



Newsletter of the Georgia Mountaineers chapter of FMCA

September 17 - 21, 2008

Mountain Lakes Resort – Horseshoe Trails Campground
Cleveland, GA

Hosts: Barretts and Carpenters

Members camping: Ted & Martha Barrett, Jerry & Dot Carpenter, John & Diane Franklin, Joe & Connie Gallagher, Don & Lois Hardison, John & June Huffman, Mike & Judy Hughes, Earle & Jean Seaverns, Bill & Teri Simpson, Truett & Elaine Swanson, and Brent & Phyllis Danneman from Gainesville, GA, who joined the first of this month. Staying in a resort cabin: Luke & Linda Callas.

Guests camping: Jerry & Laura Eaves and Clifford Eaves from Buchanan, GA (2nd visit).

Visitors: Dot Carpenter's daughter, Debbie and Dot's two granddaughters, Lauren and Robyn joined us for dinner Friday at West's Family Restaurant and stayed until Sunday and Debbie helped cook the pancakes). John & Sandra Long and grandson, Paul (who dropped by for a visit on Saturday afternoon).

Before the official start of the rally on Wednesday, 5 coaches were already parked and the owners were having fun. On Wednesday, 6 more coaches, plus the Callases in a cabin, arrived. For dinner, Ted grilled ribs and a potluck rounded out a great meal at the pavilion. Later in the clubhouse, we had 3 tables of Hand & Foot. During the night, the moon was so bright you could probably have read a large-print Reader's digest out on the deck.

Thursday, great weather continued, so a group gathered on an empty campsite to discuss whatever crossed our minds until time for lunch. Ted grilled hamburgers and hot dogs and we ate leftovers from last night. More lounging in the shade or napping was the order of the rest of the afternoon. For dinner, most went to LaCabana in Helen for Mexican food.

Friday, the Dannemans arrived, making a total of 13 coaches. Several went to Helen or visited State Parks in the area, while others went to pottery or other stores. It was seafood buffet night so dinner was at West Family Restaurant in Cleveland.

Saturday, since there was no meeting scheduled, it was a great day to sleep late and some took advantage of that. Others went to Helen for Octoberfest or antiquing. Not only was Helen celebrating but, in Cleveland, Babyland was celebrating their 25th anniversary, so there was lots to do and see. Meals were eaten in camp, Helen, Cleveland, Turner's Corner, or in the resort's diner. In the afternoon, John & Sandra Long and their grandson dropped by. Glad to see John doing well enough to visit with us after all the heart and kidney problems he's had.

Sunday, the hosts provided a pancake breakfast at the pavilion. We all ate too many, of course.

After breakfast, Ted Barrett made several announcements:

We now have more new members. Joining us are Jerry, Laura, and Clifford Eaves.
Welcome to the Georgia Mountaineers.

James Island rally: There has been a change in the way we can handle reservations/cancellations at James Island County Park. Initially, we were told that we could not substitute someone, that if we did not want to go, we had to cancel our reservation, and it would go to the next any person on the waiting list. Well, things have changed. The process now is we can substitute. After talking to Jack White, this is the process we recommend. If you want to cancel your reservations at James Island, please do not call the campground, but let Jack know. He will coordinate with the campground in getting your name replaced with a Georgia Mountaineer who wants to attend. This will require whoever is taking your place to reimburse you for the one night reservation fee, and turning their reservation package/info over to you. This way, those Georgia Mountaineers who were initially not able to make a reservation, will now possibly be able to attend, if of course some of you have changed your mind and plan on canceling.

Wearing Apparel: We are going to do a second order for wearing apparel and, we are going to allow some different colors. However, before ordering a different color, please order a golf style shirt in Bone first, or a Wind Breaker in Blue. Once you have one of the standard colors that was selected, you are free to order as many different colors as you want. The reason for wanting everyone to have the standard Bone and Blue colors is due to the fact if we decide for everyone to wear their apparel at a specific event, we want them to all have at least one of the same color to wear. So, please review the information previously sent to you and provide your input to Judy Hughes. We do not plan on collecting any money until time of delivery to each member. Also, to ensure everyone is accounted for, if you are not going to purchase anything, please submit a negative email (or phone call if you don't have email). That way, we will know no one has been left out. Appreciate your input by no later than 30 September. I understand some of you have already given Judy your order, but if you have any doubt, you can submit it again.

Sunshine Report: Martha Barrett spoke with Rachael Bargaineer about Charles' progress since surgery for Cervical Laminectomy (Spinal Fusion). Rachael said he was doing so-so, has good and bad days. Charles is still taking medication for pain. The staples were taken out two weeks ago. The doctor said he was coming along fine, that recovery from this type of surgery is slow. He goes back in six weeks for x-rays to see if plates and screws are in the right place. If all is ok, he will then begin physical therapy. Rachael said both she and Charles are concerned about the numbness in his arms and hands. He is taking medication for the nerves in that area and they are hoping when he comes off the medication he will have feeling in that area. In the meantime, numbness is better than pain. If Charles feels up to it, they may come to the Elberton rally. Keep Charles in your thoughts and prayers as he continues to make progress in his recovery.

Devotional was led by John Huffman then everyone departed from this beautiful campground.

Lois Hardison
Corresponding Secretary – Newsletter Editor