

# Friends of Fall Creek Falls State Park News

Winter 2016

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 General Board Member

## Friends Honored to Become Part of the Jim Hall Hunts for Warriors

Military service personnel wounded while serving our country were recently invited to participate in the Jim Hall Hunts for Warriors here at Fall Creek Falls State Park. This hunt allows participants to have fellowship with others who share the love of hunting as well as an opportunity to heal from any physical or emotional injuries that they may have suffered during their military service.



In addition to the Music City Chapter of Safari Club International and the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency, the Friends of Fall Creek Falls State Park was honored this year to become a cosponsor of this event. The Friends group donated shirts for all Fall Creek Falls rangers working this event and donated nine hunting blinds for participants to use while hunting the two day event.

The Wounded Warrior participants were very grateful and each signed their name to a hunting vest and presented it to the Friends group in appreciation of our donation. Each signature on the vest represents a participant that left the Jim Hall Hunts for Warriors with great memories and many friends that will aid them on their journey towards healing. Thanks to all the 2016 Jim Hall Hunts for Warriors participants and volunteers!



***The Friends group was very honored and humbled to be a part of the Jim Hall Hunts for Warriors. Thank you to all our military and veterans who serve our country!***

## Contact Us

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## Friends Donates Telescopes



Each year, the Astronomy in the Parks Society joins with Fall Creek Falls State Park to offer the Tennessee Spring Star Party, three Astronomy Weekends, and the Tennessee Fall Star Gaze. If you have not been to one of these events, you are truly missing out on a fantastic experience in the world of astronomy. These events not only give participants a chance to view the night sky through telescopes but also an opportunity to learn about night sky equipment and engage in discussion with individuals experienced in the field of astronomy.

During 2016, the Friends of Fall Creek Falls State Park partnered with the Astronomy in the Parks Society and offered lemonade and coffee for attendees at these astronomy events. Next year, we are hoping to make the experience even better for participants by having two of our own 8-inch Dobsonian reflector telescopes to view the night sky. These telescopes will be on hand at the astronomy events but also used for programs with school kids in the environmental education program at the park.

## Friends Program at Park Functions

Members of the Friends of Fall Creek Falls State Park recently programmed for park functions. On Wild Foods Day, participants learned about the old fashion meat curing process with Brian Bricker, Friends President. Brian taught everything from salt type to storage procedure and no one left without learning the secret to making a short fat ham! Then during the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Friends Conference, attendees were taught the art of tie-dying by members of the Friends Board and some of their family. Conference attendees were shown the process from start to finish and were also given tips on how this program has become successful for our Friends group. Both programs were a huge hit. Thanks to all who helped!!!



### **Your Donations Help**

*The Friends of Fall Creek Falls State Park strives to make our efforts a continued success. Your donations help. Donation boxes are located at the Nature Center, Inn, Campers' Check-In, Park Office, and Main Overlook of Fall Creek Falls. Thank you for your support!*