

THE MOUNTAINEER



Newsletter of the Georgia Mountaineers Chapter of FMCA

July 15-19, 2015

**Cove Creek RV Resort
Sevierville, TN**

**Hosts: Hubert & Marsha
Brown**

Ted & Martha Barrett



Cove Creek RV Resort is a lovely campground, nestled in the Smoky Mountains, just eight miles from the Parkway in Pigeon Forge. We were scattered throughout the campground, so each of us had different views of the creek, the mountains, the covered bridge, and the swimming pool. There are, literally, hundreds of things to do in this area, and we were not far from most of the entertainment and restaurants.

Members Camping: Ken & Margie Alexander, Ted & Martha Barrett, Bob & Eva Bielemeiers, Chris & Stella Christopher, Don & Peggy Crump, David & Brenda Dillon, Ed & Patricia Durrence, Paul & Madonna Holko, Virginia Jackson, Ron & Doris Lewis, Elwood & Sharon Miller, Kathie & Mike Newton, Jack & Millie O'Donovan, Jack & Chris White, Martin & Juanita Wellborne. The Browns made arrangements for our agenda, but found it necessary to miss the rally. We thank them for their excellent preparation for our rally, and give our thanks and appreciation also, to Ted & Martha, for setting up for our Meet & Greet and Devotional, and leading our caravans to each restaurant and the theater.

Agnews

Strubles

Visitors Camping:

Second Time Visitors:

Ron & Belinda Agnew of Winder, Georgia, and Vince & Jan Struble.



The Agnews joined our chapter at this rally.

Welcome to the Georgia Mountaineers, Ron & Belinda!

Monday: With the temperatures in the high 90's, the day brought several arrivals including Ted & Martha Barrett, Bob & Eva Bielemeier, David & Brenda Dillon, Ed & Patricia Durrence, Elwood & Sharon Miller, and Jack & Millie O'Donovan. We spent some time checking out the damage done to the Barrett's coach, after a "run-in" with a couple of deer. The headlight was missing, and wires were visible! Ted did some "Duct Tape Repair", before leaving camp for home, but the true repair involves creating a new front panel for the coach. (Remember that this is a woman's description! You men will have to chat with Ted for the "technical" jargon. ☺)

Tuesday: We had unbelievable lighting in a thunderstorm on this morning, however the skies were sunny and clear by noon, when a few more coaches arrived. Jack & Chris arrived, after having trouble with one of their slides, as they were leaving Cleveland. The weather on this day was again, hot & extremely humid, which brought another storm overnight. From 12:30 until 3:00 AM, there was a steady barrage of thunder, lightning, and torrents of rain, pelting our coaches. Thank goodness, the next dawning brought back the sunny skies for the remainder of our rally.

Wednesday: More coaches arrived today, several checking in as our Meet and Greet began. (Ken & Margie Alexander, Martin & Juanita Wellborn) The rally officially began today at 2:30 PM. when we gathered for the Meet & Greet. Ted Barrett welcomed everyone, and gave information about the agenda and changes. He also introduced and welcomed our Second Time Visitors, Ron & Belinda Agnew of Winder, Georgia, (who had visited the rally in Chattanooga,) and Vince & Jan Struble. We reviewed our agenda and changes, then submitted our ticket money for our "Country Tonite" presentation on Friday. We then, prepared to meet again at 5:15, for the caravan to **Carriage House Restaurant** in Townsend, for dinner.

After dinner, back at the campground, there was a fire in the fire pit, behind the clubhouse while a game of "Hand and Foot" continued inside.



Thursday: We woke to another beautiful day, with the temperature in the high 90's. A 10:30 brunch at the **Golden Corral** in Pigeon Forge, was the only scheduled gathering on this day, the campers took this opportunity to visit various sites in the area. Some shopped at the Tanger Mall (mostly women), while others drove to Cade's Cove. Cades Cove is the most visited area of [Great Smoky Mountains National Park](#).

David and I did a quick tour of "Dollywood." We heard outstanding musical performances while there, and took a tour of Dolly's Touring Bus.



Thursday evening, we met for cards inside the clubhouse, or gathered around the fire pit outside, for conversation. The temperatures were cooler during this evening. It was a most relaxing day.

Friday: Another gorgeous day greeted us on this morning. We met at the **Applewood Farmhouse Restaurant** for lunch at 11:30, where we were immediately served homemade apple butter, Applewoods apple fritters, and Applewood's julep (orange/apple juice.) The fritters were so delicious, that I ate fritters for breakfast several mornings at camp.

After lunch, we had "free time" on our agenda, until our trip to the theater for "Country Tonite" at 7:15 PM. Our members filled the seven intervening hours with shopping (Doris and Jan ☺), touring, walking, resting, chatting, and even dining again. Vince Struble, David Dillon, and Ron Lewis decided to play some golf at the Gatlinburg Golf Course. The temperatures were reaching 100, but they still enjoyed the game!

These men are looking for other golfers in the Mountaineers. Let them know if you're interested.



We left the campground before 7:00 PM, hoping that the Pigeon Forge traffic would not make us tardy for the performance at **Country Tonite**. We did not see the usual Country Tonite crew. We saw **Patty Waszak's American Oldies Show**, with Patty, who plays several instruments, Kenny Evans, an evangelist and entertainer (beautiful tenor voice), an "Elvis Presley" impressionist, and "Red Skelton", who was perfectly played, down to the giggle! Ed Durrence told us that Kenny Evans has performed/preached at his church, so some of you may have seen him before. A few of our campers were invited on stage to dance during Patty's rendition of Michael Jackson's "Rockin' Robin". ☺

Martha Virginia Patricia Brenda



It was a wonderful evening of singing, toe-tapping, and great memories of music of our past!

Saturday: The Holkos left early this morning, needing to return home due to the death of their son's dog. The Strubles pulled out, also. Today, some of our members toured Cades Cove, while others shopped or rested, because agenda called for "free time" until dinner at **Logan's Roadhouse** at 5:00 PM. We had a delicious meal, and enjoyed chatting with our dinner partners. (I had planned to try the Mexican restaurant that Ted had visited before the rally (**Villa Zapata**), but could never find a moment when I was actually "hungry!"

For this evening, we returned to the campfire and cards. The temperature had cooled down enough, that Chris White wore a sweater to keep warm at the campfire.

Hosts: Ted & Martha Barrett



Sunday: The weather was beautiful as we gathered at the clubhouse for coffee, pastries, and donuts. We began our meeting a little earlier, because the clubhouse was being used by a congregation, which is building their church next door to the Resort. After a time of socialization and snacks, Jack White led us in prayer. Then it was time to say our goodbyes, and except for a few staying over til Monday, travel to our homes, or other wonderful places.

*~ We send our thoughts, prayers, and hugs to those of our members ~
who are ill, recovering from surger, or are still in the hospital.*

RALLY REMINDER:

August: 19th thru 22nd River Vista RV Resort. Dillard GA, 20 River Vista Dr. Reser Req. 706-746-2722. Directions: From Clayton go north on US-23/US-441, north of Dillard turn right on GA-246, go 1.5 mile, on the right. See <http://www.rvmountainvillage.com> Hosts: Alexanders & Crumps

September: 16th thru 19th River Bend Campground. Hiawasse GA. Reser Req. 706-896-1415. Directions: From Hiawasse, jct of US-76 & GA-17/75 go south on GA-17/75 to Streak Hill Rd., 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. See <http://www.riverbendcamping.com> Hosts: Newtons

October: 21st thru 24th Great Outdoors RV Resort. Franklin NC. Reser Req. 828-349-0412. Directions: From Franklin take US 441/23 north five miles, then left on Echo Valley Rd., then an immediate right onto Thumpers Trail. See <http://www.gorvresort.com> Hosts: Longs & Whites

Brenda Dillon, Newsletter Editor