

THE MOUNTAINEER



Newsletter of the Georgia Mountaineers Chapter of FMCA

**May 18-22, 2016
Bald Mountain Camping Resort
Hiawassee, GA**

**Hosts: Harry & Linda Sasser
and Ken & Margie Alexander**

Bald Mountain Camping Resort is a very large campground/resort claiming to be the largest RV resort in North Georgia. There are also cabins for rent. It is nestled at the base of the mountains where you have an awesome view of Brasstown Bald from the campground. This is Georgia's tallest point/peak. The campground has a lake and a creek in it. The creek, lake and mountains add ambiance to the resort. The campground is 3.5 miles out off Fodder Creek Road outside of Hiawassee.



Members Camping: Ken & Margie Alexander, Van & Miriam Armstrong, Raymond & Donna Birt, Dorris & Ethel Carpenter, Don & Peggy Crump, Ed & Patricia Durrence, Virginia Jackson, Jerry & Irene McKellar, Harry & Linda Sasser, Willard & Sue Swanson, Greg & Rose Zaic, and Jack White.

First and Second Time Visitors: There were no visitors at this Rally.

Guests: Marie Lester, sister of Linda Sasser and their friend Sandy Hill joined us for lunch at Brasstown Valley Resort in Young Harris, Georgia on Friday. Patricia Voyna of Conyers, GA visited us as FMCA Georgia Regional Vice President of Southeast Area on Saturday. During her visit she provided some useful/helpful information on the FMCA organization as a whole. This was Patricia's first time visiting with us and we were glad to welcome her and hope to see her again soon

Sunday: The Durrences and Swansons arrived in the resort today to start a week of fun and fellowship.

Monday: On Monday Jack White, Dorris & Ethel Carpenter, and Jerry & Irene McKellar arrived at Bald Mountain Camping Resort to some cooler temperatures. It started raining during the night and at times very hard. Some tried out Daniels Steak House for Dinner. We have a total of 5 coaches that are here for the week at this point.

Tuesday: It was raining when we awoke on Tuesday morning but it cleared out later in the morning. The temperatures were in the low 70's today. The day brought the arrival of Van & Miriam Armstrong as well as Raymond and Donna Birt. Now we are up to 7 coaches today. I understand some of the group went to Murphy, NC to check out Harrah's and also tried out Brothers for Dinner. Some of the group went to Georgia Mountain Restaurant for Dinner. Others went to Cleveland, Blairsville, Brasstown Bald, and Alexander's Store during the day. Fun was had by all.

Wednesday: This morning was a beautiful mountain morning. Several people walked around the lake and park. The Sassers, Alexanders, Crumps, Zaics, and Virginia Jackson arrived today making it a total of 12 coaches for the week. The rally officially kicked off today at 3:00 p.m. under the porch of the Park Pavilion. We had refreshments of grapes, cheese, chips, salsa, granola, pimento cheese, popcorn, tea, soft drinks, water and more. Donna Birt had made each of the ladies a scrubber that had been crocheted around the edge in the shape of a flower that was in different colors. Thank you to Donna for the scrubber gifts. A packet that included an agenda and several brochures of the area was on the table for each coach. Everyone went to Al's Pizza Buffet for Dinner. In the evening, there was a campfire going, a Hand & Foot card game and also a Fast Track game.



Thursday: Today was a free day so some of the group used today to sight see while others stayed around the campground. Some ventured up to Murphy to Harrah's. It was in the 60's today which was a cooler than it had been. All of the group met at 5:30 at Daniels Steak House where they have a Buffet. Most of the group had the Buffet which included Fried Chicken, Ribs, vegetables, salad and dessert. It was very good. Again, in the evening, there was a Hand and Foot card game and also a Fast Track game going.



Friday: We woke up to cooler temperature this morning. The group caravanned to Brasstown Valley Resort for Soup, Salad, hot pasta bar and dessert bar. Some ordered off of the menu. On the hot pasta bar you told the chef what ingredients you wanted with choices of chicken, shrimp, scallops or sausage for the meat. There were several choices of vegetables with a choice of marinara, alfredo or pesto for the sauce to build your hot pasta dish. We had a room for our group. Marie Lester and friend Sandy Hill joined us for lunch and it was very nice to see Marie out and about again.



We celebrated Linda Sasser's 29th birthday with a cake and song. A good time was had by all. It was a rainy afternoon that we were free to explore on our own. Some ventured up to Murphy to check out Harrah's. Some came back to camp and rested. The fire was started but the rain just wouldn't let it continue. In the clubhouse we had a game of Fast track. We shared the pavilion with the Good Sam Club and they had a game of Hand and Foot going and also Mexican Train Dominoes. Some of our group went to the Planetarium for an 8 p.m. show.



Saturday: Jack White and Willard & Sue Swanson left early this morning. Happy Birthday Mr. Willard!! We were free to explore today until 5:30. People went in different directions today. I saw two out playing Frisbee on the grass! Some went to the Farmers Market in Dillard. Some went to Tallulah Falls.

Later we gathered for a Dinner of Hot Dogs and Pulled Pork BBQ with fixings and desserts at the Pavilion.



We were privileged to have Patricia Voyna, FMCA Georgia Regional Vice President of Southeast Area come and speak to our group and have Dinner with us tonight. She had information pamphlets from FMCA on FMCA Assist and FMCA Member Benefits and others for people to pick up to use as a recruiting tool for FMCA. Her motor home is in the shop but she will come and camp with us sometime. We enjoyed her visit and a nice time was had by all! We had a Fast Track game going after Dinner and shared the pavilion with the Good Sam campers.



Sunday: We met at 9:00 a.m. for coffee and pastries at the pavilion. We had a devotional by Ethel Carpenter. Ken Alexander told us that Margie fell Saturday night tripping over a speed bump and was in the Gainesville Hospital. The Alexander's are in our prayers and thoughts and we wish for Margie a speedy recovery. We then said our goodbyes and we departed for our respective homes. Hope everyone had safe travels home and we will see you in June at Cleveland.



A Great Big **THANK YOU** goes to our Co-Hosts Harry & Linda Sasser and Ken & Margie Alexander. We enjoyed the rally very much.

**Irene McKellar,
Substituting for Martha Barrett,
Newsletter Editor**

Editors Note: Again, I want to say a special Thank You to Irene for writing the newsletter in my absence. Ted and I truly appreciate the support from everyone that allowed us to take this wonderful trip to Utah. We will be back for hosting our Cleveland Rally.

Announcements: We still need a host and co-host for the Chattanooga Rally July 27th thru 30th. We also need a co-host for River Visa at Dillard GA on Sept 14th thru 17th. We will have a business meeting at Leisure Acres on Saturday June 18th. We will also have a Low Country Boil in Cleveland so get your reservations in early.

RALLY REMINDER:

June: 15th thru 18th Leisure Acres Campground. Cleveland GA. Reser Req. 888-748-6344. See <http://www.leisureacrescampground.com>

Hosts: Barretts & McKellars

July: 27th thru 30th Holiday TRAV-L-PARK. Chattanooga, TN. Reser Req. 800-693-2877. See <http://www.chattacamp.com>

Hosts:

August: 17th thru 20th Great Outdoors RV Resort. Franklin NC. Reser Req. 828-349-0412. See <http://www.gorvresort.com>

Hosts: Zaics & Millers