



The REBEL ROUSER



**WIT
CLUB**

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A GEORGIA MOUNTAIN CRUISE

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



Fred Tomsett, President

This year we had another fun filled rally. We had more commercial sponsorship than any past year. Camping World RV Sales of Atlanta, Integrity RV of Douglasville, GA, Apalachee RV of Auburn, GA, Coachcraft by MacDonal, Chemseal of Columbus, GA, Farm & City Insurance of Forest City, IA, Mid-State RV, Camping World of Byron, GA, The WIT Club, The French Market of Ashburn, GA and Carroll's Sausage and Meats of Ashburn, GA all contributed to our rally. Many GWR members donated prizes and Georgia Basket items.

This is my last rally as President, but our next President, Wayne Thomas, has asked me to be the Rally Master for the 2014 State Rally. The 2014 rally will be the week of April 22 through 27, 2014. This is one week later than usual because Easter falls on the third Sunday in 2014. Wayne Thomas has picked the theme of the 2014 rally and it will be "Hillbilly Hoe-down."

I had a chance to talk with many of our out-of-state guests who praised me on how nice the rally was and how friendly and welcoming our Georgia members were. I have 1,600 pictures from our members to use for the rally website. I will send out a notice when they are posted. Thanks again to all who helped with the 2013 rally.

I hope to see all of you at the May state meeting. *Fred Tomsett, President, GWR*

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(For more photos, go to GAWIT.com)



One of the places we stopped on our cruise was Hawaii. Sta-Goners Nell and Rudolph Carroll, Bill and Jean Moye, and Linda and Neadom Palmer were dressed for the occasion.

Our April 18-21, 2013 Georgia State WIT Rally was held at the Bald Mountain Camping Resort in Hiawassee, Georgia. The theme was "A Georgia Mountain Cruise." We had 57 coaches spread all over the spacious grounds of the mountain resort, with room to spare.

We had gorgeous weather Thursday, but it rained hard on Friday and was in the high thirties on Saturday. The sun peeked out Sunday morning just in time for us to leave the mountains. However, we kept to our schedule with the exception of rescheduling a couple of games.

Gate workers got there on Monday to be able to start receiving and parking people Tuesday morning at 9:00. Ronnie Padgett was in charge of the checking in process, assisted by Theda Chambless, Tom Wilson and Dan Rieker. Tom Padgett and Milton Dalton led attendees to their spots in their golf carts.

Those checking in on Tuesday had a day of relaxation or they may have chosen to explore the surrounding area. Some went to Helen, while others shopped in local stores.

Even though Wednesday was still pre-rally, there was golf headed by Pat Thomas and a Hamburger Welcome Cookout provided by John Byrnside.



Pat Thomas



John Byrnside

The rally officially started with the opening ceremony Thursday morning. John Byrnside and Milton Dalton presented the colors. We then said the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.



After an invocation by GWTW Chaplain Jesse Chambless, President Fred Tomsett introduced the Eastern Area Representatives Butch and Becky Moore.



Butch and Becky brought us greetings from the WIT home office.



Shortly after the opening ceremonies, Becky presented a seminar on the upcoming Grand National Rally and WIT Tours. We had lots of questions, and she had all the answers.

After lunch on our own, at 2:00 we had an Ice Cream Social sponsored by Farm and City Insurance of Forest City, Iowa. It was delicious - thanks Farm and City.



Bob Beardsall of Canada just couldn't get enough chocolate syrup on his ice cream.



Jamin' with Dan on the pavilion front porch kept us entertained as the talented guitarist "did his stuff." Everyone seemed to like the Old favorites and westerns best.



Bill Moye and Fred Tomsett enjoyed the offerings at our Thursday afternoon get together on the porch of the pavilion.

After dinner on our own, many of us gathered in the pavilion to enjoy several games of BINGO, plus a lot of visiting and kidding around.

Friday morning breakfast was superb with all the usual mountain fixins'. Scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits, gravy, coffee and juice kept us going fine until lunch time. Our breakfasts were sponsored by Camping World.



Jim Bell and Tom Padgett were doing a good job preparing the sausages.



After breakfast, our Eastern Area Representative, Butch Moore, tended the WIT store as members purchased articles boasting the new WIT logo.

And then the games began!



Wayne Thomas, Gennie Fleming, Sarah Sowers, Eileen Clark and John Findeis get ready to kick off the games.

Wayne and Pat Thomas did a great job supervising the games. Eileen Clark and John Findeis won the ring toss and Tom Fleming won the ladder game.

The "Winners" team were the winners at Bean Bag Baseball, and Dick Graham won the Road Kill Rally. Marvin Straw won the Mini-Golf Tournament.



Cake walk workers Barbara Bell, Lyn Brown, Sarah Sowers and Elaine Byrnside clown around while waiting for the event to begin.

Thanks to all the people who brought cakes or goodies, the "Cake Cruise" was a resounding success. It wouldn't have been possible without you.

After a fine catered dinner of barbecue with all the trimmings, President Fred Tomsett presided over the Hula Skirt Contest followed by the Hawaiian Shirt Contest.



Sta-Goner Linda Palmer won the Hula Skirt Contest.



GWTW Tom Padgett won the Hawaiian Shirt Contest.

After prizes were awarded, Jumpin' Jim (Jim Bell) emceed the "Georgia Home Grown Review," organized and overseen by Dan Rankin (Marty Robbins)



Jumpin' Jim did a great job, as usual.

The Home Grown entertainment was great. The three Barbaras were a real hit.



Barbara Trent of "Best Badges Plus," Barbara Nicholson and Barbara Bell did their stuff.



Lyn Brown as Miss Hazel Nutt was a riot. She had everyone practically rolling on the floor, especially Bob Beardsall from Canada.



Dan Rankin's Kazoo Band's rendition of "When the Saints Go Marching In," was overwhelming, to say the least.



John Cowan and Marty Robbins sang a duet, after which John did a terrific "Ham Bone" act.



Nick Nicholson and Miss Hazel Nutt sang their version of *The Bicycle Built for Two*, only theirs was changed to *The Motor Home Built for Two*. FUNNY!!



President Fred Tomsett, assisted by Eastern Area Representative Butch Moore and GWTW Pat Lee, drew names and gave out door prizes. Fred also announced the winners of the 50/50 contest (Butch Moore), the Money Umbrella (Jesse Chambless), the two chairs (Linda Tomsett), and the Georgia Basket (Marvin Straw).

The Pancake Brigade



Jim Bell, Bill Moye, Wayne Thomas and Sid Sidlauskas made sure we had plenty of pancakes for Saturday breakfast.

Saturday we had a hot dog lunch sponsored by the Apalachee RV Center.



After lunch Apalachee owner Dave Kobos held an RV Seminar - sort of a question and answer session, and believe me, there were a lot of questions. He did a good job.



Dave brought along his restored Flxible 1952 Visicoach for our enjoyment. He also brought his lovely wife, Mary.



Mary Ann Findeis taught a jewelry-making class with the assistance of Theda Chambless (who didn't have the faintest idea what she was doing). Each lady left with a pair of beautiful earrings I'm sure they will wear many, many times.

Our catered dinner was roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, roll, tea, with banana pudding for dessert.



Peggy and Dean Woodruff of Integrity RV had dinner with us and stayed to enjoy the "Majic" band, which they had sponsored.



Chuck Cape, the "Majic" vocalist and band leader, kept everyone clapping or swaying to the beat of their lively music.



Sarah Sowers and Lyn Brown performed with Chuck and did a superb job. I think he wanted to keep them as part of his show.

There was a lot of dancin' goin' on, as you can see below.



Linda & Neadom Palmer



Yvonne & John Cowan



Lyn & Richard Brown



Mary Ann & John Findeis



Chuck kids with Donna Birt, a first-timer.

After a Sunday continental breakfast, we said our goodbyes, unhooked our coaches and were on our way to other rallies, or caravans, or summer vacations.

It was another good one - and most of the credit goes to President Fred Tomsett. **THANK YOU, FRED!**

OUR GATE CREW



Parker Tom Padgett talking with Dan Rieker, another gate worker



Our Esteemed Leader Ronnie Padgett



Parker Milton Dalton



Tom Wilson inspects the new addition to the Resort entrance



President Fred Tomsett said he just came by to see how we were doing, but I really think he was just showing off his new Trek Pure Bike



Theda Chambless seems to be holding up the Resort sign

OUR CASUALTIES



Ronnie Padgett tore tendons in her leg the first night she was at the rally



Nick Nicholson broke his leg the second day he was at the rally



Mary Ann Findeis broke her arm right before the rally, making it inconvenient for her to teach her jewelry-making class.

TICKET SALES



Pat Thomas was certainly ready to take money for the ticket on the chair.



Nancy Carrier, ticket sales chairperson, found something exceedingly funny.



Nancy wraps up a sale to a happy customer.



Sturdy Folding Chair



Canon Laser Printer



Money Umbrella



Georgia Basket



Barbara Bell and Lyn Brown prepare cakes for walking

CAKE WALK



Jim Bell and Karen Knight identify the cakes and call winning numbers



Wanda Eubanks and Jesse Chambless sell tickets



Melva Dalton and Pat Lee took up tickets



Sid Sidlauskas prepares a table for the cake walk



Karen Knight and Barbara Bell clown around on the stage

GAMES



Paula Burtch has a determined look on her face



John Findeis makes sure the score is correct for the **Ladder Game**



Eileen Clark is in good form



Rudolph Carroll tosses the washer as Byron Lewis of Alabama looks on



Ginnie Fleming tries her hand at the **Washer Toss** as Tom Fleming watches



Fred Tomsett inspects the **Road Kill** as Dan Rankin keeps score



Wayne and Pat Thomas explain the rules of **Bean Bag Baseball**



John Cowan has his turn



Tom Fleming has good form



Pat Thomas keeps score at the **Miniature Golf Tournament**



Butch Moore tries his hand



And the winner was: **Marvin Straw**

OUR VENDORS



Best Badges Plus . . .
John and Barbara Trent



Rally's "R" Us
Chip Maddox



Grill It or Skillet Book
Jane Vogel



Hand-Made Pillows
Linda Swanson for Wounded Warriors

EARRING CLASS



Mary Ann Findeis, Teacher



Linda Tomsett



Betty McHaney



Margie Rankin & Ronnie Padgett



Ronnie Padgett

COSTUMES



Ronnie & Tom Padgett



Becky & Butch Moore



Pat & Jim Hatmaker



Fred & Linda Tomsett



Sarah & Roy Sowers



Lyn Brown, Sarah Sowers & Elaine Bymside