

(By Joshua S. Kelly)□□□

Black Bear BN. Staff Visits Mt.

Leconte

At 6,539 ft Mt. Leconte is the third highest peak in the great Smokey mountains national park. MT. Leconte is a mountain in Sevier County, Tennessee.

The Leconte lodge is a small resort, established in 1925, located on the top of the mountain. First, it was a tent, then a single cabin, and now it is a series of small personal log cabin's, and now it is a series of small personal log cabins and a central lodge/dining hall situated along the top of a mountain. There is no transportation to the lodge and all guests must hike on one of five trails that access the mountain. Due to this lack of access, supplies must be brought in via helicopter and llama pack trains.

Mt. Leconte has a climate similar to that of southern Canada, giving it cool summers and cold snowy winters. Snowfall averages 39.43 inches near its base to 79.82 inches at the peak. The climate is much cooler and somewhat wetter than the lower elevations. The lowest temperature recorded at the mountain was – 32 degrees Fahrenheit in January 13 1986. It was believed to reach 85 degrees on June 25, 2010 but however was not accurate due to the reading being taken in the sun, it only reached 76 degrees that day.

The cadets who went on the trip were: Cadet LTC. Amanda Jones, Cadet MAJ. Jonathan Franklin, Cadet CSM Roy day, Cadet CPT. Devon Elliott, Cadet CPT. Luke Johnson, Cadet MAJ. Daylon Wynn, Cadet CPT. Justin Hensley, Cadet CPT. Lucas Caldwell, Cadet CPT. Joshua L. Kelly, Cadet CPT. Quinn Noble, Cadet CPT. Josh Zunda, and Cadet CPT. Joseph Carreras. The trip up the mountain was 5.5 Miles (Total Trip Up, and down 11 Miles). The adventure training lasted all weekend long, from Friday to Sunday.

Cadet LTC. Amanda Jones stated “I am very proud of myself, and my staff! We all had a great time, and were very sore afterwards, but it was worth the trip. All of my staff would agree.”



