

THE MOUNTAINEER



Newsletter of the Georgia Mountaineers Chapter of FMCA

October 13 -- 17, 2010 Camp Harmony -- Elberton GA Hosts: Fritsches & Dennys

Camp Harmony is a favorite rally place for some of the Georgia Mountaineers, and we had another great rally this time. Our Co-Hosts had put a lot of effort into the agenda with some tours and special events that were both educational and fun. Plus, the cooking by our special guest Marion Marshall was quite a treat.



Members Camping: Ted & Martha Barrett, Vance & Phyllis Boring, Jerry & Dot Carpenter, Chris & Stella Christopher, Bill & Pat Denny, Lowell & Joan Fritsche, Dennis & Joyce Horcher, John & June Huffman, George & Dorothy Silver, and Jack & Chris White.

Visitors/Guest Camping: Second time visitors Tommy and Angie Coleman from Dawsonville and Ken and Margie Alexander from Demorest. **Tommy and Angie joined at this rally -- welcome to the Georgia Mountaineers.** Special guest Marion Marshall of Augusta brought his smoker and prepared some very delicious dishes of smoked pork, chicken, and beef. Plus, those who climbed out of bed early enough, enjoyed some very good breakfasts.

Wednesday, being the first official day of the rally, resulted in all the attendees having arrived except for the Silvers, who came in on Thursday. Lunch was at various places with some even going as far as Anderson, SC for shopping and lunch. In the afternoon, a good size group had gathered under the shade trees. Although the agenda was open, everyone decided to have pizzas for dinner in the clubhouse. Bill called in the order and Tommy and Angie went into Elberton and picked them up. After dinner, it was Hand & Foot for some, while the others enjoyed the evening around the campfire.



Thursday morning began a tour of a local granite factory that specializes in kitchen and bathroom counter tops and similar home interior items. The group was able to see computerized diamond saws and high pressure water jets do some laser beam accurate cutting of granite slabs. The water jets operate at 55,000 PSI and can cut through most anything. Elberton is the Granite Capitol of Georgia and maybe the world. However, Georgia granite is normally used only for monuments and such, as it is quite porous. So, the granite used for countertops and most interior



applications is imported from other parts of the world. After the tour, it was off to various places for lunch. The afternoon saw many gather under the shade trees. Our special guest, Marion, arrived mid afternoon and began setting up his smoker and other utensils. Soon the aroma of smoked Boston Butts filled the air. At 5 PM, it was time to enjoy a dinner of BBQ, baked beans, and coleslaw. Some were seen going back for seconds and thirds. After dinner it was time for more games of Hand & Foot and the warmth of a nice campfire in the cool air of the evening.



Friday began with an early breakfast of grits, eggs, and sausage prepared by Marion and our hosts. Then it was off to the Elbert Theater for a video about the history of Elbert County and Elberton. Before the video we were welcomed by the mayor of Elberton, who gave us a little history on the Elbert Theater itself. Next on the agenda was a visit to the Nancy Hart Historical Park. We were met by Nancy herself, along with her muzzle loader, from the 1770's. She gave us a little history of the War of Independence and her encounter with the English Tories. Her role in the war earned her name of War Woman by the local Indians. From there it was back to Elberton and lunch on the Square. At 2 PM, it was time to tour the Granite Museum in downtown Elberton. From the tour of the granite factory yesterday, the video on Elberton, and the tour of the museum, it is easy to see how and why Elberton can claim the title as Granite Capitol of the World. At 5 PM, it was back to the clubhouse and a feast of smoked chicken with some great peach cobbler and ice cream. Before dinner, Marion had already put the beef brisket in the smoker to smoke all night for dinner Saturday evening. After dinner, the Hand & Foot games were split by the men winning at one table and the women winning at the other one. Tommy and Angie played their first game of Hand & Foot and did great. Those not playing were back outside for another evening around the campfire



Saturday morning began with another great breakfast. This time it was grits & shrimp, bacon, and muffins. For those that slept in, they missed a good one. Soon after breakfast, it was time for the business meeting, the main purpose of which was to elect officers for next year. The proposed nominees presented by the Nominating Committee were nominated and there were no nominations from the floor. This resulted in the following officers being elected.

Elected Officers and Executive Board

President --- Bill Denny
First Vice-President --- Van Armstrong
Second Vice-President/Wagon Master --- Jack White
Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter Editor --- LaVerne Abbott
Recording Secretary --- Miriam Armstrong
Treasurer --- Diane Franklin
National Director --- Mike Hughes
Alternate National Director --- Don Blanchfield

Congratulations to all the newly elected officers. They will be installed at the November Rally and take office immediately after installation. Also, it is great to see so many of our newer members agreeing to serve in these important positions. It is definitely a sign of the future strength of our Chapter. In addition to the elected officers, the following members listed below have agreed to serve in the identified positions. Although not elected, these are also key positions for our Chapter and their work and dedication is also appreciated.

Volunteer Appointed Positions

Devotional Leader --- George Silver
Scrap Book Editor --- Laura Eaves
Sheriff --- Bob Bielemeier
Sunshine Reporter --- Dorothy Silver
Web Master --- Ted Barrett



After the business meeting, some went sight seeing or shopping, while others went somewhere for lunch. Noon time also saw the departure of Marion. He did a great job as Master Smoker and we owe him a great big **THANK YOU!** A few skipped lunch and kept the campfire warm in the brisk afternoon. **Well -- I guess you can keep the campfire warm while sleeping.** Around 5:30 PM, it was back to the clubhouse for a dinner of



beef brisket, green beans, cheese & macaroni, and a seven layer salad. After dinner, most of the group went to the Elbert Theater for a wonderful rendition of the *Beverly Hillbillies*. A few stayed behind to watch the NASCAR race in Charlotte.

Sunday morning it was coffee time with muffins before our devotional. A little after 9:00 AM, we had a short devotional by George Silver. Then it was time to say our goodbyes and, except for a few staying over to Monday, hit the road on the way home. **A Great Big THANK YOU goes to our Co-Hosts, the Fritsches and Dennys --They did a great job!**

Announcements:

Number 1: As of the business meeting, we only had eight signed up for the Christmas Luncheon and 17 membership renewals. So you need to get your check sent in to Judy. We usually have a very large turn out for the Christmas Luncheon. This year everyone is to bring an unwrapped gift for a child. The age range is from baby to 15 years.

Number 2: It has been recommended that we send our membership dues of \$6.00 per person to Judy Hughes by the end of October so accounting can be done prior to change of officers in November. So now is a good time to send in your dues along with your money for the Christmas Luncheon.

Ted Barrett
Substituting for Lois Hardison

RALLY REMINDER:

November: 17th thru 20th **River Country Campground. Gadsden, AL.** Reser Req.
Directions: From junction of US-411 & US-278 go south on US-411 1.1 miles to River Road, go left 0.5 miles to campground. Reservations: 256-543-7111 Mention the Ga. Mountaineers
Hosts: Horchers, Gills, & Broadys

December: **Christmas Luncheon: 10th December 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM Smith House, 84 South Chestatee St, Dahlonaga, GA.** \$20 per person include meal, tax & gratuity. Fried Chicken, Baked Ham, Assortment of Vegetables, Rolls & Corn Bread, Drinks & Dessert.
Hosts: Christophers & Longs