty to do in the Smokies.

Now in its 35th year the fall Gatlinburg Craftsmen's Fair runs October 8-25th. Voted One of the South's Most Popular Events For The Past Six Years!! Art, crafts and music lovers will find over 200 booths featuring some of the nation's finest work.
http://www.craftsmenfair.com/fall_show.html

The fall foliage will soon begin putting on it's wonderful display of color. The national park service has the following explanation about autumn colors :

“Why are fall colors so remarkable in the Smokies? One reason is the park's amazing diversity of trees. Some 100 species of native trees live in the Smokies and the vast majority of these are deciduous.

How do colors change? As summer ends, the green pigments in leaves deteriorate, giving other colors a chance to shine. Carotenoids, the pigment that makes carrots orange and leaves yellow, are exposed as the green fades. Reds and purples come from anthocyanins, a pigment that is formed when sugars in leaves break down in bright autumn sunlight.”

You can read more at their web site:

<http://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fallcolor.htm>

National Gospel & Harvest Celebration (Oct. 2 - 31, 2009) at Dollywood. There are also crafters and food vendors. Dollywood always does it up right with their decorations throughout the park.

<http://festivals.dollywood.com/mini-section/default.aspx?id=114&season=fall>

There has been a lot of wild life in the area lately. A guest staying in 208 the 3rd week of September was sitting on his balcony late one evening and looked down towards the office to see a black bear at the front door. The bear rummaged through the garbage then ambled away. It was probably the same bear that I saw last week on my way home around 5:00pm on the Baskins Creek Bypass. She was standing on her hind legs with her front paws on the guard rail watching the traffic. Her cub was right beside her waiting for the "all clear".

We also have raccoons living nearby. One day I made the mistake of leaving a door propped open and when I went to close it at the end of the day there was a huge mess where the coffee maker and coffee packets sit. The thief had opened up both coffee packets and eaten the sugar and creamer out of them. Raccoons do not have very good table manners, he left coffee and sugar scattered everywhere.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Vickie Johnson Bradshaw

Max and Jean Johnson

The staff at Johnson's Inn

Hope I didn't scare anyone off with my wildlife tales but if I did and you no longer want to receive our e-newsletter , please hit reply and put "remove me from your mailing list" in the subject line and we will be happy to do so.