



The REBEL ROUSER



WIT
CLUB

OFFICERS

Wayne Thomas, President
207 Summerhill Place
Warner Robins, GA 31088
478-328-7926
pwthomas3@yahoo.com

Sid Sidlauskas, VP
111 Hickory Bend Drive
Warner Robins, GA 31088
478-328-2900
audrys.sidlauskas@cox.net

Veronica Padgett, Treasurer
1045 Feagin Mill Road
Warner Robins, GA 31088
478-971-4017
vmp1045@windstream.net

Theda Chambless, Secretary
13368 Chatsworth Highway
Ellijay, GA 30540
706-636-5212
jessetheda@etcmail.com

Volume 7

April, 2014

Number 22

OUR HILLBILLY HOEDOWN WAS GREAT

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



*Wayne Thomas,
President*

I think a good time was had by all at the 2014 Hillbilly Hoedown. We had 27 coaches from Georgia and coaches from eight other states,

even one from Canada. We had outstanding weather the entire week of the rally. The food provided was outstanding and the entertainment was enjoyed by all. All the games went on without a hitch. The corn hole game eventually provided corn cob pipes for some of the hillbillies. Sweet toothers were satisfied with the help of the cake walk. We are all looking forward to next year where the theme will be "Super Heroes." I can't wait to see how many Supermen and Spidermen have bulges where the real heroes don't. I know we will have some lovely Cat Women and Wonder Women among our attendees.

A special thank you goes out to all who helped with the rally, especially our Rally Coordinator and his wife, Fred and Linda Tomsett.

HURRY AND REGISTER FOR THE MAY STATE OUTING

May 16-18, 2014
at the Brickyard Plantation RV Park, Americus, GA
(229) 874-1234

Then let Theda Chambless know at
jessetheda@etcmail.com
or (706) 636-5212

The weather at our April, 2014 Georgia WIT Rally at Hiawassee, Georgia was absolutely gorgeous. We had 42 coaches, and all enjoyed the blue skies, beautiful flowering dogwoods, and green, well cared-for lawns at the RV Park.

Our theme of "Hillbilly Hoedown" was taken literally. Every direction we turned we saw either Jed, Ellie May or Granny.



Ellie May look-alikes Sarah Sowers, Linda Tomsett and Linda Palmer drew a lot of attention, and Jed Clampett look-alikes Rudolph Carroll and Neadom Palmer were realistic.

Almost everyone came for the pre-rally days because of the relaxation afforded them for visiting friends and seeing the surrounding area.



President Wayne Thomas and Pat were at the gate to welcome everyone, along with Vice President Sid Sidlauskas. Tom Padgett did a great job parking people. Ronnie Padgett who was in charge of the

gate, was waiting for knee surgery and couldn't be there as much as she wished.

JoAn Blanksen helped at the gate, but had lots of fun playing with Karen Sidlauskas' little cart.

I, your newsletter editor, also worked at the gate. I thoroughly enjoyed the worker's camaraderie and being first to greet our guests.

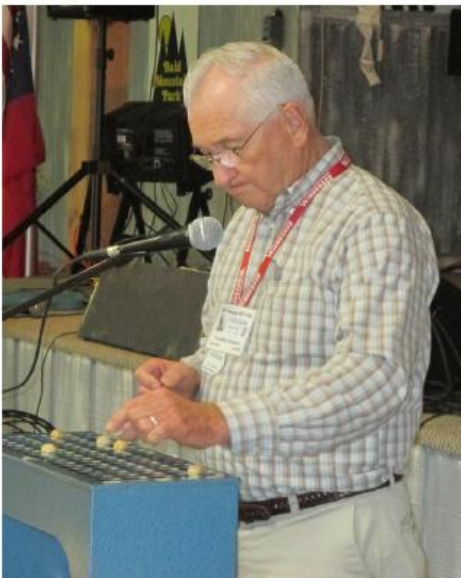




Fred Tomsett, our Rally Coordinator, built the stage set in the pavilion perfectly. It showed a mountain cabin with a clothes line (check out the purple panties), an outhouse and a realistic moonshine still! GREAT JOB, FRED AND LINDA!

After a meet-and-greet session at the pavilion, John Byrnside of Chemseal provided us with a Hamburger Welcome Cookout. Thanks, John, we can always count on you to start us offright!

Cash BINGO kept lots of us busy Wednesday evening. Franklin Jackson, assisted by Dan Rankin, did his usual great job organizing and calling the event.



Franklin is intent on his job!

Thursday morning at 10:00, we had the official opening ceremonies. The usual presenting of the colors was offered by veterans John Byrnside and Tom Padgett.



After an opening prayer by Chaplain Jesse Chambless, everyone was officially welcomed by President Wayne Thomas.



President Thomas then introduced Butch and Becky Moore, the Eastern Area representatives from WIT.

Immediately following the ceremony, Butch and Becky offered an informative seminar pertaining to the Grand National Rally and WIT Tours.

At 2:00 in the afternoon, we had an ice cream social sponsored by Farm and City Insurance of Forest City, Iowa.



Sarah Sowers, Linda Tomsett, Richard and Lyn Brown are ready for action.

Jamin' with Dan on the porch of the pavilion is always a highlight. Dan was so happy because he found a buddy that loves music as much as he does. Tom Long of JIRAH (a vendor) jammed right along with Dan as if it had been practiced many times.



After an afternoon get-together at the park pavilion, most of us found that we didn't need dinner as we were so full of hors d'oeuvres. It was quite a layout.

Then it was BINGO again in the pavilion. There were more people there due to the big winnings of the previous night. Even if everyone couldn't win, they seemed to enjoy the game and the company.



Ronnie Padgett was his able helper. She only helped when she could be comfortably seated.

Allen Wheelus and Nancy Young of Florida were the big BINGO winners. Nancy won \$111.00 and Alan won \$114.00.



Friday morning breakfast was provided by Camping World RV and was scrumptious. We had scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits, gravy, coffee and orange juice.



Sid Sidlauskas, Wayne Thomas, Roy Sowers, and Fred Tomsett prepared our breakfast, with the help of Jim Bell who was in the kitchen baking the biscuits.

LET THE GAMES BEGIN:

Outside the pavilion on the lawn our games began (despite a drizzle).

The "corn hole" last year was called the "washer toss." You had to put a short corn cob through the holes on the board. Some corn cob pipes were made out of the remaining cobs.

The "ladder" game required tossing joined balls around bars on a short ladder. Congratulations to all who won. I think Gone with the Winnie's John Findeis and Eileen Clark won several games. They are real competitive!



When asked who was going to win this ball game, the visiting states' team let me know loudly that they intended to win.

Unfortunately, the "beanbag baseball" game favored the home team. Georgia won over the visiting states. But they have vowed that next year they will win.

Our hot dog lunch was sponsored by Dave Kobos of Apalachee RV Center. After lunch many of our men attended his RV Maintenance Seminar. Dave answered all their questions and gave pointers on maintaining their RVs.



Sarah Sowers served Dave Kobos some of the hot dogs he provided.

PETS ON PARADE:

There were so many beautiful dogs in the parade that I'm sure the judges had a hard time deciding which ones the three prizes should go to. I wanted all of them to have a prize.

However, that can't happen, so the first prize went to Pancho whose servant is Pat Hatmaker.



Only a few of our contestants



First Place - Pancho Hatmaker

Second place went to Laddie who is served by Nancy Young from Florida.



Second Place - Laddie Young

Third prize went to Ginger whose servant is Pat Thomas.



Third Place - Ginger Thomas

Mary Ann Findeis' jewelry-making class was quite a challenge, but everyone ended up with a beautiful bracelet.



Mary Ann assisting Charlotte Stephens

Our evening meal was catered which consisted of barbeque pork sandwiches, cole slaw, baked beans, potato salad and apple cobbler ala mode.

Next came one of the highlights of the Rally - the Clampett look-alike contest. There was lots of competition for Ellie May, Granny and Jed, but no one seemed to want to emulate Jethro or Cousin Pearl.



Fred Tomsett congratulated Sarah Sowers as she was awarded the trophy for looking the most like Ellie May.



Ronnie Padgett won the trophy for looking (and acting) so much like Granny Clampett.



Fred presents the trophy to Rudolph Carroll for being most like Jed Clampett.

Georgia Home Grown Review:

This was probably the most entertaining part of the Rally. Our Jim Bell as Jumpin' Jim, Lyn Brown as Linnie Pearl, Dan Rankin and Tom Long on guitars with Nathan Findley on the banjo. Hubert Blankenship stole the show, as usual.



Jumpin' Jim Bell kept things going with his "Hillbilly Jokes." (Note the road kill on his podium.) But when he needed to fill in for a few minutes before the real entertainment began, he called on Hubert Blankenship to help him out. He did great, as usual. He certainly knows how to hold an audience's attention.



Lyn Brown as Linnie Pearl kept us in stitches as she went from outhouse jokes to interacting with the musicians.



You would have thought Nathan Findley, Tom Long and Dan Rankin were an established musical act they were so good.



A good Saturday morning breakfast of pancakes, sausages and coffee started us off.

Shortly after breakfast many of us took in the Mini Golf Tournament. Denny Harrison, Linda Tomsett and Sarah Sowers were winners.



Denny, Linda & Sarah received their prizes



The big event for Saturday afternoon was the old fashioned cake walk. Tables of luscious cakes awaited the winners. Lively music by Dan Rankin set the stage, along with the banter by Jim Bell which kept everything going.



Jim Bell, Sarah Sowers and Barbara Bell entertain the walkers and audience



Dean and Peggy Woodruff of Integrity RV in Douglasville contributed to our upcoming entertainment, and also added several door prizes. Thanks, Dean!

After the catered meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, bread and peach cobbler (again ala mode), we had our evening entertainment.

The talented BlueRoad Blue Grass Band kept us tapping our feet with the peppy Blue Grass music. It was "hoe-down" music at its best.



After the entertainment, Fred Tomsett gave door prizes and prizes for the games. He also announced winners of the Georgia Basket and other drawings.

After a continental breakfast Sunday morning, we all headed for our next destination. **It was an awesome rally!** I can't wait 'til next year to see the "Super Heroes" costumes.

BALD MOUNTAIN PARK RV RESORT



The Bald Mountain Park RV Resort is a beautiful place at this time of year. The blue skies, beautiful flowering trees and well maintained facilities were a pleasure. It is an ideal place for a Spring Rally.

OUR VENDORS



Tom and Stella Long of JIRAH LED Lighting are from Ontario, CA. Tom loves playing the guitar.



Dorothea Adams, representative of SkyMed, was a welcome vendor. She served as a judge for our Pet Parade.



We have known Chip Maddox from Rally's "R" Us so long that we feel he is one of us.

BINGO



Allen Wheelus won \$114.00



Everyone enjoys BINGO



Nancy Young won \$111.00

DRAWINGS



Fred Tomsett with the Georgia Basket



Barbara Bell, Melva Dalton and Bobby Eubanks are ready to sell tickets.



Bobby Eubanks doing his thing

COSTUMES



HAPPY FACES



Denny & Jean Harrison



Melanie Metzler



Bob & Maryann Beardsall



Milton & Melva Dalton



Neadom & Linda Palmer



Sarah & Roy Sowers



Barbara & Jim Bell



Franklin & Margaret Jackson



Dan & Margie Rankin



Kris & Ray Yontz



Rick & Beth Introini



Linda & Fred Tomsett

GAMES



John Findeis gets a home run



Leader Pat ready to get started



The Judges compare notes



Eileen Clark in true form



Beanbag Baseball



Denny Harrison wins Mini Golf



Pat Scherer from Louisiana releases a well-aimed beanbag



People in the grandstand a.k.a. "Peanut Gallery"



Denny Harrison makes a hole in one



Rick Introimi marks a hole



The Hatmakers, Karen Chappell and Eileen Clark await their turn