

The Land Between the Lakes Heritage Geocache Challenge 2023 Communities of LBL

In each geocache box, you should find a sign-in sheet, date logbook and 150 aluminum metal tree tags. We have stamped each tag with numbering specific to that cache location. Collect 1 tree tag per geocache from each of the 6 locations.

- Bring your 6 different metal tree tags to the Golden Pond Visitor Center.
- Exchange them for a special Challenge Coin created just for this event.
- For extra bragging rights, each coin is individually numbered from 1 to 150.
- Once participants have redeemed all tree tags and coins, this year's geocache challenge ends.
- After closing the challenge, we collect the boxes to prepare for next year's event.

Contact Chris Thornock with any suggestions and comments (270-540-1079 or christopher.thornock@usda.gov).



The Day Crooked Creek was 100-Proof

Prohibition officer Allie Leigh chanced upon the operation of a man named Smith who lived in a log home on Crooked Creek. Leigh dumped the man's liquor in the creek--so much, in fact, that it was said you could dip whiskey from the creek with a ladle!

A neighbor complained that Prohibition Agents ruined his well water, which tasted like whiskey for some time after (though this was probably just anti-prohibition grumblings).



GEOCACHING

Congratulations, you've found it! (Intentionally or not)

It's part of a worldwide game loved by GPS (Global Positioning System) users who are on the internet. It's like a scavenger hunt—it's called geocaching. A GPS user hides a "treasure" (this container), and publishes the exact coordinates so other GPS users can come on a "treasure hunt" to find it.

IF YOU FOUND THIS CONTAINER BY ACCIDENT
Great! You can join with us! We only ask:

- Please don't move or vandalize the container. The real fun is just finding it and recording a visit
- Go ahead and take something if you like. But also leave something too.

www.geocaching.com

Please respect and protect our local heritage by leaving all the cultural material in its current location. Do not remove or disturb the artifacts.



Allie Leigh's Car Gets the Message!

The actions of Allie Leigh so incensed locals Between the Rivers that his automobile was fired upon local moonshiners and the car was ultimately destroyed by rifle fire. Leigh wasn't in it at the time, of course.

Though this might have been one of the few instances of violence or retaliation towards Prohibition Agents or Revenuers for enforcing Prohibition or Tax laws Between the Rivers.



Outsmarting the Man!

Misdirection: Moonshiners have many traditions for hiding their stills and smuggling out the product. One man in the BTR would purposefully set up smaller stills as a misdirection. So that when agents found and destroyed the small one they wouldn't go looking for the big one.

Hide the Smoke: During the 50s-70s, moonshiners would use propane or gas heating elements instead of burning wood, so that revenuers couldn't follow the smoke to their stills.

Use a Hoopdie: Cars were a big deal to bootleggers, the professionals in the BTR knew how important it was to keep your getaway vehicle out of sight. They called the hollowed out cars hoopdies and they knew that once a revenuer spotted your vehicle at a still or engaged them in a chase that you had to sell it and get a new hoopdie.

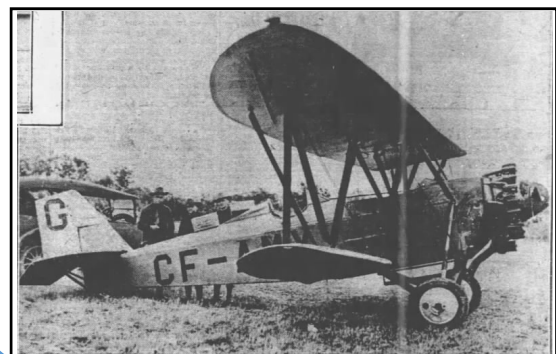
Follow Your Nose? Moonshiners sometimes made whiskey near their houses, those who had hogs could use their pungent odors to mask the smell of the moonshine process. They also fed the pigs the corn husks, which got rid of evidence and provided free food source for the pigs.

Flying Out the Whiskey?

One moonshiner was quoted to say, "I don't believe it was flown out of Golden Pond. Those little planes that landed there done good to get off the ground."

In the days of prohibition, flying planes was still rare especially in rural areas and would have drawn way too much attention to be used as an effective bootlegging method. Because it was rare it was also dangerous, most would not risk night flights.

During the 50s-70s, planes were more common. In fact, prohibition agents began using them to spot stills in the woods. While it is unlikely that anyone in the BTR used planes to regularly smuggle whiskey it is likely that pilots would snag a bottle or two for their own personal use



Fire Water!?

Moonshiners had to keep their whiskey hidden until it was ready to be sold. One local moonshiner hid his glass jugs up on a hill in Colson hollow where the sun shined through the glass and ended up setting the woods on fire! And broke the whiskey.



Moonshiners also tried to be efficient where they could. Local moonshiners liked to use steel drums instead of wooden barrels because the steel was lighter. One moonshiner reported that he used Pepsi Cola jugs to store the final product in and the sun shining through them turned it all purple! Perhaps they were manganese treated glass jugs.

One Last Thing: If you're reading this, the 40+ barrels you see around you with hatchet marks are mash barrels from a still site raided in the 1960s by Sheriff Miles of Dover, TN.

Land

This is the land where creatures
big and small
Gather to recover from the pall
Long ago families here made
Iron and farmed the hills
When this didn't pay they
Fired their stills
They weren't being crafty or
Mean
But it did help to feed the children
And keep them clean
This is the land where one now
Can come
And relax from their chores
Old timers called it 'Land Between
the Rivers'
Now it is called 'Land Between the Lakes'

--Unknown local author, 1/24/91