



Georgia Winnie Rebels



July and August 2006

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GNR ... what a trip! The Georgia delegation had 21 coaches, with most parked on the Georgia Row. A large percentage of those were there for the pre-rally week, too. The pre-rally schedule was hectic to the ladies and soft for the guys, allowing the men to have excess time to spend at the various parts stores and participating in "behind the scenes" Winnebago Plant tours. Once the Grand National Rally kicked off, time really began to fly by. An exceptional number of vendors and vendor tents were present, seminars being conducted every hour, around the clock entertainment, 2007 motor homes to explore, rides for all ages and fellowship with people from all over north America! As tradition would have it, the GA Row made ice cream and couldn't keep up with the demand! Because of the heat and threat of rain, we all went to a local pizza parlor for our "row dinner". We had our own private room - everyone had fun and we all enjoyed the air conditioning!

Just a few comments of personal interest: Kathy Baldwin bakes a really good strawberry pie (she made several while in Forest City!); Dan Rankin was seen playing his guitar everywhere from the GA Row to the big stage; Myra Stainback got to know Doug Ralston better riding the Twister; Myra also learned how to blow the air horns when Ron Foore was directed too close to the Stainback coach; Brenda Ralston getting all the ladies to make rugs; Don Stroud playing golf; Wayne Welch hosting a "daiquiri party"; Doug Ripley leading our caravans to distant restaurants; Mike Schneider saying "Yes, dear" to whatever his wife Martha might say; Kathryn Griffin adding personal touches to her coach; David Stainback posting the Georgia flag; Roy Sowers providing electrical power to run the ice cream freezers; Kay Stroud picking up little red flags; Ron Foore leading everyone in country singing; Grant Baldwin supervising the guys running ice cream freezers and Doug Ripley in his "cowboy" hat. I could keep going, but you can see we all had a great time in spite of the heat.

Georgia was recognized with a few awards:
 2006 WIT Club News "Newsletter of Excellence Contest", Georgia Gone with the Winnies, Editor Joyce Berens received Honorable Mention.
 2006 WIT Club "Web Site Contest" saw the Georgia Metro Atlanta Winnies and Georgia Gone with the Winnies, web master Fred Tomsett both received Honorable Mention - Local Chapters.
 Club of Excellence was awarded to the State Chapter of Georgia Winnie Rebels. In addition, two of our Local Chapters, Gone with the Winnies and Metro Atlanta Winnies were recognized as Chapters of Excellence. Members of these chapters will be given pins designating this achievement at the September State Meeting.
 Congratulations to all members of our clubs and a special congratulations to Joyce Berens and Fred Tomsett. Jobs well done!

Don't forget to let me know if you plan to attend the next State Meeting, September 15-17 at the Sugar Mill RV Park, Thomasville, GA. Details of the meeting will be coming out soon.

See you there!
 Doug Ralston

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Just two more weeks and we will all meet at the Sugar Mill RV Park located just north of Thomasville, GA! To provide you information from which to plan your weekend, please be guided by the following:

Bring your walking and dancing shoes! Friday activities will include a drive to Cairo, GA to lunch at a unique "chicken" restaurant, tour a extensive private collection of toys, cars and "stuff" (three buildings worth) and later that evening dine on local cat fish at the Homecoming restaurant. After dinner, we will have a business meeting then play cards, games and/or just enjoy talking and catching up with each other.

Saturday morning your hosts will provide you a full breakfast after which we will caravan in cars to the Thomas County Museum of History. This is a must stop and we will have our own personal guide where we will learn why wealthy Northerners flocked to Thomasville in the 1880's and how the antebellum cotton plantations were transformed into magnificent quail-hunting retreats. Leaving the museum, we will caravan to Pebble Hill Plantation south of Thomasville. Bring your own bag lunch and we will provide water. We will have a picnic on the grounds of the Plantation prior to the tour. The plantation covers over 3,000 acres with a stately 40 room Main House, and is the perfect place to glimpse into the past to the time of the great southern sporting plantations. This is the only plantation of its kind open to the public.

Saturday evening dinner will be a pot luck supper (please bring a dish or desert to share and your own drink & the club will provide baked ham). Following dinner, our DJ will provide 50-60's music to dance to.

On both Friday and Saturday, if you have an interest in riding in an authentic '32 Ford Street Rod, your dream can come true! Weather permitting, Bill Flowers has agreed to bring this "hot rod" to the campground and will be pleased to share the fun with you.

A very light breakfast and coffee/juice will be provided on Sunday morning.

I'm looking forward to a fun weekend with all our friends,

Doug Ralston

Some pictures from the 2006 GNR



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