

THE MOUNTAINEER



Newsletter of the Georgia Mountaineers Chapter of FMCA

April 17 -- 21, 2013
Coastal Georgia RV Resort
Brunswick GA
Hosts: Williams and Barretts



Coastal Georgia RV Resort is a very nice, clean, and beautiful Resort. It is all pavement, grass, flower beds, and small trees with a large, well equipped pavilion down at the edge of the lake, on the back side of the resort. And, word had gotten

around as to how nice Coastal Georgia really is. The first time we were here four years ago, there were only a few other RV's in the campground other than our rally attendees. Last year when we were here, the campground was full and this year it was full again. If visiting this area, this is the place to stay. It is just off I-95 Exit-29.

Members Camping: Ted & Martha Barrett, Linda Callas, Len & Pat Corley, Don & Peggy Crump, Ed & Patricia Durrence, Rob Hicks, Paul & Madonna Holko, John & June Huffman, Virginia Jackson, Fred & Shirley Lee, John & Sandra Long, Jim & Karen Mathis, Ray Rowe, Martin & Juanita Wellborn, Willard & Sue Swanson, and Jack & Chris White.

Visitors Camping: Greg & Rose Zaic from Ball Ground, Marie Lester from Flowery Branch, Randy & Yvonne Tyson from Monroe, Garry & Mary Yaffe from Martinez, and George & Rita Gillin from Tarpon Springs, Florida. Plus second time visitors Dave & Brenda Dillon from Atlanta, who joined our Chapter at this rally.



Monday morning brought beautiful clearing skies after the rain that covered the state of Georgia on Sunday when the Barretts and Lees arrived. During the day Ray Rowe with his guest Rob Hicks came in, followed later by Jack & Chris White, Linda Callas & Marie Lester, Ed & Young Williams, Len & Pat Corley, and Jim & Karen Mathis. Following an afternoon of greeting and catching up on recent news, a group of fourteen went to Captain Joe's Seafood Restaurant for dinner. They seated us in a separate room and the seafood and service was great. Then it was back to the RV park and tall tales around a campfire. Rob and Mary Hicks have sold their motorhome and are transitioning from being members to Friends of the Chapter -- therefore the **Odd Couple** of Ray and Rob. With the arrival of eight coaches, the pre-rally fun had begun.

Tuesday morning we awoke to very blue clear skies and a beautiful day. Most folks went their various ways with lunch at different places. For the Hosts, it was grocery shopping for the week's events. Included in the booty were 10 boxes of frozen hamburgers and several packs of wieners for Friday night's grilled dinner at the pavilion. The return to the RV park saw the arrival of Ed & Patricia Durrence, John & Sandra Long, Dave & Brenda Dillon, Randy & Yvonne Tyson, Willard & Sue Swanson, Martin & Juanita Wellborn, Virginia Jackson, and Paul & Madonna Holko. This brought the total number of coaches up to sixteen with more to arrive tomorrow. Many of the group went to Zachry's for dinner and luck was with them as they arrived and were served just before two tour buses came in. That evening some elected to play Hand & Food in the clubhouse while others enjoyed another campfire by the pavilion. Chris did her usual good job of keeping the fire going with her poker.

Wednesday began with some local site seeing with lunch again in various places. The afternoon saw the arrival of John & June Huffman and Don & Peggy Crump (in their new Freedom Elite). At 3 PM there was a Meet & Greet at the Pavilion. Ted introduced the visitors who were present and Karen introduced the officers that were present. Ed then went over the Rally Agenda. Afterwards it was time for a snack of cookies, crackers, cheese, and milk. About the time the Meet and Greet broke up, our visitors Greg & Rose Zaic and George & Rita Gillin arrived. Geore and Rita are on their way to Pennsylvania and decided to stop in Brunswick and visit with us on their way up. At 5:35 PM it was caravan time to Cilantros Grill & Cantina, which you guessed it, is a Mexican restaurant. From all the feedback, everyone had a very good dinner. A few even had a margarita that may have been just a little too big, but at least they were not driving. Back at the RV park, it was again time for Hand & Foot in the clubhouse and due to the high winds, a



fire in the pavilion fireplace. Chris did her magic again with her fire poker. As the fire died down later in the evening, the day came to a close and everyone when back to their coach and turned in.

Thursday morning begin partly cloudy, a nice condition for Shuffle Board and Horse Shoes down at the pavilion. However it wasn't long before some of the players had to fish one of the horseshoes out of the lake. And, they did not even get any points for it. After the



games, the group spread out to various places for lunch and many went site seeing at Jekyll Island. Some visited the historical district, others visited the Turtle Center, and all other areas of the island including the beaches and fishing pier. However, there were only two turtles at the center.

Also visited was Fort Frederica, established in 1736 by [James Oglethorpe](#) to protect the southern boundary of his new colony of Georgia from the Spanish in Florida. Colonists from England, Scotland, and the Germanic states came to Georgia to support this endeavor. Named for [Frederick Louis](#), the Prince of Wales (1702-1754), Frederica was a military outpost consisting of a fort and town. The entire area was fortified with a palisade wall and earthen rampart. The fort's location on the Frederica River allowed it to control ship travel. This fort was the key to winning the dispute between the Spanish and British as to Georgia being British territory.



Later in the day it was time to meet at the Driftwood Bistro for dinner. This was our fourth trip to the bistro, and as usual the food was great. Orders included Stuffed Flounder, Yankee Pot Roast, Blacken Fish, Fried Shrimp, and Pork Loin among the many items on the

menu. If you are ever on the island, this is the place to eat. Back at the campground, the evening was spent again playing Hand & Foot or enjoying a nice campfire and s'mores at the pavilion.



Friday morning we had a good many leave at 9:30 AM for a tour of the old Brunswick City Hall and visit to historic downtown Brunswick. The City Hall was built around 1889 at a cost of \$33,000. It underwent a restoration in 2002 at a cost of \$2.5 million - - times have surely changed. Also visited was the Glynn County Courthouse built in 1907, which sits in the middle of a colorful garden and unusual trees along with some Live Oaks. Lunch was at the unique little bar and grill named Topsy McSways. Topsy is a fictional character all in the mind of the owner, Susan Bates. Later in the afternoon,

it was back to the pavilion for a hamburger and hotdog cookout. Everyone brought a side dish or dessert. John Long blessed the food and the feast began with the forecasted rain holding off until after the meal. After eating and clean up, there was a little game of Trivia about movies. Randy Tyson was the winner by a large margin. Even though it was raining, the campfire folks were not to be denied. The pavilion has a fireplace and they had a roaring fire going in no time. Oh, not to be forgotten, sometime mid-afternoon our last arrivals, Garry and Mary Yaffe came in and setup in plenty of time for the cookout. They brought the total number of coaches in attendance to 21.

Saturday morning is usually sleep in time for some and with the morning rain, this one was no different. It rained most of the night and the temperature had dropped dramatically. However, lunch was on the agenda, so later in the morning folks began to stir and you could hear the sound of heaters running in most of the coaches. Lunch at the Ole Time Country Buffet was great. There was large selection of vegetables along with pork, chicken, and fish. After lunch it was still quite cool, which brought an end to some site seeing plans. Some stayed in their coach, others play Hand & Foot, while others sat around the warm cozy fire in the fire place, which continued into the evening.

Sunday morning it was coffee, pastries, and English muffins at the pavilion. However, due to the long drive back, some left early to get a head start. The rest of us braved the blustering winds and enjoyed the hot coffee on this cool morning. Around 9:15 AM, we had a short devotional by John Long. 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 Williams and Barretts.** This was a first time event for Ed and Young and they did a great job! In closing, we want to thank our Visitors for attending our Rally. We hope you had a good time and will come back again. **And Dave and Brenda, WELCOME to the Georgia Mountaineers.** We also thank Earl Perry for his hospitality, the firewood, and for building a great RV Resort.

Editorial: As writer of our newsletter this month, I am taking liberty to write an editorial. These are strictly my thoughts and not necessarily those of any of our elected officers. If you look at our Rally Schedule, there are three rallies, plus the Christmas Luncheon, **without any Rally Hosts**. This requires corrective action by our members. Our Chapter and its activities do not run by themselves. It takes support from our members -- and hosting rallies is one of those requirements. With that said, the Rally Hosts are really not required to do a lot. **The main responsibilities of the Hosts are to secure and manage the Club House, greet the Visitors, and make Sunday morning coffee.** Other than that, they are free to do as little or as much as they desire. They do not have to prepare any meals -- only if they want to, and if the facility has the kitchen/grill or whatever for them to do so. You certainly don't have to keep up with the Jones. Just give the Jones a break when they are not hosting. And as for Sunday morning coffee, if you don't know how to prepare it, there is usually someone at each rally that will be more than happy to set the coffee pots up Saturday night, so all that has to be done Sunday morning is plug them in. So, if **YOU** have not hosted a rally lately, now may be your time. The Rally Guidelines are posted to our website. Print a copy, review them, get another member friend to co-host with you; and, then notify our Wagon Master, Jack White, today and let him know which rally you will be hosting this year.

Also our Christmas Luncheon does not have any hosts -- another item that requires corrective action. The main requirement of hosting the Christmas Luncheon is to find a place and coordinate the luncheon with them. Whoever hosts the luncheon gets to pick the location. You do not even have to collect the money, that is done by our Treasurer, who will keep you updated as to the number of attendees. At past Christmas Luncheons, our hosts arranged for a gift swap. But for the last few years, they have arranged for us to give to a charity. Again as hosts, if you decide to do this, you get to pick the charity. So get together with your friends and let Jack know you will host our Christmas Luncheon.

Announcements:

Number 1: Remember, if driving through Atlanta, as long as you have at least two people in your RV, you are legal to use the HOV Lane. It is about two feet wider than the other lanes and very easy to maneuver. And in the middle to the city north of the Capitol where I-75 and I-85 split, you don't need to get out of the HOV Lane as they have their own exits for the split. It is recommended that both riders in the RV be in view up front, not one laying down on the sofa or bed.

Number 2: For those attending next month's rally in Dillard, remember to bring your photos for the Photo Contest. See Karen's email of 7 April, or go to our website Message Board and see the Photo Contest entry.

Ted Barrett
Substituting for Jeanie Baer

RALLY REMINDER:

May: 15th thru 18th **River Vista Mountain Village.** Dillard GA Reservations Required. 888-850-7275 Directions: From jct of US 441 and Sr 246. Go east .7 mi on GA-246. Enter on right. See <http://www.rvmountainvillage.com>.

Hosts: Mathises & Greulichs

June: 19th thru 22nd **Leisure Acres Campground.** Cleveland GA Reservations Required. 888-748-6344. Directions: S-bound from Cleveland, From jct of US-129 and SR-115 S 3.8 miles to Westmoreland Rd, west 0.5 mi (L). Or N-bound From Clermont N on US 129 to jct of US-129 and Westmoreland Road (2.8 mi N of Jct of US-129 and SR-254) W 0.5 mi on Westmoreland Road (L). See <http://www.leisureacrescampground.com>

Hosts: Carpenters, Armstrongs, & Williams

July: 17th thru 20th **Cove Creek RV Resort.** Sevierville/Pigeon Forge TN, 2293 Wears Valley Rd. Reservations Required. 865-429-7716. Directions: From Pigeon Forge TL #3 approx 8 miles south off Wears Valley Road, after seven miles look for Robeson Road on your left, then a sign that says "Bear Camp Grill" once you see that sign be prepared to turn left into the resort. From Townsend, approx 7 miles north after US-321 separates from SR-73. See <http://www.covecreekrvresort.com> **Hosts: Bielemeiers & Silvers**

August: 14th thru 17th **Mountain View RV Resort.** Blairsville GA. Reservations Required. 706-835-1111. Directions: 136 Mountain Creek Road. Approx 2.5 miles west of town off Blue Ridge Highway, south of airport. See <http://www.georgiamtnviewrvresort.com> **Hosts:**