

# THE MOUNTAINEER



Newsletter of the Georgia Mountaineers Chapter of FMCA

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**September 16 - 20, 2020  
Great Outdoors Resort  
Franklin, NC**

**Hosts: Hubert & Marsha Brown  
and Sam & Dottie Reese**



The Great Outdoors RV Resort is located in a very scenic area of North Carolina. The resort has an excellent club house with a full kitchen, plus a large grill outside. There are many waterfalls in the area and lots of places to visit. US-64, a very narrow and crooked highway between Franklin and Highlands, follows the Cullasaja River, where waterfalls are visible from the road.



**Members Camping:** Paul & Leann Appel, Ted and Martha Barrett, Hubert & Marsha Brown, Dorris and Ethel Carpenter, Bill & Linda Davis, Ed and Patricia Durrence, Fred & Marianna Glantzberg, Virginia Jackson, Nick & Darlene Knowlton, Bill Lyles, Jim and Karen Mathis, Jerry & Irene McKellar, Wayne and Anne Mickey, Roy & Kathy Perry, Sam & Dottie Reese, John Sakers & Fran Hogan, Julie Simpson, Terry & Wanda Stephens, Larry & Pat Stivers, Jack White, and Doug & Sherry Wright.

**First Time Visitors:** Doug & Ginger Henry from Grayson, Fred & Kathy Genrich from Cartersville. Doug & Ginger had reservations earlier in the year, but our rallies were cancelled, and then they had to cancel one time, so it is good they were finally able to attend. We hope everyone had an enjoyable visit and will return to join our chapter.

**Monday:** The Barretts, Brown, Glantzbergs, and Reeses, who arrived on Sunday, were there to see those arriving on Monday. Which were the Carpenters, Davises, Durrences, Genriches, Jackson, McKellars, and White. While the morning and early afternoon were partly cloudy, rain showers showed up later on. Some of the arrivals got a little wet setting up. But it did not deter a group of twelve going to Fat Buddies for dinner. While there was a variety dishes ordered from the menu, there were many who also order Fat Buddies' delicious Fried Mushrooms. Since this was not an official rally day, the clubhouse was not available and due to rainy weather there was no campfire.



**Tuesday:** Today was a take it easy day for those driving up on Monday. There was no large group going out to eat. Some did drive US-64 and viewed the water falls between Franklin and Highlands. A few more coaches arrived today and the rest are supposed to show up on Wednesday. The RV park did not allow access to the clubhouse because this was not an official rally day. So, some played games in their coaches, while others enjoyed a nice campfire in front of Jack's coach.



**Wednesday:** Today kicked off the official start of the rally. It began a little overcast with the temperature around 58F, but soon turned to blue skies. A quick check of those out walking or gathered around talking, revealed that everyone had on their badges. Looks like it will be a long time before we have another Ice Cream Social. The "Meet and Greet" began at 3:30PM. Sam went over the agenda and Ted introduced the Visitors. Since pizzas were being delivered at 5:15, most everyone stayed in the clubhouse for an extended Meet & Greet



until time to eat. The pizzas were from Papa Johns and quite delicious. After pizza there were tables of Fast Track in the clubhouse and another campfire at Jack's coach. It began to

rain a little, but it did not damper the spirits of those around the campfire. They just broke out their umbrellas and continued to enjoy the fellowship. However, later in the evening, about normal time for the campfire to breakup anyway, it did begin to rain harder and rained all night long, thanks to the remnants of hurricane Sally.

**Thursday:** We awoke to more rain as Sally had not passed all the way through the area yet. Still a few ventured out in the rain to go have breakfast, while others stayed in their coach. A group had already decided they were going to the Cupboard Café in Dillard for the All-You-Can-Eat Shrimp special for dinner, so some just skipped eating completely until dinner time. And as for those shrimp, we really put a hurting on them.



**Friday:** Although the rain from Sally had left the area, it brought cool and overcast weather. Still, a large group rolled out of bed early around 9:00AM and headed to the Sunset restaurant for breakfast. Don't know where there was room for breakfast after all those shrimp the night before. Some went sightseeing during the day, while others stayed around the campground and just took it easy. For dinner, it was off to the Fat Buddies again, and those delicious Fried Mushrooms were a big hit. Back at the campground, there were three games of Fast Track and another campfire. This time the umbrellas were not needed, but there were jackets and a few blankets.





**Saturday:** The morning began like Friday with overcast skies and a cool temperature. The day was a complete open day on the agenda. Many folks slept in, but soon were up and about around lunch time. The afternoon was more sightseeing. For dinner it was off to various places. Some went back down to the Cupboard Café in Dillard, while some made it back to Fat Buddies for more Fried Mushrooms. After dinner the campfire crowd was a little smaller in number, as a few watched the NASCAR race from Bristol, Tennessee. But the race did not deter the Fast Track players as there were three more tables again. Nearing the end of the rally, it was noted that our new members who joined last year and this year have been very dedicated. Some have attended every rally since joining, while others have only missed one or two, and most have reservations for the remainder of the year. Some



are already hosting rallies and few will be serving as officers next year. It is great to see this type of support and involvement. **THANK YOU** new members!!!

**Sunday:** We gathered in clubhouse to enjoy the coffee, biscuits, and some pastries. Also, Marsha had brought a extra large assortment of Little Debbie snacks that we had been snacking on the whole rally, and a few attendees took some of those home with them so they would not go to waste. Wayne Mickey gave the devotional. The Hosts were thanked for a great job. After that it was goodbyes until next time, most everyone departed for home.

**Editorial:** If you go back and read the 2016 August Newsletter, there is an article at the end, saying good bye to the Great Outdoors RV Resort, where we have been having rallies annually since 2010. It seems that greed overtook them and they implemented policies no longer customer friendly to RV'ers or rally clubs as to reservations and cancellation policies. And they did not park us together, but all over the park. They changed ownership a year or so later and invited us back. So we returned in 2018, 2019, and this year.

Well, it seems that greed has overtook them again. This year they allowed only three coaches to park on what I would call rally row on the upper tier in front of the club house. All the other coaches were parked spread throughout the RV park. This does not provide the warmth, closeness, and comradery that normally come with attending our rallies. Also, they changed their reservations and cancellation policy to what appears to be as before or even worst. And they did not allow use of the clubhouse until Wednesday night, even though we had eleven coaches there on Monday. They even have an arrival time window of just two hours from 3:00PM to 5:00PM, or you pay an early or late arrival fee. Plus there was no rally discount provided, and they also did not allow a Good Sam discount, although they are listed as a Good Sam member and advertise their Good Sam rating.

However, the RV park is in the business of making money. But the fact is, they don't have to make any money off of our chapter under those conditions. It is just a shame that greed has overtaken fairness. **So, we say good bye to the Great Outdoors Resort again.** The Georgia Mountaineers will take our business to other parks where we are welcomed and appreciated.

***Ted Barrett***  
***Newsletter Editor***

## **Announcements:**

**Christmas Luncheon:** Planning for the Christmas Luncheon is underway by our hosts, Paul & Leann Appel and Terry & Wanda Stephens. The date has been set as Wednesday, 9 December, with the buffet being served at 12:00 noon. The location will be

Unicoi State Park Lodge in Helen. We will have the banquet room all day, so you are welcome to come a little earlier and chat and mingle before lunch. We can also stay later in the afternoon than we normally have in the past. And, there will be a Santa Clause game after lunch. The price is \$18 per person, plus tax and gratuity. The charity this will be the Community Helping Place in Dahlonega. We have supported them a few years before and they have been most appreciative. Their website is [www.communityhelpingplace.org](http://www.communityhelpingplace.org) and more details regarding gifts will be provided later. For those driving from a distance, the lodge is offering a room discount price of \$89 per night. The discount code for the \$89 price is 09609. Plus they also have a campground that is supposed to handle large RV's. Recommend you mark your calendars now to attend.

**Jack White's Retirement:** Back in June, Jack White announced his retirement from being our Wagon Master, probably the best Wagon Master in all of FMCA. This decision did not come easy, as Jack has been Wagon Master for the past 13 years -- quite a record. Although not an easy decision, it is noted that beginning in August, Jack did seem to have an easier, more relaxed attitude about the whole thing. This was especially true in watching his replacement, Nick Knowlton, going about coordinating the Rally Schedule for next year. Our GREAT and HEARTFELT appreciation goes to Jack for being such a dedicated Wagon Master all these years. As Chris use to say, if they were driving somewhere and went by a campground sign, Jack automatically turned around and went to visit the campground to see if it was worthy of being put on our Rally Schedule. Thank you again, Mr Wagon Master.

### **Rally Reminders:**

**October:** 21<sup>st</sup> thru 24<sup>th</sup> **Palmetto Cove RV Park.** Cleveland SC. For reservations, contact Jack White. See <http://www.palmettocove.com> **Hosts: Mickeys & Perrys**

**November:** 18<sup>th</sup> thru 21<sup>st</sup> **Coastal Georgia RV Resort.** Brunswick GA. 912-264-3869. Address: 287 South Port Parkway, Brunswick, GA. See <http://www.coastalgarvresort.com>  
**Hosts: Cannons, Jackson, & White**

**December:** 9<sup>th</sup> 11:30AM **Christmas Luncheon at Unicoi State Park Lodge.** Arrive at 11:30AM for the Meet & Greet with everyone. Buffet is at 12:00. Room Rate is \$89.  
**Hosts: Appels & Stevens**

Nick Knowlton is currently working on our 2021 Rally Schedule and should have it ready in a few weeks. There may be some new RV parks/campgrounds on the schedule, we will have to wait and see.