

THE MOUNTAINEER



Newsletter of the Georgia Mountaineers Chapter of FMCA

**June 17 - 20, 2019
Holiday TRAV-L-PARK
Chattanooga TN**

**Hosts: Karen & Jim Mathis and
Jo Ann & Gerald Marshall**



Holiday TRAV-L-PARK is located on Mack Smith Rd, easily accessible off I-75 at Exit 1 (just before the I-24/I-75 split) the campground is a clean RV park and most of the spots have a nice shade tree nearby. In case you didn't know, the Holiday Travel Park is located on land that played a big part in the Civil War history in the surrounding Chattanooga/North Georgia area (Chickamauga Battlefield). Men fought and died on the very soil where the campground is located. To help keep this part of history alive hopefully you will note that the streets were named for Civil War officers. The streets at the north end are named for Union commanders; the streets at the south end are named for Confederate generals. The other streets are named for Civil War battles. In the southwest corner of the park stands a monument to the 84th Indiana Volunteer Regiment. Lots of history surrounds the Chattanooga area relevant to the Civil War. As you travel to downtown Chattanooga via I-24, you may have notice a bridge high above the interstate as you travel through what is known as the 'ridge cut' (Missionary Ridge). If you were able to find and travel this road across Missionary Ridge, you would have seen Civil War cannons sitting in the front yards of some of the houses pointed at their front doors with placards giving the history of the Battles for Chattanooga. Did you know the name "Chattanooga" is derived from a Creek Indian word meaning "rock coming to a point," reference to Lookout Mountain. If you travel up Lookout Mountain via the Incline and visit Point Park at the top you see gorgeous views of the Tennessee

River and the surrounding mountains and valleys. If you missed any of these important points of interest, you might want to make a second trip to Chattanooga and take a closer look.

Members Camping. Ted & Martha Barrett, Raymond & Donna Birt, Dorris & Ethel Carpenter Ed & Patricia Durrence, Jim & Janice Hamby, David & Nancy Jones, Jim & Karen Mathis, Gerald & Jo Ann Marshall, Jim & Joanne Mason, Wayne and Anne Mickey, Harry & Linda Sasser, and Jack White.

First Time Visitors. Wes & Debbie Azaroff from Woodstock, GA

Guests. Betty & Jim Duncan (Southeastern President from FMCA), and Dean & Peggy Woodruff (Integrity RV Service Center)

Bob Tailers. Hubert & Marsha Brown



Sunday & Monday several of our members arrived early. They included the Barretts, Birts, Mathises, Marshalls, Carpenters, and the Durrences. After everyone got set up we met at Wally's for dinner. Home cooking was enjoyed by all. Afterwards we returned to the

campground and retired to our coaches for the remainder of the evening.

Tuesday we woke up to another warm sunny day. Other members continued to arrive. They included the Joneses, the Mickeys, and Jack White. The Birts went to visit with Donna's mother in Cleveland TN, the Carpenters drove to Chickamauga GA to visit with their former assistant preacher, while others went shopping. (It was nice to discover there was a Hamrick's store close by.) Some of us just relaxed after arriving and getting

things set up. Dinner tonight for several was a place called Farm to Forks restaurant. Another good eating place. While others tried out a nearby Italian restaurant. After dinner, back to the campground for games and fellowship.

Wednesday the weather was a little unpredictable. It looked as if might rain most of the day but eventually the sun finally won out and we had a pleasant day overall. Members continued to arrive: The Sassers, Hambys, Masons, Browns, and first time visitors, Azaroff. The Meet and Greet was held at 4:30pm. After Raymond welcomed everyone, Ted introduced our visitors. Our hosts went over our dinner instructions and the agenda for the rest of the week. Everyone signed up for the various dinners and activities that had been planned. First time host Jo Ann Marshall planned a barbecue dinner with all the fixings. She decorated the tables with flowers and pictures of our group from past outings. It was nice to be able to remember some of our former members from their pictures. After dinner everyone was invited to take any of the pictures and leftovers they might want. Several members took advantage of the invite to take the leftovers back to the RVs for later enjoyment. After dinner Jack had a campfire while others played fast track in the clubhouse.

Thursday was another warm and sunny day. Folks started enjoying the various activities that had been planned by our hosts. Betty and Jim Duncan arrived just in time to join everyone at the Duck Boat sightseeing tour in downtown Chattanooga. Others in our group chose to do some sightseeing and shopping at the many available places. Dinner tonight was at Provino's Italian Restaurant. More good food and fellowship. When we returned to the campground there was no fire and only one game of fast track.



Friday was another beautiful day. It had been an unusual hot week for the weather. Our planned meal today was at the 1885 Grill in St. Elmo. The diner had a nice

atmosphere to enjoy our sandwiches, salads, seafood and steak. Our hosts did a good job in choosing this particular restaurant. After lunch everyone was on their own to enjoy the various sights around town – The Incline Railroad, Rock City, Ruby Falls, and the International Touring and Recovery Museum. Dinner that evening was also on our own. When everyone returned to the campground there was another game of fast track and a gathering at Ted's coach for fellowship and good stories. Did you hear about the rat that got into Ted's coach and as he started to show everyone the cage he had put in his basement to catch the rat, OOPS! The RAT WAS IN THE CAGE and Ted didn't realize it until someone screamed! The discovery gave everyone a good startle. Ted had finally gotten rid of the critter!



Saturday began with a slightly cloudy day with a possibility of rain. It seemed to be another day for sightseeing, shopping, relaxing, and of course cooking for the potluck supper tonight. Everyone seems to look forward to the potluck dinners. We have several good cooks in our group. The hosts provided the meat and our cooks provided the fixings. Donna had a craft project for those who were interested. We made little animals out of various seashells. Joanne Mason also made a very pretty cross as her project. Everyone enjoyed making their craft and the fellowship that seems to follow. Someone even made a 'rat' for Ted because of his earlier encounter. The rain finally began and it

seemed to cool things off for a while. The group took advantage of the break in activities and started getting ready for supper tonight. Our pot luck was a great success. Dean and Peggy Woodruff from Integrity RV Service Center were recognized and appropriately thanked for the many door prizes they contributed to the rally. Members were given tickets for the door prizes each time they participated in one of the planned activities throughout the rally. Several won bigger prizes but everyone walked away a winner with a gift from Integrity before the evening was through. We all had fun and enjoyed being together. Ted even received a special plaque that was prepared to capture his rat trapping expertise. Dorris and Ethel Carpenter were also recognized and presented a cake for celebrating their 59th wedding anniversary during the rally (July 17th). When all was said and done, a game of fast track was enjoyed.



Sunday folks gathered at the clubhouse for sausage biscuits and gravy from Bojangles, along with a variety of fruits and sweets. After everyone had eaten, Wayne Mickey led us in our devotion. Afterwards everyone said their goodbyes with a hope to see everyone again at our next rally in Sevierville. Again a BIG THANK YOU to our hosts for a rally well planned.

!!! RALLY REMINDER !!!

The next rally will be August 14th thru 17th at Two Rivers Landing in Sevierville TN. Look forward to seeing everyone there!

Ethel Carpenter
Newsletter Editor