

THE MOUNTAINEER



Newsletter of the Georgia Mountaineers Chapter of FMCA

June 13 - 17, 2018
Leisure Acres Campground
Cleveland, GA

Hosts: Nick & Darlene Knowlton
Ed & Patricia Durrence



Foreword: Before getting started with the newsletter, just wanted to let everyone know we had special election at the Business Meeting on Saturday, and yours truly will serve the remainder of the year as your Newsletter Editor. Although I have written the newsletter many times in substitution, this is my first time being the actual Newsletter Editor and I am looking forward to the remaining rallies this year to put in my two cents worth.

Leisure Acres Campground is located on Westmoreland Road a few miles south of Cleveland in a relaxed setting with both a small fishing lake and a creek. Many of the campsites are located along the creek bank. The clubhouse, which has been updated very recently, has a large meeting room, nice kitchen, grills outside and a good area for cooking a Low Country Boil. And, along the creek bank are many very tall trees.

Members Camping: Van & Miriam Armstrong, Ted & Martha Barrett, Raymond & Donna Birt, Dorris & Ethel Carpenter, Don & Peggy Crump, Ed & Patricia Durrence, Doug & Terry Gibbs, Paul & Madonna Holko, Virginia Jackson, Nick & Darlene Knowlton, Fred & Shirley Lee, Dale & Sandra Lemke and their granddaughter Ellie, Bill & Jo Anne Lyles, Ed & Diane



Malin, Jim & Karen Mathis with their granddaughter Shannon, Wayne & Anne Mickey, Roy & Kathy Perry, Steve & Joy Ridenour, Doug & Sherry Wright, and Greg & Rose Zaic with their grandson Cameron.

Visitors: Visitors were Tom & Jan Danielson from Clarkesville, David & Nancy Jones from Ellijay, Bob & Holly Konst from Auburn, and Johnny & Cat Martin from Liberty, SC. Bob & Holly are 5th Wheel owners and are not allowed to join our chapter unless we change our By-Laws to allow towables. As for the Danielsons, Jones, and Martins, they must have had a good time for I understand they all have reservations for our July Rally at Valley River RV Resort in Murphy.

Bob-Tailing: Harry & Linda Sasser, Ken & Margie Alexander with their daughter and son-in-law Bob & Tammy Troendly, and Chris Christopher.

Monday: Martha and I arrived right before noon and found our Hosts, the Knowltons and Durrences, already in the campground. We set up and went to lunch at Glenda's and on our return saw that the Carpenters and Birts had arrived and the Ridenours arrived a little later. Around 3:30PM a small thunderstorm made its way over the campground and it contained one small bolt of lightening. Remember those tall trees along the creek bank -- well in our small, small world, that one bolt of lightening hit a very tall popular tree



behind our coach, taking out the top limb at over 100 feet up. The limb could have fallen directly to the ground and missed everything, but it did not. Instead it sailed to the front of our coach and hit with a force so hard, it literally shook the coach like it had been bombed. And it penetrated the top of the slide-out with three feet of the 3½ inch limb protruding through the ceiling and bringing the rain water with it. Thankfully, the rain did not last that long and John (campground owner) and his helper came with a saw and ladder and removed the limb. Nick then went up on the roof to remove the rest of the debris and we were able to retract the slide-out and stop the flow of rain water into the coach. Ed loaned us his squirrel cage fan and we began the drying process of the sofa and carpet underneath it. It is a good thing that Martha was not sitting in her normal place on the sofa, or we may have had to worry about other damage to the sofa than just rain water. For dinner, many went to the JW Reed Restaurant, but discovered it was closed on Monday. So it was off to Glenda's for the evening meal. For me and Martha, we had already had too much excitement, so we stayed home and had a bowl of chicken noodle soup. Believe me, it does not compare with the Mexican Chicken Soup I normally have after my doctor's appointments.

Tuesday: The morning was cloudy and it stayed that way most of the day. There were only three arrivals, the Mathises, Mickeys and the Gibbs. Late afternoon, the clouds gave way to a partial blue sky. For dinner some tried JW Reed again. As a result of poor service and the food, it was taken off the Rally Agenda. Others went to El Campesino, while some stayed in. Without Jack to create an interest in a campfire, most folks stayed in their coach for the evening with only a few playing Fast Track.



Wednesday: What was supposed to be a blue sky day turned out to be cloudy with threatening thunder showers. Made some of us wonder again about those very tall trees down on the creek bank. Also, this morning it was planned to repair the tree damaged roof on the Barretts coach. The temporary repair was made before any imminent threat of rain. And with the rain still holding off, the day saw the arrival of the Malins, Lemkes, Armstrongs, Danielsons, Perrys, Jackson, Crumps, Zaics, Jones, Lees, Lyles, Holkos, and Wrights. By 2:00PM, all were able to get set up without getting wet. Almost everyone stayed at the campground for lunch in their coach. The evening's agenda was Meet & Greet in the clubhouse at 5:30 with pizza and dessert; and with 21 coaches in attendance, we had



a large group. After introduction of our Visitors, the Danielsons and Jones, it was time for pizza. It was very good to see some Mountaineers many of us had not seen for some time. Following the eradication of some



very good pizza, Ed went over the Rally Agenda. Afterwards it games in the clubhouse and a big group around the campfire.

Thursday: Today started off with a great Blueberry Pancake breakfast by Chef Nick. For those that did not get out of bed that early, you missed some very good pancakes. Next on the day's agenda was the RV'ing Tips and Roundtable Discussion led by Nick. Then it was off to various places for lunch. While at lunch, summer arrived with temperatures in the low 90's. Even with summer time conditions, some still cruised around the area in the afternoon taking in some of the sights, and some doing a little shopping. For



diner it was off to the Rib Country restaurant and some very good BBQ. We had so many in attendance, we filled



up half of the restaurant. Joining us were Ken & Margie Alexander and their daughter Tammy and her husband Bob. It was great for them to drive over and hopefully they will be able to attend the next rally at Murphy. There was a large thunder shower while we were eating that cooled things off a little. Also, Bob & Holly Konst arrived at the campground and were setup when we returned. Next it was games in the clubhouse and another campfire behind the Mickey's coach.



Friday: The morning was damp and muggy with the heat rising as time went by. The agenda began with Ladies fellowship and crafts in the clubhouse at 11:00AM. After the craft work, all the ladies went to lunch at the Corner Grill. As for the men, it was various



places, but for many it was naptime during the afternoon. Also during the afternoon Johnny and Cat Martin arrived and setup. For dinner, many went to the Cottage House and enjoyed their fine food and desserts. Back at the campground there were soon games of Fast Track and cards in the clubhouse and a campfire by the creek, the one with those very tall trees on the creek bank.

Saturday: The day began as a total blue sky day. We assembled in the clubhouse at 10:00AM for the Business Meeting. The main item on the agenda was the election of the Nominating Committee, which were Raymond Birt, Ethel Carpenter, and Steve Ridenour. Also a special election was held for Newsletter Editor and Ted Barrett was elected. After the Business Meeting was adjourned, there was a discussion on the subject of towables, i.e., to stay the same as a motorcoach chapter, or to allow towable owners as members. The discussion was led by Ed Durrence and anyone that



wanted to speak was allowed to do so. Afterwards a straw vote was taken on three items; 1) to stay the same, 2) to allow towables, or 3) either way or undecided. The results of the vote were not announced. Note: To allow towables will require a change in our Chapter By-Laws. And that will require a 65% affirmative vote, see Article VIII, paragraph 2. After the meeting, lunch was on your own. And the clear blue

sky turned into a partly cloudy one by noontime. Although it threatened rain showers in the afternoon, they did not happen. For dinner, it was a Pot Luck event at the clubhouse. The hosts provided a ham and there were many accompanying dishes to go along with it. It was quite a feast with a lot of food left over. We were fortunate to have Ken & Margie bob-tail in again to eat with us.



Sunday: We gathered in clubhouse to enjoy a breakfast of Jim's famous biscuits, gravy, and sausage. And, it was very good. The devotional was given by Devotion Leader Wayne Mickey. After breakfast, it was time for goodbyes until next time, and most departed for home.

In Closing: We still need Hosts for our Christmas Luncheon. Remember, you get to select the place, date, time, and which charity to support. And the restaurant normally does all the work. If interested, please contact our Wagon Master, Jack White. And, if you are interested in serving as a chapter officer next year, contact the Nominating Committee. **Also, look for the Georgia Mountaineers to be in the FMCA Chapter Spotlight in the August Edition of Family RVing.**

Ted Barrett
Newsletter Editor

RALLY REMINDERS:

July: 18th thru 21st Valley River RV Resort. Murphy, NC. Reser Req. 828-385-4220. 975 Regal Road, Murphy. See <http://www.valleyriverrv.com> **Hosts: Mathises & Phillips**

August: 15th thru 18th Windemere Cove RV Park. Langston, AL. 10174 Co Rd 67, Langston, AL. Reser Req. 256-228-3010 See <http://www.windemerecove.com>
Hosts: Barretts & Birts

September: 19th thru 22nd River Vista RV Resort. Dillard GA, Reser Req. 706-746-2722. See <http://www.rvmountainvillage.com> **Hosts: Carpenters & Durrences**