

## October 2014 Newsletter of the Georgia Mountaineers Chapter of FMCA



**Georgia Mountaineer Rally October 22-26, 2014**

### HOSTS:

David and Brenda Dillon

B.G. (posthumously) and Irma Gruelich  
*Our deepest sympathy to Irma and family.*



Spring Lake RV was a lovely, peaceful camp ground, nestled in the trees, just four miles north of I-40. The clubhouse was such a nice spot for our snacks, meals, and games, and the owners, Pat and Leroy, were so very accommodating. Wednesday, they presented us with a large fruit tray, from which we snacked all week. By Tuesday evening, ten coaches had arrived, in preparation for our Crossville Rally. It was great seeing the Whites and Barretts,

back from their Alaska trek! By Wednesday, most of our coaches had arrived for the rally.

### Members Attending The Rally:

Ken & Margie Alexander, Dan & Jeanie Baer, Ted & Martha Barrett, Bob & Eva Bielemeier, Paul & Marsha Burlack, Dorris & Ethel Carpenter, Jerry & Dot Carpenter, Don & Peggy Crump, Dave & Brenda Dillon, Ed & Patricia Durrence, Jerry & Laura Eaves, Doug & Terry Gibbs, Don & Marquita Haines, Marti & Lois Martisauskas, Mike & Kathy Newton, Dave & Donna Porter, Willard & Sue Swanson, Jack & Chris White, Ed & Young Williams.

## First Time Visitors



Sam & Dottie Reese  
Rome, Georgia



Richard & Judi Ray  
Crestview, Florida

## WEDNESDAY~

The weather was perfect—seventies in the day, and fifties at night. Although the leaves had not completely turned to the vivid hues of fall, we did see splotches of red, gold, yellow, and orange on the hillsides.

- 3:00 Ed Williams began our first meeting with an introduction of our visitors, and then we had A “moment of silence” for B. G. Gruelich. (B.G. had visited Crossville, in preparation for a “Poker Run”, which was to take place during our rally, and to help plan our trip. We will miss our good friend.)

Brenda Dillon talked about the agenda, explaining each day’s events, locations of restaurants, and other possible tourist attractions we might wish to see. After a snack of various chips, dips, and fruit, we left to prepare for dinner.



## 5:00 Romo’s Mexican Restaurant

The food was good, and we caught up on the events of the last few weeks!

- 7:30 We had a nice campfire by the club house (with Chris back at the poker), and several games of Hand and Foot inside. What a great first day it was!



## THURSDAY~

### 10:30 Homestead Tower Museum

Built in 1938, as part of President Roosevelt's "New Deal", this tower housed the offices for the "Cumberland Homesteads." The center of the tower is the water tank, and from the top of the tower, you could see the 252 homesteads. We visited one of the typical houses, just two miles from this museum.



We had no plans for lunch, or the afternoon, so that we might check out the town. Some members ate at Forte's on the Square, and praised the food (Willard & Sue Swanson), while others (Dorris & Ethel Carpenter, Ed & Patricia Durrence) visited the Amish village, Muddy Pond, about twenty miles outside of town.

Two of our couples arrived, just in time for dinner— Ed & Patricia Durrence, and Marti & Lois Martisauskas.

### 6:00 Vegas Steak House

We had forty members at the restaurant that night. At cards, or around the campfire, I often forget what a large group we really are! On this night, I had to smile. Badges proudly proclaimed, "Georgia Mountaineers."

Young Williams and I suffered a huge defeat at cards that night, at the hands of Marti Martisauskas, and David Dillon.

## FRIDAY~

### 10:00 Line Dancing in the Clubhouse with Brenda Dillon

In an effort to find a new "activity" that we could try, I scheduled this hour of Line Dancing, not know how well it would be accepted. Much to my surprise, we had thirty people in the clubhouse (most were dancing, and a few were there to support and cheer for the dancers.) I expected the women to give it a try,

but was especially pleased by the participation of the men! Bravo! We learned the “Alley Cat”, “Electric Slide”, and the “Reel”. It was such fun....giggles, and laughter throughout. We may try this again. Thank you, so much! I loved it!



From 11:00 – 3:00, we were free to relax or sight-see.  
The Burlacks arrived in time for the wine tasting.

### 3:00 **Stonehaus Winery**

Stonehaus Winery features some of the finest wines in Tennessee (their advertisement), And we enjoyed an hour of free wine tasting, plus a video which told us about the making of the company, and the production of its wines. Bob and Belle Ramsey are the owners, of the company. Many of our members purchased their Merlot, Pinot Gris, Chardonnay, and their Homestead White.

### 5:30 **Cumberland State Park Heritage Restaurant**

This restaurant’s buffet is a Crossville gem! We were there on “Catfish Night,” along with crowds of other visitors and townspeople, all enjoying catfish, roast beef, baked ham, along with a variety of veggies and desserts, that left us all smiling and sated. The restaurant sits on the water, with a view of the bridge/dam. Many of our members strolled the paths, before and after dinner. We’ll want to visit this site again, when we return to Crossville.



7:30 There were twenty-two people in the clubhouse, on this night. Six tables, all playing Hand & Foot -- the largest crowd I've seen in two years. Many of the participants were new members, increasing the fan base for this game. ☺ After the completion of our games, Dorris and Ethel Carpenter introduced the Dillons, to a board game (which also uses cards) called **FAST TRACK**. That crafty Dorris made his own boards. The game is quite interesting, and is perfect for groups of four or six. You may want to give it a try sometime!



## SATURDAY~

### 10:00 Business Meeting

During our meeting, Jack announced the 2015 Rally Schedule, which can be found on our web site. Please check it out, by clicking on the link below:

[http://www.georgiamountaineers.org/Index/RallyInfo/2015\\_Rally\\_Schedule.pdf](http://www.georgiamountaineers.org/Index/RallyInfo/2015_Rally_Schedule.pdf)

Before voting on the people selected by the Nominating Committee for offices next year, A few problems were announced. Greg (originally up for President) and Rose Zaic had made it known that they would prefer to be free to travel for a while, at which point, Ted Barrett was nominated for President, and added to the proposed slate. Dorris Carpenter agreed to run as 1<sup>st</sup> V. President, replacing B.G. Grulich. Since Rose Zaic will be traveling with her husband, we will need to find someone, who will agree to fill that position, also. Brenda Dillon volunteered to become the Scrapbook Editor (2014.) The vote on the proposed officers was unanimous, and the installation of officers will take place at our Carabelle, Florida Rally next month.

***For all the notes from our Business Meeting,  
please check the Secretary's report on our website.***



5:00 **Pizza, Pizza**

We had Papa John's pizza for our covered dish meal, hoping to have time to eat and straighten the clubhouse, before leaving for the theatre. This was B.G.'s choice, and so, David and I kept the plan.

7:30 **Cumberland County Playhouse**

**"It Ain't Nothin' But the Blues"**

A musical that looks at the history of America's first original contribution to music-- the Blues. Through narration, acting, and songs, and dance, we follow the African chants, and spirituals of the slaves, to New Orleans, up the Mississippi, and into Chicago. Later, drums are added to the Blues (Rhythm & Blues), which leads us to a little Country Rock, and "Rock & Roll."



We still had card games on this evening, but no campfire, because thirty people were at the Playhouse.

**SUNDAY~**

9:00 **Devotional**

During our snacks, Ted Barrett led the group in the Birthday Song, for **Jack White**. Brenda Dillon told the story of the eagle, enduring the painful process of change, in order to extend his life and soar to the heights.

***Psalms 103:2-5 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with loving kindness, and tender mercies. Who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.***

After singing, "Amazing Grace" and a prayer, we said our farewells.



**\*REMINDER**

Our last Rally this year : <http://www.carrabellebeach.rvcoutdoors.com>

November 12th - 15th Carrabelle Beach RV Resort Carrabelle, Florida  
Reservations: 850-697-2638 Hosts: Barretts & McKellars

*When making reservations, be sure to tell them you are with the Georgia Mountaineers, and ask about any rally discount and their cancellation policy.*



**Christmas Banquet - December 4<sup>th</sup> 11:00-2:00**  
**Silver Bay Seafood Restaurant - Gainesville, Georgia**  
**Ed Williams will need to know if you're attending by Nov.15th**

Submitted by Brenda Dillon  
Substituting for Irene McKeller,  
Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter Editor