

THE MOUNTAINEER



Newsletter of the Georgia Mountaineers Chapter of FMCA

August 14 - 18, 2013
Mountain View RV Resort
Blairsville, Georgia
Hosts: Gallaghers and Zaics

Members camping: Alexanders, Baers, Barretts, Linda Callas, Crumps, Dillons, Gallaghers, Holkos, Virginia Jackson, Marie Lester, Longs, Sconyers, Swansons (Willard and Sue), Whites, and Zaics

First Time Visitors: Ron and Doris Lewis from Athens, GA

The Mountain View RV Resort is located just outside of Blairsville. The sites are paved and well spaced. The meeting room is small, but accommodated our group without a problem.



Wednesday:

At 2:30 the hosts provided a nice “meet and greet”. There was a fine array of cheese, meat, crackers and brownies. Connie made several announcements about the rally schedule and gave directions to the various events.

The location for dinner had changed to a new Mexican restaurant in town called El Manzanillo. Just as we were about to order, our guests, Ron and Doris Lewis arrived and were able to join us. It was nice to meet them and everyone enjoyed their meals.

Thursday:

What a beautiful day Thursday turned out to be. The sun was shining and the temperature was near perfect. We headed out for our first planned activity which was a demonstration of metal sculpture/welding. Butch Dey allowed us to come to his place of business and watch as he created his “works of art”. He



demonstrated different techniques and told us interesting facts about the methods he uses. He said that when he makes something like a bacon press that will come into contact with food, he coats it with beeswax as that is non-toxic. His creations are for sale and he displays them at flea markets/farmers markets in the area.

Lunch was on our own. Dinner was at the Rib Country. As usual the food was great. Several had the ribs and the term “excellent” was used to describe them.

Friday:

The morning started out cool and cloudy. Very light rain came down throughout the morning. Different groups took off on their own for breakfast. The early risers went to Blairsville Restaurant and the late risers took off for the Saw Mill Place restaurant. Since I was a member of the late risers, I can tell you that the meal at the Saw Mill Place was very good and the prices amazingly low. We felt that this later breakfast might hold us over until our dinner meal. Some of our members had not yet satisfied their appetite for Mexican and headed out for lunch at another Mexican restaurant in town.

After breakfast, several members took in the local flea market in town. Others headed for Alexander’s country store. It is a huge store with about anything that anyone could ever want. I’m sure that many of our members made purchases.

At 1:30 we all met at the Misty Mountain Model Railroad. The project was created by Charles Griffin as a labor of love for his grandchildren and turned into a treasure that has been enjoyed by thousands over the years. It is the largest privately owned 0-gauge train display. Fourteen trains travel over a mile in a 4,000 square foot layout that is a fantasy journey through the southern Appalachian Mountains. A \$5.00 fee per person was charged. All of the proceeds are donated to charity. It was an awesome display of dedication to a love of trains.



Dinner was at Steve’s Steak House. Most of the group opted for the buffet. It contained a large food selection, was hot, tasty and reasonably priced. A few

people ordered steaks and the rib eye steak was delicious. We were delighted to have former Mountaineers, Chuck and Aliene Conner join us for dinner.

Saturday: Our business meeting began at 10:00. Although our president, Karen, was not able to attend the rally, she made a special trip up to run the business meeting. Since Carl Abbott was on the nominating committee, but could not attend the rally, he and LaVerne did come for the meeting. Others that came especially for the meeting were John and June Huffman and Dennis and Joyce Horcher. LaVerne agreed to take the minutes as Miriam was unable to attend. The minutes will cover the reports that were given at the meeting. Carl gave a list of nominations of officers that will be on the ballot in October. They are as follows:

President – Ed Williams
First Vice President – Carl Abbott
Second Vice President/Wagon Master – Jack White
Treasurer – Con Crump
Recording Secretary – Patricia Durrence
National Director – Jim Mathis
Alternate National Director – Jerry Eaves
Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter Editor – Irene McKeller
Scrapbook Editor – Sandra Long
Sheriff – Bob Bielemeier
Sunshine Reporter – Karen Mathis
Devotional Leader – Ray Rowe
Webmaster – Ted Barrett

Dinner was at the campground. The campground owner grilled the most delicious pork chops. Everyone brought a dish to share. As usual, the food was great and there were almost no duplicates. Virginia brought her famous pies which disappeared quickly.



Sunday:

The hosts provided pastries, coffee and orange juice. We had a guest speaker to give us the devotions. His name was John Davis. He and his family are involved in the Osprey Ministries Education (OME). OME is a non-profit organization dedicated to empowering learners, building knowledge, and promoting character while spreading the love of God at home and around the world. They minister to Native Americans/First Nations, Haiti and Uganda.

As usual, during the week a few people played cards in the clubhouse. Since the weather had turned cool, the campfire group had a great time roasting marshmallows and sharing stories.

The hosts did a wonderful job at this rally with several very special activities. We thank them for their efforts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Check Shutterfly for pictures that have been taken at the rally.



UPCOMING RALLYS:

September: 18th thru 21th River Bend Campground. Hiawassee, GA, Reservations required 706-896-1415. Directions: From Hiawassee, jct of US-76 & GA-17/75 go south on GA-17/75 to Streak Hill Road, go left on Streak Hill Road to CG on right. From Helen, go North on GA-17/75 about 16 miles to Streak Hill Road, go right on Streak Hill Road <http://www.riverbendcamping.com>
Hosts: Whites and Longs

October: 16th thru 19th Great Outdoors RV Resort. Franklin, NC. Reservations required 828-349-0412. Directions: From Franklin take US 441/23 north five miles, then left on Echo Valley Road, then an immediate right onto Thumpers Trail <http://www.gorvresort.com>
Hosts: Alexanders and Crumps

Jean Baer
Corresponding Secretary – Newsletter Editor