

THE MOUNTAINEER



Newsletter of the Georgia Mountaineers Chapter of FMCA

July 22 - 26, 2020
Spring Lake RV Resort
Crossville TN
Hosts: Newtons & Davises



Spring Lake RV Resort is a lovely, peaceful campground, nestled in the trees with a small lake in the middle, just four miles north of I-40. It has two clubhouses. The one we have used at each of our rallies is located on the back side of the lake. It contains a nice kitchen. Best of all the room is large enough to set up lots of tables. An added plus is a reading area as well as a TV. Now for a history lesson on Crossville. Crossville was developed at the



intersection of a branch of the Great Stage Road, which connected the Knoxville area with Tennessee with Kentucky and later extending south to Chattanooga. These two roads are roughly paralleled by modern US-70 and US-127 respectively. Around 1800, an early American settler named Samuel Lambeth opened a store at this junction, and the small community that developed around it became known as Lambeth's Crossroads. The store was located at what has become the modern intersection of Main Street and Stanley Street just south of the courthouse. By the time a post office was established in the 1830s, the community had taken the name of Crossville.

Members Camping: Ted & Martha Barrett, Dorris & Ethel Carpenter, Bill & Linda Davis, Jerry & Laura Eaves, Nick & Darlene Knowlton, Jerry & Irene McKellar, Wayne & Anne Mickey, and Mike & Kathie Newton. Plus, Bill Lyles stay at a local motel and Bob-Tailed in to events. Only nine member coaches were represented at this rally, the smallest number in a long, long time.

Visitors: First time visitors were John Sakers & Fran Hogan from Acworth and Tom & Marilyn Phipps from Spanish Fort, Alabama. John & Fran were unable to get reservations at Spring Lake, so they stayed at Deer Run RV Resort and Bob-Tailed in each day. Second time visitors included Dudley & Teresa Smith from Loganville, Julie Simpson from Simpsonville SC, Fred & Marianna Glantzberg from Kennesaw, and Larry & Mary Stivers from Cumming. All of our Second Time Visitors joined our Chapter at this rally. Welcome to the Georgia Mountaineers!

Monday: With the arrival of the Barretts and Knowltons on Sunday, they were there to see the arrival of the Carpenters, McKellars, Miceys, and Glantzbergs on Monday. The weather forecast was for temperatures in the 90's and it did not disappoint. But it did not deter some from eating Mexican that night, as both Cancun and Romo's Mexican restaurants were visited for dinner. After dinner, a very heavy rain cooled things off quite a bit and there was no campfire.

Tuesday: Today saw the arrival of our hosts the Newtons and Davises, along with the Eaves. When a small group went to the Vegas Steakhouse for dinner, rain showers could be seen off in the distance. Although it did not rain at Spring Lake, the surrounding showers cooled things off again and carried over to Wednesday morning.

Wednesday: The official beginning day of the rally, and it was much cooler than previously forecast. While some went out for breakfast and others went various places for lunch, it seems that a few stopped by Miss Miller's Doughnuts for some of her huge giant delicious doughnuts. Those arriving today were the Smiths, Phipps, and Julie Simpson. Before the Meet & Greet, some went out and met another couple of visitors: Mama and baby Cotton Tail rabbits. For some reason, a couple of rabbits took up residence under the Knowlton's coach and car. They were not afraid of us and hopped around the campsites eating in the grassy areas. Meet and Greet was scheduled at 3:00PM, but did not get kicked off on schedule due to lateness of some of the attendees. Kathie went over the Rally Agenda, which had many changes due to changes with the restaurants because of the COVID-19 Virus. Lefty's BBQ was completely taken off the agenda and Cumberland Mountain State Park had to be changed to another day. At 5:00PM it was time for pizza in the clubhouse. A variety of pizzas from The Pit Stop were served. After that is was games in the clubhouse, and with the rain holding off, a campfire at the community fire ring.



Thursday: With the changes in the Rally Agenda, today was an open day for both lunch and dinner. So most of the attendees went sightseeing, either independently, or in small groups. The



surrounding rains kept the weather cool, but did not deter folks from visiting downtown or the other attractions outside of town, such as



the Cumberland Mountain General Store, with a 50's style diner serving old fashioned milk shakes, and the Muddy Pond General Store, which is way back in the woods. For the evening meal some went to the Vegas Steak House and a

small group dined at Robo's Mexican Restaurant, where Fajitas for Two were a hit. Afterward it was back to the campground for two tables of Fast Track and a campfire accompanied by a very beautiful sunset. Oh, as for the two rabbits, there were not just two. We later saw rabbits all around the campground. They reminded me of Valdez, Alaska. Many years ago, apparently some domesticated rabbits got loose and began populating the city. The city passed an ordinance protecting them, and now there are rabbits all over the place, especially in the RV park where we stayed. The main difference is the domesticated ones come in many colors versus the Cotton Tails at Spring Lake.



Friday: Still cool today but it did not deter further exploration of the area. Dinner was at Cumberland Mountain State Park. But instead of their usual buffet, they served us

Boarding House style by bringing bowls of food to the table. This included a salad, catfish, cold slaw, roast beef, smash potatoes, gravy, bread, and banana pudding. All the attendees



were there and should have left with their tummies full. Later it was back to the RV park for Fast Track, or just visiting, in the clubhouse and another campfire



Saturday: The morning was cool and cloudy with many sleeping in until a little before lunch time. Then it was off to the Cancun Mexican Restaurant for some Mexican cuisine.

That afternoon was spent sightseeing again for some, while others just rested up at the RV park.

Sunday: Last day of the rally with everyone gathering in the clubhouse at 9:00 AM for coffee and breakfast biscuits

from Hardees. Afterwards was a short devotional by Wayne Mickey and then it was time to say goodbyes, break camp, and head home. A big THANKS go to our Rally Hosts, the Davises and Newtons for a great rally. They had to work extra in coordinating with the restaurants due to their changes based on COVID-19. And, we wish the little rabbits well and hope they are there the next time we are.

Special Events:

Knowltons: Nick and Darlene Knowlton's youngest granddaughter, Reagan, tried out for Twin Rivers Middle School Cheerleading Competition Team recently. Even with all the tough competition, Reagan was notified on Saturday, July 18th that she made the team. The Competition Team competes throughout Georgia, and other states. Reagan is an Honor Roll student entering the 8th grade. She has been in recreational cheerleading for several years, as well as tumbling, and other activities that help with cheerleading stunts. Reagan cheered on the Twin Rivers basketball squad last year, and hopes to cheer on the basketball squad again this school year. **CONGRATULATIONS** to Reagan!

July 4th: On the 5th of July, I had already made a decision to include the below video link in this month's newsletter. It was posted on Facebook on 3 July and is a very patriotic message from Charlie Daniels. When Charlie passed away on July 6th, I knew I had to include it. It is not just patriotic, but for us RV'ers who get to travel and see our great USA, it is a reminder of many of the places we have been to and seen, or an undone bucket list of things we must see. Whichever your case, enjoy! Martha and I have been blessed, we have seen almost all of these sights, except for about five. And, for the five we have missed, there are probably 50 or more we have seen that are just as significant, but were not included. I guess if you tried to include all into one video, it would be more than 24 hours long. In case the Facebook link has been deleted, I have also included the You Tube link below it.

<https://www.facebook.com/201956993160690/posts/3398124013543956/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2AEkfjc6-o>

Announcements:

Until such time as there is a vaccine for COVID-19, I guess we will have to live with conditions caused by the fear instilled by our media. Still for us seniors and those with health issues, it is a very serious threat. So use common sense and take the necessary precautions to protect yourself. Our low rally attendance this month was impacted by the virus, and will probably continue to be until there is a vaccine. Prayers do help, so keep the Mountaineers in your prayers.

Ted Barrett
Newsletter Editor

RALLY REMINDERS:

August: 19th thru 22nd **Willow Valley RV Resort.** Rabun Gap GA. 706-746-0078.
Address: 323 Yorkhouse Road, Rabun Gap, GA. See <https://willowvalleyrv.com>

Hosts: Emersons & Birts

September: 16th thru 19th **Great Outdoors RV Resort.** Franklin NC. 828-349-0412.
Address: 321 Thumpers Trail, Franklin, NC. See <http://www.gorvresort.com>

Hosts: Browns & Reeses

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

November: 18th thru 21st **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