

THE REDBUG GAZETTE

Published by the South Carolina State Association of Family Campers and RV'ers

December 2016

We invite FCRV members-at-large across the state to visit our campouts. Visit us whenever you can -- we welcome all FCRV members and visitors. Try us! We honestly believe you will like us!!!

WHERE ARE WE GOING? WHAT ARE WE DOING? WHEN IS IT HAPPENING?

Registration forms for National Rallies are always in your Online Edition of Camping Today.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Palmetto Retiree Luncheon -- February 14, 2017
See complete details in this issue of the Redbug Gazette

The 46th National Retiree Rally will be held in the Canton Civic Center in Canton TX on
March 21, 2017 – March 27, 2017
See complete details in your Online Camping Today!

SC "FCRV" Spring '16 Campout at the New Green Acres RV Resort
Walterboro, SC: May 19, 2017, thru May 25, 2017.

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Please let us remind all of you Southeast Regional FCRV'ers that the 2018 FCRV Campvention is to be held at the Meadow Event Park, in Doswell, VA. You better believe that we're busy working on the Campvention planning. Everything is coming together very well but we still need chair persons for some positions. Don and I know that there are many talented folks in our region. We have seen your work at lots of your campouts. We are waiting for you to step forward and show your willingness to fill open positions of several committees. So please let Reba Ray, Gerry Owens or I know. Let's make this a National Campvention that folks will be talking about for years. Not just a "Good" Campvention, but how about a "GREAT ONE"? Also, keep in mind we need your suggestions for theme, decal and colors. There will be a prize for the winner. "

Come-On campers, let's hear from you! It's your Campvention!

Don & Marjory Bates

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE:

Greetings to all in South Carolina:

Here we are nearing the end of another Camping Year. 2016 has been a lot of fun for me to travel to different Camp outs and represent the State along with a number of other South Carolina members.

I want to thank those you did travel to distant locations and also to local camp outs here in the State. Your support was greatly appreciated. I would also say that a lot of folks whose names I read on our Membership Listing, and who live in the area of some of our outings, are very much missed. We look forward to having you come out, even if it's for only a day, and enjoy camping and meeting each other.

Just a reminder that Camping Today has gone Electronic. If the National Office does not have your email address, you will not get Camping Today on your PC. You can access FCRV.org and log on to Camping Today. Also may I remind you to check you membership card and make sure that your membership does not expire.

In March of 2017 the National Retiree Rally will be held in Canton Texas. In July of 2017 Campvention will be Lima, Ohio For more information you will have to log on to FCRV.org and get the dates,

I want to extend to the Belcher Family our deepest sympathies on the loss of Carolyn. She and Billy were members of Skeeter Scratchers in the Beaufort area. It is our hope that she is at rest and know that she fought a tough battle. We know that she is at peace in the House of the Lord.

I want to wish you all, hear in the State of South Carolina, a Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year, and look forward to seeing more of my camping family in 2017.

Till we see you all again in Walterboro,

Fred Muckle

REPORT OF THE FALL '16 STATE RALY

I think that the State portion of the Fall '16 rally came off well. The Rally started, Friday night, with Ice Cream Social. There were more “toppings”, nuts, syrups, you name it, it was on the table. That evening we played cards, board games and chatted until the “wee hours”. It was, as usual, very enjoyable.

Saturday morning we had our Executive Board Meeting followed by the General Membership Meeting. Lots of discussion on a variety of interesting subjects. Check out the minutes. We had a total of 4 FCRV chartered clubs present. (Out of a total of 5 chartered). That was about right, Wonderful.

Saturday night we enjoyed a Pasta Casserole Dinner prepared by Vi Ammons. “Vi, it was delicious”. The table was, again, filled with goodies, which were, enjoyed by all. In addition to the “goodies we ate, did anyone notice the “eye candy” around the hall? Every horizontal surface was part of a “fireworks display” of fall colors. Vi and Chris Davis outdid themselves with their various arrangements of fall flowers. “We all thank you both”!

I can still hear that Big Round of Applause for the Myrtle Beach Combers, Fred & Vi, in appreciation for hosting the State '17 Fall Rally. “Ya'll did good”

David Bragg- President
FCRV SC State Chapter

FROM YOUR PALMETTO RETIREE PRISIDENT

Fellow Campers

As we come to the end of another year we all have a lot to be thankful for. Our rally's this year have been lots of fun, and, I trust they has brought our Camping Family closer together. To those of you who have not been able to attend we hope to see you back again soon.

We are happy to have some new members join this year. You have all added a new “spark” to our club! I am looking forward to seeing your faces a lot during our 2017 camping year.

To anyone who has experienced the loss of a family member or close friend, you are in my thoughts & prayers.

I want to thank all of our members for helping to make our camping year a fun and successful one. I hope you all have a Merry Christmas, and a new year filled with good health, good friends and loving families. I look forward to seeing you all back with us in the New Year. Let's build more special memories, together.

Jeanne Dean-President
Palmetto Retirees

BADGES --- BADGES --- GET YOUR FCRV BADGES HERE!!

The FCRV “BADGE LADY” is Karen Hudson. She attends all FCRV National Rally's, and stays pretty much on the road. Therefore, she prefers not to use her home address for business purposes. Her Phone Number, (641-751-9807) and E-Mail address heartlander57@gmail.com. Use this information to order badges and other FCRV paraphernalia, i.e. Not only does she make the badges but also stocks FCRV BB Hats, T Shirts, Golf style shirts, and all kinds of other nice FCRV things. The best, and quickest, way to **see her “wares”** is to attend the National Retiree Rally in Canton TX this March.

REPORT ON THE FALL '16 PALMETTO RETIREE CAMPOUT

Leon and I enjoyed the campout at the KOA in Ladson, SC. We had a good group there including our two Cadet couples, Margie & Marvin Trull, and Brenda & Cliff Lee. Also joining us was Cheryl & Roger Descoteaux, FCRV members, who have moved to South Carolina from Connecticut. We hope all enjoyed the campout and will be with us for years to come.

Everyone felt that the Sunday night Palmetto Retiree hot dog supper, and fellowship which followed, were "Super"! Desserts were wonderful! Ladies, again, you outdid yourselves.

On Monday night, most of us went to the S&S Cafeteria for dinner before carpooling out to the light display at James Island County Park. We were once again awed by all the beauty of the lights, both old ones and a few have been added this year. Another way to was via a "Model Train Ride. Some, including us, took this ride around the park; it was fun! we had to go off to visit the gift shops. Anyone this Christmas Extravaganza, and did not the Christmas spirit, surely must just be an Old



new ones that view the lights the Derricks, and And, of course, that joined us on come away with Scrooge. We



even toasted marshmallows and made "Some-mores" around the fire pits. As I recall it was Vernell Martin that suggested this particular "Retiree Night Out" excursion. We were all delighted to return to the James Island Park to view their beautiful Christmas Lights. "Thanks Vernell, Terrific Idea"

Tuesday, as weather was cooperating with us; we enjoyed a game of Bean Bag Baseball. (That Bragg Bunch are still "Bragging". I think **THEIR** scorekeeper (they had to have "bought" him), Quillie, let them get away with something. No team can score that many runs in the last inning!

The pot luck was, as always, very filling. We certainly have some great cooks in our FCRV State organization! Cheryl's Unstuffed Cabbage was a hit. I hope she will send the recipe to the Red Bug.

Wednesday's lunch at Gilligan's was delicious. I think John really enjoyed his steamed oysters. It looked like a lot of work for so little food to me but,----- "to each his own"! The folks that stayed Wednesday night enjoyed some fine board games competition and great conversation.

The only sad interruption during the rally was the phone call that informed Harvey Wise that his sister passed away and he had to leave early. "Harvey, our prayers are with you". Also Vernell is suffering with severe back problems. Pray she gets relief soon. Happy travels. See you down the road.

LaNelle & Leon Ishmael
Chaplin

WE SALUTE OUR LIFE MEMBERS!

Virginia & Robin Backman, John & Delores Derrick, Quillie & Ellen Crosby,
Ed & Betty Crout, Julia Holland, Amos and Beverly Horle,
Leon & LaNelle Ishmael, Eunice Kritsidimas, Paul & Pat Parsley,

MINUTES OF THE RETIREE FALL '16 RALLY

Minutes of Palmetto Retiree Meeting held Nov. 16th at KOA in North Charleston: Meeting was called to order by President Jeanne Dean. Prayer and Pledge to Flag was led by LaNelle Ishmael.

Roll call followed and 19 members were present. Two new members and two cadet families were also present for a total of 25.

Minutes of August Meeting were approved with a correction having already been made. Motion by John Derrick and second by Leon Ishmael Motion Carried.

Treasurer Report followed. Balance on Hand as of Nov. 16th is \$1268.48 Motion to accept report was made by Andy Davis and Second by Leon Ishmael. Motion Carried.

Prayers were offered for Harvey Wise, Billy Belcher, Johnny and Joyce Williamson and Wanda Goodson mentioned by Vernell O Martin. Card for Harvey Wise was signed at the meeting and sent.

Cards for Billy Belcher and Wanda Goodson had been sent prior to the meeting.

Please continue to save tabs and School labels, and bring to Camp out when you can.

Check for Iva for Palm Light Tree to be sent.

If you should spent any Monies for Retiree outing, save receipts and turn in to Treasurer for reimbursement.



Question raised regarding amount of Money available for entertainment. Some thought it was either \$100.00 or \$150.00. Suggested we check previous minutes to verify.

February Luncheon will be held at The Grecian Garden in West Columbia. Watch Red Bug for directions or address.

Fred Muckle indicated that the Retiree Rally will be in Canton, TX this year. He hopes some will be able to attend.

Wagon Master Guy Dean is looking for a location for Spring State and Retiree Camp out. State part to be hosted by folks from Lancaster, SC. He also has drafted a survey form for input to see if those in attendance are pleased with the Campground and Rally. He is looking for your suggestions regarding this campout and any other input you may have. Motion to adjourn was made and passed. Lunch follow at Gilligan's Seafood Restaurant in the Ladson Area.

Respectfully:

Vi Ammons --- Secretary-Treasurer
Palmetto Retirees



MYRTLE BEACH COMBERS

First, let us wish you all a belated Happy Thanksgiving. Second, we want to thank you for coming to the Fall Camp out at KOA in No. Charleston, SC. We hope you enjoyed both the ice cream social on Friday and the Dinner on Saturday. Thank you Vi Ammons for all the cooking you did to make the weekend a success. Sorry to say that a lot of local folks were missing because we surely had plenty of food for all.

When you get your Redbug check the dates and locations of our camp outs. Be sure to mark your calendars, so you will be able to be part of the fun for the coming events.

We want to take this chance to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. And we look forward to seeing many of you South Carolina FCRV Members in 2017.

Fred Muckle --- President

FROM THE DESK OF YOUR RETIREE WAGON MASTER

Palmetto Retiree Winter '17 Campout

The luncheon will be held at the Grecian Gardens, 2312 Sunset Blvd, W. Columbia, SC. It will commence at 12:00 Noon on Tuesday the 14th of February 2017. {Hey! That's Valentine's Day, good planning!}. All members, family of members and guests are invited to attend.

The SC FCRV Combined Spring '17 Rally:

WHERE: New Green Acres Campground is the place. It's near Walterboro SC

WHEN: Arrive Friday, May 19, 2017, and depart Thursday May 25, 2017.

WHY: We're going to rally down south just to get warm! Not only is the Site Price Right but The New Green Acres RV Resort in a fine campground with a great Recreation Hall that is available to us free of charge!!

DETAILS: The Full Hook Up site costs are \$25/night for 30A and \$27/night for 50A, including taxes. For reservations call them at 843-538-3450. Complete details will be published in the March Redbug Gazette. Sneak preview---They have Free Cable!! (Not that you'll use it!)

Palmetto Retiree Summer '16 Rally--

Please recall that this Rally is being held at the **Barnyard RV Resort** in Lexington SC., **Sunday, August 20 through Thursday August 23, 2017**

I just called down there to find out how reservation "Bookings" were going. Eight (8) sites have been Booked. During the conversation **I was told that FCRV had reserved all of the "Daily Sites" available in the campground!** It turns out that there are only: 21 FHU and 4 Overflow sites available for daily camping!!! I was amazed, First of all, I thought that I had 30 sites reserved, and, that they had a whole lot more sites left over!! Not true!--The remaining sites are Permanent and Monthly sites. Second, I am amazed that I am just finding this out, but, never-the-less, this is the situation. Are ya'll "getting my drift" yet?

I was about to put a notice in Barb Turners Blog reminding the members of our international camping organization of our past invitation to them to camp with us during this rally. Now I realize that I cannot do that until I am sure that all State Members who plan on attending this rally have booked a site. Please take one of two (2) actions **immediately:**

1. **Book your reservation now!** Barnyard will not keep your deposit unless you fail to cancel your reservation 24 hours prior to your arrival date, or
2. **Call, or E-Mail me,** just as soon as you know, that you **will not attend this rally.**

I will not invite any "out-of-staters" until I know the situation with **all** South Carolina FCRV members.

Details: Call The Barnyard at 800-633-6351 or 803-957-1238. Full Hook Site cost is \$31.19/night, for 30 & 50A. Seventeen (17) sites left. Over Flow Site (including water & Elec) is \$20.88. Four (4) sites available. Both site cost figures include tax.

Why Should I Go? This campout will provide you with the "Once-In-A -Lifetime" experience of viewing a **Total Solar Eclipse – Midnight at Midday!** It happens on the afternoon of Monday the 21st. Our Program Committee is planning an Eclipse Party to last into the evening. Can it get any better than that? More details in the March Redbug Gazette.

FCRV Combined Fall '17 Rally

The rally will be held at the Apache Campground in North Myrtle Beach. The dates for the rally will be November 10th through the 16th. The Retire Night Out will be a Riverboat Dinner Cruise. You're not going to want to miss this one-----better get this one on your calendar right now!

A Special Invitation

To all of you South Carolina members who have missed camping with us --Please consider this a personal invitation to experience A State, Regional, or International Event in the coming months. You are always welcome at any of our State or Chapter Rallies

FCRV (South Carolina) RALLY DATES

For the benefit of our new members: ---- The dates of FCRV campouts are part of our bylaws and cannot be easily changed. The dates, as written in our By-Laws, are as follow:

- ✚ Spring “Combined” Campout -- The spring Campout to be held starting Friday, of the second full week in May. Campers can plan to depart the campground on the following Thursday.
- ✚ Fall “Combined” Campout -- The Fall Campout to be held in November starting on Friday, two weeks prior to Thanksgiving. Campers can plan to depart on the following Thursday.
- ✚ The Palmetto Retiree Summer Campout -- The Summer campout shall be Sunday thru Thursday of the third full week of the month of August.

This, obviously, means that members can plan activities around their campouts years ahead of time.

Guy Dean –Wagon Master

ANOTHER GREAT CAMPING EXPERIENCE

Well, the Deans have joined the “I have camped overnight in all of the “Lower48 States” Club, if such an organization exists. Yup, our Color Tour II, this last September and October allowed us to camp in the last of the 5 missing states.

This trip, we agreed, was the best ever. Our only “Date to Make” was to visit the states of New Hampshire and Vermont during the 1st two weeks of October. We arrived in New Hampshire on the 2nd and departed Vermont on the 11th of October. The “Leaf Peaking” was very nice. We had been watching the leaf color change as we crossed the northern part of the US and Canada: now we are heading home via family visits.

During this portion of our return trip we visited with our son Tim, and his *family*, in Hopewell Junction NY. With them we traveled down to NYC and visited the newly opened “Ground Zero Museum, It was a “Chilling” tour, we did not like “remembering”. But we think it’s something everyone should see. We then overnighted in Trenton NJ, where we had dinner with family members. Continuing south, we stopped in to visit our daughter Janet, and family, in Cockeysville MD. We enjoyed a very relaxing tour of Baltimore’s Inner Harbor via a Harbor Taxi. It was an inexpensive “Get-On-Get-Off tour that included a lovely outdoor lunch at a water-side restaurant. We arrived home on the 22nd of October, as fresh as when we were when we began our trip on Sept 1st.

Earlier, September the 1st, the date of our departure from Lancaster, on the way to making that “Date”, we visited Wisconsin’s (the 3rd of the states on our list) “House on the Rock” (it should be on everyone’s “Bucket List as it is an outstanding attraction), and the Wisconsin Dells. We viewed the “Dells” from aboard an Amphibious Vehicle, a “Duck”. Very interesting geology rising out of, and bordering, the Wisconsin River.

The Mall of America, and Itasca State Park, the location of the Headwaters of the Mississippi is located, were Minnesota's contribution to our list of "sites to visit". I will never forget the agony I experienced while walking, barefooted, from, and then back to, the bench where I had removed my shoes in order to wade in the Headwaters!

Fargo ND, (the 5th state), was a "stroll in the park: my feet were all better! We just strolled around town. We did visit a bakery where we actually purchased, and devoured, 2 of the most expensive pastries we have ever come across.

We were told that the Trans Canadian Highway, from Winnipeg east, was not so good. So I opted to drive back east across the north end of MN, WI, and the UP of MI in order to enter Canada at Sault Ste Marie. It was a good decision. Along the way to the locks at the Sault, we visited Copper Harbor where we walked the very rocky shore of Lake Superior and toured a copper mine, **all by ourselves**. We took lots of pictures during our stop at Picture Rocks National Seashore.

We just "lazed", on the Trans-Canadian Highway, across Canada, admiring the leaf color—Yup, the leaves were starting to show some change. We overnighted in Sudbury, Mattawa, Renfrew, Ottawa, Montreal, and Quebec City. In Mattawa we visited a tiny (four floor) museum which revealed the very interesting history of the area. The town displayed 16, larger than life, carved wooden statues of local historic heroes. The arrangement of the beautiful government buildings in Ottawa made their viewing very pleasant. Montreal is "Under construction". From the "pot-holed Route 17 approaching the city, to the inner city streets, and even including the highway leading away: It was bad! We did the "old town: but we do regret that we forgot to visit the Montreal's Old Underground City! Both New & Old Quebec City were a marvelous view from the upper deck of our tour bus. However, we did enjoy, the most, our foot tour of Quebec's Old Town.

Maine was "Clams & Lobster", the Point Pemaquid Campground and Light House, The Desert of Maine, and a visit to the Maine Martine Museum in Bath. Part of the museum visit was a Kennebec River boat tour. We were treated to a stunning view of an Admiral Zumwalt Class Guided Missile Destroyer (2nd hull of the series). It was tied to a pier at its construction site, the Bath Iron Works. If you haven't seen this latest war ship—Google it, you'll be as amazed as we were.

Well, if you have read this far it's time to go back to the top of this "piece" and ----and it is October 22 and we are back home.

The weather during the whole trip was unbeatable!" As we recall, we had one overnight shower, and, one period of rain that lasted from morning till late afternoon, and I still "grilled supper" that evening.

Submitted by Guy & Jeanne Dean

REMINDER ABOUT THE FCRV CAMPING TODAY MAGAZINE.

The September issue of Camping Today will be the last printed and mailed issue. After that it will only be available online each month on the FCRV website, www.fcrv.org. To reach the Camping Today issue "select" (click on) "News" at the very top of the opening page. Then select "Camping Today", then on the next page, select the latest or, any issue you would care to view.

Those without internet access should contact the national office - 716-5668-6242.



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