

# Campvention 2011 Activities

By DeWayne Johnston

Not only the hosts, Southeast Region #6, but also the weatherman gave a very warm welcome to the 197 camping units, 8 campsite camp passes, 3 off site camp passes, and 3 day passes (488 people) attending FCRV's 51<sup>st</sup> annual Campvention, July 8 – 14 at Exchange Park Fairgrounds in Ladson, South Carolina. Fortunately the buildings were air conditioned.

As always there were numerous seminars such as birds of prey, using Facebook, e-cards, business cards, Sky-Med, amateur radio, ANPAC Insurance, and full timing. Kentucky Colonels, Uie Club, and Ambassador Club had lunch meetings. FCRV's executive board met Saturday afternoon. The general membership meeting was held Wednesday evening. Attendance was good at the hospitalities presented by the Great Lakes Region, Trustees, Canada Region 7, Southeast Region 6, and Youth.

The youth center was a busy place with more than 40 kids under 12. On Saturday they had a Kentucky Derby day and made stick horses and had races. They had a noise parade which included a welcome detour through the board meeting. Sunday was water day with sprinklers, beach ball and water relay races. Monday they made use of the lake in the center of the fairgrounds with a fishing derby and prizes. Naturalist Roark Ferguson brought several live animals including Turbo, the large turtle and an 8 foot Burmese python. He gave some good information on animal safety. Adults enjoyed it as well. Tuesday featured youth Olympics with lunch and medals. Wednesday was youth Mardi Gras day. They made masks, hosted an open hospitality and had an evening pre-teen dance. There were. Also daily crafts and games.

Sunday morning a non-denominational church service was held by Chaplain, Pat Conley. Heather Borton directed the FCRV Choir accompanied by Shirley Smith on the keyboard. The \$466 offering was given to Habitat for Humanity.

Teens had lots to do at the teen center and on the volleyball and softball fields. They had nightly dances, including the Teen Queen Ball on Wednesday evening. They had ultimate frisbee, water war games, relays, a cyber bullying seminar, tie dyed shirts, pizza party and helped with youth Olympics. Several teens were driven by adults to the midnight opening of the new Harry Potter movie Thursday night. Those in the Miss FCRV Pageant had daily rehearsal and the Teen Queen Tea.

The adult center had lots of activities also, most held after the evening program. They included a homemade ice cream social on Sunday, birthday bingo, pegs and jokers, minute to win it, human tic tac toe, poker walk, ladder golf, clue live, euchre, chicken foot, spoons, banana shuffle, and a movie night. Adult sports competitions were held in horseshoes and washer toss

(separate article).

Two special DASAT (Disaster Awareness and Safety Training) events were held. On Sunday afternoon, the Charleston Area Red Cross brought in their bloodmobile and 29 FCRV volunteers donated much needed blood. Kellie Cornwell of Kansas organized the blood drive. A special DASAT program open house was set up Wednesday afternoon in the Creative Arts building featuring more than a dozen booths highlighting various segments of the program. It was hosted by DASAT Directors, Marilyn and Mike Rausch of Indiana. Complete details will be in a future article.

Various craft sessions were held and the chapter sale / flea market was held Monday morning. The Red Hat Ladies got together for lunch and entertainment on Wednesday. Daily activities included bible Study, walking / biking, book exchange, nightly jam sessions, and commercial area. Vendors were Sky Med, Sunrise Bedding, Lions Club (food), ANPAC Insurance, Miche Bags, Karen's Embroidery, Wayne's RV Service, and The Sign Man. The Wildlife silent auction had lots of items and went on all week.

The FCRV Parade, on grounds was the big event for Thursday morning. At 10 a.m. the colorful 21 unit assembly was led off by two local motorcycle policemen and they circled the lake in the center of the fairgrounds. The Trustees were dressed in 18<sup>th</sup> century Southern attire and the Parade Stealer award went to The Ohio State Association (separate article).

Throughout the week, FCRVers toured the sites of Charleston and many went to Folly Beach. An old FCRV tradition of nightly noise parades was revived. There was plenty to do on grounds and despite the hot temperatures and sporadic thunderstorms the general atmosphere was one of fun and friendship. Campvention Chairmen Walter and Marilyn Shealy said the turnout could have been better and it was a lot of work, but they were grateful to all the volunteers from the Southeast Region and elsewhere who pitched in and to those who attended.