



## Lotterdale Cove, Notchy Creek, And Toqua Campgrounds

Tellico Lake

### Local Events

- Nov 13-14—CASA Monroe Festival of Trees, Tellico West Conference Center, Vonore
- Dec 4-5—Monroe County Senior Citizens Christmas Craft Show, Cora Veal Senior Center, Madisonville, Fri 9-4, Sat 9-3
- Dec 4—Sweetwater Christmas Parade 7pm
- Dec 5—Madisonville Christmas Parade 4:30 pm
- Dec 5—Vonore Christmas Parade 4 pm
- Dec 12 - Tellico Plains Christmas Parade 3 pm

## Notchy Creek's Resident Prankster

An infectious laugh, a twinkle in his eye, and a great story are just a few of the things you get when you meet the Mayor of Notchy Creek Campground...Mr. Ray Russell. Ray and wife Mary Ellen have been camping at Notchy Creek since its very first season, over 30 years ago. Ray shared that he came to look over the campground two weeks before it opened that first season and immediately loved it. He chose a site and moved in, but before that first summer was over, he decided that Site 44 was a better location and made it his home-away-from-home. He has been a fixture in site 44 ever since.



**Shorty**

Ray and Mary Ellen have two children Rhonda and Steve; two grandchildren Willie and Rayme; and one great-granddaughter Charlie. Ray worked at Alcoa Aluminum for 34 years and retired in 2000. When Ray and Mary Ellen began camping, their children were small and they used a tent. Ray shared that one of their neighbors offered to loan them his camper for a trip and Mary Ellen was hooked. She insisted he buy her a camper. That first camper as a small 13 foot pull-behind. Since then they have graduated to a 22

foot camper.

One of the things keeping Ray coming back to Notchy Creek year after year is the great fishing. He has learned all the great fishing holes on the lake and on one trip several years ago, he and a friend caught 25 crappie. The largest fish he ever caught was a 9 1/4 pound largemouth bass. Twice Ray won the prize given by the old Razor Landing Store for largest fish caught in a certain month.

When asked what had changed most about camping in the last 30 years, he immediately laughed and said the cost, of course. He also believes there are fewer fish in the lake now than there were several years ago. Ray keeps himself busy with his two little buddies Shorty and Bunny. Shorty was a stray that showed up at the campground about 13 years ago. Mary Ellen fell in love with her and they took her home with them. In



**Ray Russell wearing a cap given to him by fellow Campers declaring him "Mayor of Notchy Creek"**

spite of her age, Shorty still loves to camp with Ray. Bunny is a ball of energy that rivals her master. She loves everyone and wants to play continuously. She will fetch a tennis ball as long as you will throw it for her and has a few other trick she enjoys showing off.

When asked what he would want someone to know about him, Ray said, "If you are around me much, you better watch me. I might pull one on you." Ray is a practical joker. He loves to pull a good joke on Mary Ellen, other campers, or anyone else who might be around. When you have time for a



**Bunny**

chat and want a good story, stop by Site 44 and talk with Ray. You might find yourself the target of one of his practical jokes!



## LABOR DAY

### *Toqua's Labor Day Picnic and Parade*

Once again Toqua campers celebrated Labor Day weekend in style with a pot luck picnic and parade.

Adults and children alike came out to enjoy the fun and friendship developed at Toqua Campground. The highlight of the weekend was the golf cart and bicycle parade. Campers decorated their golf carts and bicycles and choose a winner

for best decoration. The picnic and parade were followed by a children's camp out with Susie. Nineteen children participated in the camp out.

Thanks to everyone who participated and we look forward to seeing you again next year.

Watch for Halloween Pics in our next edition!

Photo Credits: Elisa Franklin



## *Creamy Crockpot Mexican Chicken*

This recipe, provided by Mary Britton of Lotterdale Cove, makes a great dip for nachos and so good!

2lbs. Chicken tenders

2 can Black Beans (rinsed and drained)

2 cups Salsa

1 can Corn (drained)

8 Oz Cream Cheese

1 lb Velveeta Cheese

1. Place all ingredients into crockpot in the order listed except Velveeta
2. Cook on high 2.5-3 hours
3. Shred Chicken
4. Add 1 lb Velveeta cheese and stir until melted.

Serve with black olives and sour cream if desired



## *Banana Bread*

Cream together:

1 stick room temp butter

1 cup sugar

2 eggs

Add: 1 cup mashed bananas

Blend in 1 1/2 cups self-rising flour

1/2 cup oats

1tsp vanilla

Pour into greased loaf pan.

Bake at 325° for 50 minutes



Courtesy: Mary Britton, Lotterdale Cove



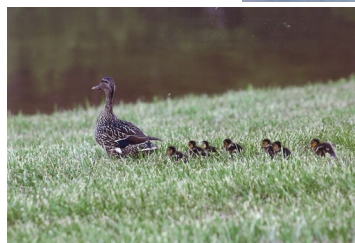
## *Thank You...*

Lottedale Cove would like to take time to recognize our seasonal camper Richard Mohr for keeping our bathhouses sparkling all season long. During the heat of summer this is no easy task. So, from all of us, "THANKS, RICHARD." We hope you and Janice have a relaxing winter season in the Florida sun.

Photo Courtesy: Donna White

## *Views from Lotterdale Cove*

Photos courtesy of El Matthews



## Tellico Lake Campgrounds

Tellico Reservoir Development Agency

*Lotterdale Cove Campground*  
17177 East Coast Tellico Parkway  
Greenback, TN 37742  
For Reservations call **(865) 856-7284**

*Notchy Creek Campground*  
1235 Corntassel Road  
Vonore, TN 37885  
For Reservations call **(423) 884-6280**

*Toqua Campground*  
1315 Highway 360  
Vonore, TN 37885  
For Reservations call **(423) 884-3317**

## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*

### October

Kenslee Hodges 9th  
Christy Russell 10th  
Sydney Parsly 12th  
Mike Hodges 13th

### December

Kevin Wattenbarger 8th  
Dave Meriedieth 16th

### Anniversaries

#### October

Sandy & Randall  
VanHoose 30th  
(50 years)

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**We're on the web!**

**[www.tellicolakecampgrounds.com](http://www.tellicolakecampgrounds.com)**

The perfect camping experience is waiting for you and your family!

We apologize if we missed your birthday or anniversary. If you would like your birthday/anniversary included in, or removed from, our list, please let your Campground Manager know or contact Michelle Jenkins at 423-884-6868, 865-673-8599, or [mjenkins@tds.net](mailto:mjenkins@tds.net).



## *Condolences*

Toqua Campground and TRDA would like to send our condolences to the families of Ron Attkisson and Leroy Clark who passed away this season.

Leroy Clark (site 118) was a long-time fixture at Toqua. We will miss you Tractor Man.

Ron Attkisson (site 102) was new to Toqua this year. We regret we will not have the opportunity to get to know you better.

Notchy Creek Campground and TRDA wishes to extend condolences to the family of Dub Tipton.

Mr Tipton was a long-time seasonal camper, who passed away on October 30. Mr. Tipton's presence will be greatly missed at Notchy Creek .

Lotterdale Cove Campground and TRDA extends condolences to the family of Dennis Murray who passed away this season.

Mr. Murray was a long-time seasonal camper. He will be greatly missed at Lotterdale Cove

Please remember these families as they grieve and as we enter the up coming holiday season.