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**A Smoky Mountain Boyhood: Memories, Musings, and More**

Jim Casada
Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 2020
ISBN: 9781621906094
309 p. $29.95 (Pbk)

Jim Casada was, until his retirement in 1996, a professor of history at Winthrop University. He is the author of seventeen books on history, the great outdoors, hunting, and fishing, including the award-winning, *Fly Fishing in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park: An Insider’s Guide to a Pursuit of Passion*.

This personal collection of stories by Jim Casada is delightful reading and thought provoking for any of us who might have lived near or in the mountains of North and South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. Also for any who were born and spent growing up years immersed in the culture of the Smoky Mountains. Jim Casada’s stories help us to reflect upon our own memories.

Chapters such as High Country Holiday Tales and Traditions, Seasons of the Smokies, Tools, Toys and Boyhood Treasures, and Precious Memories are delightful reading.

Jim Casada says his hope in crafting this writing is to help those who want to keep the “high county traditions alive.” Change is inevitable in any area of our world but some like Jim Casada want to preserve memories and encourage holding fast on those qualities of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness he found in his years in the smoky mountains.

Highly recommended for public libraries and for school libraries. A glossary and index are located in pages 297-309.

*Carol Walker Jordan, Ph.D., MLIS*