

THE MOUNTAINEER



Newsletter of the Georgia Mountaineers chapter of FMCA

March 17 - 21, 2010
Scenic Mountain RV Park – Milledgeville GA
Hosts: Barretts and Carpenters

Members Camping: Carl & LaVerne Abbott, Ted & Martha Barrett, Don & Judy Blanchfield, Jerry & Dot Carpenter, Chris & Stella Christopher, Bill & Pat Denny, Jerry & Laura Eaves, Lowell & Joan Fritsche, John & June Huffman, Bob & Anita Pratt, Janice Schell, George & Dorothy Silver, David & Pat Werdin, and Jack & Chris White. We regret the Conners, Earleys, Franklins, Hardisons, and Sallings had to change their plans and were unable to make the rally.

Members Bob-Tailing: Walt & Marie Quick came in for Friday and Saturday and stayed in the Days Inn.

Visitors Camping: First time visitors were Ray & Barbara Rowe from Ellijay, GA and Jim & Karen Mathis from Fayetteville, GA. Second time visitors were Rob & Mary Hicks, also from Ellijay.

Guests: Additionally we had personal guests Pat & Travis Jackson from Gray, sister and brother-in-law of Martha; and Tommy & Kelly Schell with their sons Matthew and Tripp, from Gray. Tommy is Janice's son. Plus the Eaves' grandson Kane Lewis joined us for dinner at Chuby's. He is a music student at the Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville.

Monday brought to an end the winter season for the Barretts and Carpenters as they arrived at Scenic Mountain RV Park in bright afternoon sunshine and warmer weather than they had seen in months. It was a really nice end to a long and cold winter. Already there were Jack and Chris White, who had been traveling in south Georgia and Florida since New Years. To kick our first local rally off in the right direction, the six members headed to an early dinner at the El Tequila Mexican Grill.

Tuesday morning began with a beautiful blue sky and more sunshine. The rally hosts headed to the grocery stores and returned with 15 pounds of potatoes, 14 pounds of sausage, 13 ½ pounds of large shrimp, many ears of corn and onions, plus the seasoning for the Low Country Boil. Makes one hungry just thinking about it. On their return they found Bill and Pat Denny had arrived in their new 2002 Newmar Dutch Star. Later in the day John and June Huffman arrived and set up. After spending some time catching up on past events and gathering some firewood, it was off to the Margaritas



Mexican Grill for some margaritas and fajitas. On their return, they were treated to some picking and grinning at the clubhouse by some of the local musicians. Next it was time for more catching up and a few tall tales by a nice warm campfire. Magically a bag of marshmallows appeared and Martha and Dot did the honor of roasting marshmallows for the group. There were slightly roasted, char burnt toasted, and lightly tan roasted – a treat for all regardless of your taste. As the bag of marshmallows dwindled and all caught up on news and past events, the fire turned to a pile of glowing embers and it was time to turn in.

Wednesday morning began with a cloudy sky that soon brought fourth a drizzling rain that lasted all day. Most of the members present went different ways for lunch. Afterwards, the afternoon saw the arrival of the Christophers, Eaves, Pratts, Fritsches, Abbotts, Mathises, Hicks, and Rowes. All of them had to park and set up in the light rain. Then it was off to the Margaritas Mexican Grill for dinner, where the group really tested the reality of the grill's name. The food and margaritas were great and we did not get out of there until around 7:30, when we were all late for the gathering at the clubhouse at 7:00 PM. Later back in the clubhouse, we welcomed the visitors, finalized the Trolley Tour, went over the rally agenda, talked about the business meeting, and covered a few other topics before breaking up. By this time the evening was getting on the late side and no one stayed to play Hand and Foot or any other games. Oh, it was determined the Margaritas Mexican Grill was appropriately named.

Thursday began like Wednesday with an all cloudy sky. However, the weather prediction was for clearing skies with a high of 68 degrees. Early in the afternoon, the Werdins and Schells arrived and set up. This day was Trolley Touring day with two tours scheduled – one at 1:00 PM and the other at 2:45 PM. Even after the cancellations, a total of 30 folks had signed up for the tour and all were hoping the weather would cooperate for a nice day. And, the weather did cooperate. It was partly cloudy with the temperature around 68 degrees for the trolley tours.



There are many historical sights in Milledgeville and the trolley tour went by most of them. Afterwards, it was off to Choby's at Little River for a seafood and catfish dinner. Right after arrival, George Silver came in. He was on his way to the campground in the RV, saw the restaurant, and turned in to join us. One of the items on the menu was the Golden All You Can Eat Catfish special for folks over 60. You would not believe the piles of fish bones left on the table as we departed for the campground. For sure and certain there was a hurtin' put on the catfish population. Later at the clubhouse, there was only one game of Hand and Foot with the men winning by a wipeout.

Friday morning began with a beautiful blue sky and the promise of great weather for our Low Country Boil later in the afternoon.

During the day it was off to sight seeing for many and various places for lunch. The Blanchfields and Quicks arrived during the day. Around 3:30 PM there was activity in the clubhouse with the Hosts setting up and getting ready for dinner. By 4:00 PM the large pot was on the cooker and the ingredients were being readied for the pot. By 4:30 the potatoes were in the pot and the Low Country Boil was underway. There were many watchers and helpers in getting everything readied and finished for a feast of potatoes, onions, sausage, corn on the cob, and some very delicious shrimp. After a Blessing by Bill Denny, it was time to eat. Following the feast, it was more Hand and Foot for some, while others spent the evening around a warm and cozy campfire.



Saturday morning was time to sleep in for many prior to the Business Meeting at 10:00 AM. During the meeting there was a plea by John Huffman for volunteers to serve as Hosts for our rallies this year. While some members at the meeting did volunteer, there are still some rallies without a host, including the one next week in Columbus. So, if you have not signed up to host a rally, check out the Rally Schedule on our website and notify John of which rally you would like to host or co-host. Also, we need someone to serve as our Scrapbook Editor. The guidelines for the Scrapbook Editor are posted to our website under Rules and Guidelines. Check them out and notify John if you are willing to serve. Note: you do not have to be a professional, just make the effort to capture some of our memories.

The main topic of the meeting was the discussion and decisions regarding our new website, <http://www.georgiamountaineers.org>. Ted Barrett has agreed to serve as Web Master and he gave a presentation on the history behind having a website and the current cost, construction, and maintenance of our new website. Information was also provided regarding suggestions of posting our Roster and Directory to a password protected Members Only Area. A thorough discussion then followed, with some motions made and passed. The details of the motions will be forthcoming in an email from John Huffman.

After adjournment of the Business Meeting, it was off to Judy's Country Kitchen buffet for a great lunch. If you like country cooking, this is the place to go while in or around Milledgeville. The menu included collard greens, pole beans, peas, beef tips & gravy, fried chicken, green fried tomatoes, a salad bar, and dessert bar with cheesecakes, plus many more items. Later in the evening, it was more Hand and Foot in the clubhouse. The men at one table, being down over 5000 points going into the last hand, came from behind to win by 90 points – what a come back!

Sunday brought to a close another great rally. The weather forecast was for rain and a light rain came and went as the morning progressed. Around 8:30 AM, some of the Mountaineers made their way up to the clubhouse for coffee and pastries and a last chitchat before going home today. Before the devotional by George Silver, Dorothy gave us a good sunshine update on the Earleys who are on their way home from Florida. And, it was also announced that Rob and Mary Hicks

have become our newest members. **Welcome to the Georgia Mountaineers Rob and Mary!** After devotional, it was then time to say our good byes and hit the road. Thankfully, the rain had let up allowing everyone to hookup without getting drenched.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to our members who could not make the rally or had to cancel at the last minute for various health or personal reasons. It was a fun rally, with the Trolley Tour of Milledgeville's historical district being a highlight. Most everyone agreed they would like to come back for another rally here. And, we enjoyed meeting and having our visitors, and hope you will return to be with us again. Next month is Lake Pines in Columbus, Georgia; and, as of this date we do not have any Hosts. So call John Huffman or Jack White and let them know you would like to host our first time visit to Columbus. Also, if you plan on being at Columbus and have not made your reservations, you need to make them now!

Ted Barrett
Substituting for Lois Hardison

RALLY REMINDER:

April: 21st thru 24th Lake Pines CG & RV Park. Columbus, GA. Reservations required 706-561-9675. Directions: From Atlanta, South on I85 about 60 miles to I185, South on I185 to Exit10 (US80) , East on US80 9.5 miles to Garrett Rd., South on Garrett Rd. 0.1 miles to CG on left. From Macon, take US80 about 85 miles west toward Columbus, go south on Garrett Rd 0.1 miles to CG on left. Mention the Ga. Mountaineers when making reservations.

Hosts:

May: 12th thru 15th Coastal Georgia RV Resort. Brunswick, GA. Reservations required. Directions: From I95/Ga.17/25 go N/W on Ga.17/25 to Ocean Highway, go left on Ocean Highway to S Port Parkway, go left on S Port Pkwy to resort on left. Phone; 912-264-3869 for reservations and mention Ga. Mountaineers.

Hosts: Franklin & Pratt

June: 17th thru 20th Cleveland GA Leisure Acres CG Reserv. req. 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). See <http://www.leisureacrescampground.com>

Hosts: White