

THE MOUNTAINEER



Newsletter of the Georgia Mountaineers chapter of FMCA

May 21 - 25, 2008

OH! Kentucky Campground – Berea KY

Hosts: Fritsches and Barretts

Members camping: Bargainniers, Barretts, Carpenters, Fritsches, Gillelands, Huffmans, Hughes, Jackson, Longs, Swansons, Wellborns, Whites.

Guests camping: First time visitors Sherold & Jean Salmon from Rome and Carl & Laverne Abbot from Kennesaw.

Sunday Willard and Sue Swanson got a really early start and began exploring Berea and the surrounding area.

Monday was big on early arrivals. The Longs, Barretts, Fritsches, Wellborns, Jackson, Bargainniers, Gillelands, and Salmons came in. Some got a head start on the local Dinner Bell restaurant and the Smoke House Grill. The Longs had Jeep and tow dolly problems that seem to balloon over the next couple of days. They must have run over a black cat on their way up. Lowell and Joan picked up some goody bags from the Welcome Center and began delivering them to each of the attendees.

Tuesday morning some of the early sightseers and shoppers headed to Old Town. After checking out the local Mexican cuisine, Ted and Martha went to Tater Knob Pottery and the candle factory outlet store. Others went back to the Smoke House Grill. Later the Carpenters, Huffmans, and Hughes arrived. Mike and Judy brought our new wearing apparel with them, minus the T-Shirts, which have not been completed. The golf shirts and windbreakers both look great and orders were delivered for those in attendance. For dinner, some went back to the Dinner Bell while others stayed in. The evening began some fun games of Hand and Foot.

Wednesday was sight seeing with some headed to the Lexington area to tour Horse Parks, some went to Shaker Village, and others went to Cumberland Falls. Those staying in the area went to the Smoke House Grill for lunch. Later during the day the Whites and Abbots arrived making a total of 14 coaches in attendance. With the rally officially underway, Acting Deputy Sheriff Martha began enlarging the ice cream kitty from those caught not wearing their Georgia Mountaineers badges. Before beginning Hand and Foot in the evening, a short announcement session was held regarding the rally agenda. Ted welcomed our visitors, Sherold & Jean and Carl & Laverne and introduced them to all the members. Today was Willard Swanson's birthday, so Sue brought some ice cream and cake for a celebration. In preparation for the ceremony, it was also found out it was Jean Salmon's birthday. And, it was not forgotten that it

was also Linda Callas's birthday, even if she was not present. So the group sang Happy Birthday to all three and then enjoyed some very good cake and ice cream. Afterwards, there were some much contested games of Hand and Foot.

Thursday was tour day for Berea College. Most everyone met at the College Visitors Center at 10:00 in the morning. It was easy to tell the group was the Georgia Mountaineers, not by just the badges, but many were wearing some good looking shirts and jackets with the Georgia Mountaineers logo. The tour began by watching a historical video and was followed by a walking tour of the campus. After the tour, everyone met at the Boone Tavern for lunch. After lunch, many visited the College Crafts store and others went back to visit Old Town. While some skipped dinner, a group of five went to one of the Mexican restaurants for margaritas, only to get there and find out Berea is a "dry" town. Boy, were they disappointed! This of course was much to the amusement of some of the other members who knew that, but did not tell the group of five until they returned. The evening began and ended with more Hand and Foot.

Friday morning began with a tour of the Berea Arts and Crafts Center. Many beautiful, and expensive, arts and crafts were on display for sale. Most of those visiting also had a very good lunch at the Artisan Café. Afterwards, it was back to Old Town and shopping for some, while others went sight seeing elsewhere, Shaker Village and Cumberland Falls to name a couple of places. Undaunted and not to be out done, the margarita group headed north to Richmond, where their recent research indicated there were many Mexican restaurants which served great margaritas. Their research was very accurate – eureka! They were so excited; one of the party ordered her margarita on the rocks with no ice. And, when the waiter delivered it; he said here's your drink, "ON THE ROCKS with NO ICE". Friday evening began and ended with more Hand and Foot. While some of the men had previously been undefeated, they took a good drubbing this time.

Saturday morning at 9:30 began at the Activity Room with a covered dish Brunch. There were pastries, fruit salads, and many breakfast casseroles. It was a great way to begin the day. Afterwards, it was off to Renfro Valley. A special treat for some was an antique tractor show and car show being held in the valley. Almost everyone explored the Log Cabin Village. Many strolled through the unique gift shops. And for supper, it was a Boarding House style meal of fried chicken and ham at the Lodge Restaurant. Afterwards, it was Renfro Valley Barn Dance Country and Blue Grass musical shows at the Old Barn. Most of the group returned to Berea after the first show, while a few stayed for the second show. After getting back to the campground, Lowell decided to try out a newly acquired campfire jig down at the Barrett's coach, where there was plenty of room for a campfire circle. This was unplanned and some were already in the PJ's, but came anyway. The evening ended reminiscing about the show down at Renfro Valley and telling some tall tales.

Sunday brought to a close a great rally. While a few got a real early start to parts unknown, other options included a local campground service in the Activity Room or an Invitational Service down at Renfro Valley. A few decided to stay put for Memorial Day weekend before heading out on Monday.

I regret that all our members were not able to attend this rally. It was not only a lot of fun, but educational. Plus, many returned home with some very nice articles purchased at the various arts, crafts, and gift shops. A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to our Rally Hosts, Joan and Lowell,

for their rewarding efforts in lining up the rally agenda. And, we enjoyed meeting and having our visitors and hope they will return to be with us again. Next month is Leisure Acres Campground in Cleveland, GA. After that is Happy Holiday RV Park & Campground in Cherokee, NC. It is easier to cancel a reservation than get one at the last minute; so if you want to attend the rally in Cherokee, you need to make reservations now. This campground will be full; and when the unreserved campsites we have set aside are released 30 days prior to the rally, they will be taken up by the general public very quickly. Also, there will be a Business Meeting next month to vote on proposed changes to our Standing Rules and to elect a Nominating Committee. So come and join in the fun.

Sunshine Report: Phyllis Boring has a stress fracture on her left ankle and she will be in an air boot for the next six weeks. Let's all wish her a speedy recovery.

Ted Barrett substituting for Lois

RALLY REMINDER:

June 18 - 21 Cleveland GA Leisure Acres Campground. Phone: 888-748-6344. Directions: S-bnd from Cleveland, From jct of US 129 and SR 115 S 3.8 miles to Westmoreland Rd, west 0.5 mi (L). Or N bnd From Clermont N on US 129 to jct of US 129 and Westmoreland Rd. (2.8 mi N of Jct of US 129 and Sr 254) W 0.5 mi on Westmoreland Rd. (L). **A Low Country Boil is planned.** See <http://www.leisureacrescampground.com>. **Hosts: Carpenters and Barretts**

July 16 - 19 Cherokee NC Happy Holiday RV Park & Campground. Phone: 800-633-2977 Directions: From W jct of US441 & US74, N 3.8 mi on US441 N to bus 441N, NE 0.3 mi to US19N, E 3.3 mi (L): or from JCT of Blue Ridge Pkwy (mp 455.5) & US19 SW 7.6 mi on US19S. See <http://www.happyholidaycherokee.com> **Hosts: Conners and Powells**

August 20 - 23 Murphy NC Peace Valley Campground Phone: 828-837-6223. Directions: From Murphy go north on US-19 about 4 ½ to 5 miles, just past MM-24 going north. Turn right onto Happy Valley Road. See <http://www.peacevalleycampground.com> **Hosts: Earleys and Hughes**

September 17 - 20 Cleveland GA Mountain Lakes, Horseshoe Trails Camping Resort Phone: 706-348-6434. Directions: From Cleveland take US-129 north through Cleveland to GA-75ALT toward Helen. The resort is 2.5 miles on the left. Recreation Room. This is a Coast-to-Coast private resort. Their fee is \$20 per night, and non member adults have to pay a \$4 per day per adult amenity fee. The fee is not optional. So for nonmembers, the fee is \$28 per couple and no tax. C2C members might be totally free. No reservation deposit fee, but they want your credit card number and \$50 cancellation fee for less than 48 hours notice. See <http://www.mountainlakesresort.us> and <http://www.helengeorgia.com>. **Hosts: Ivys and Carpenters**