



The Rebel Rouser

The Newsletter of the Georgia Winnie Rebels
April 2024

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COUNTRY HOEDOWN **GWR State WIT Rally** **At the** **Hiawassee KOA Holiday Campground** **Howdy! It's been a while...**

The Georgia Winnie Rebels (GWR) held their **50th State Rally** in Hiawassee, Georgia during the last full week in April. This KOA campground was as beautiful as ever with all of the amenities and beautiful mountainous surroundings. We had 36 Winnebago RVs with 65 country folk participating, including 2 guests. For everyone who missed this Rally, I hope the pictures help you see the fun that was had – they sure helped me!

This Rally is a reunion of Winnebago friends (old and new) and we all ways look forward to seeing each other each year, getting even better acquainted, catching up, and hearing about each of the life adventures we have to tell. And, it is so much fun to have everyone participate and help in everything. As I have been combing through the pictures, lots of volunteers outside of our GWR Club helped throughout this event – thank you thank you!

This weekend started with checking in, getting your welcome/information packet, and signing up to participate in our games.



We unofficially started on Wednesday, April 24^h with a “Meet & Greet” and “Hamburger Welcome Cookout”. Our VP Frank Alciati put a few folks you’ll recognize to work right away!



We had a nice representation from other states: Florida (3), Michigan (1), Mississippi (1), Louisiana (5), North Carolina (1), South Carolina (7), and Ohio (3). There were eleven 1st timers – to our rally. We are so happy y’all came!





Raffle Ticket Table opened up for business - purchasing Raffle Tickets is a must!

Cash Bingo after dinner – we always give all the money away on this game. This year, I’m told, that we gave away \$155.00! The lucky six Bingo winners were Rita Dantin, Sue McCoy, Julie Zevchek, Linda Tomsett, Sarah Sowers and the only male that won, Bobby Braddy.



Thursday morning, the Opening Ceremony was kicked off by Dennis Harrison, our President and emcee, along with Bobby Eubanks, our devotion lead. We recognized all the Veterans that came – and what an honor it is to have them with us. There were several activities this day including a Hot Dog lunch.



Robin Sauve with AB Lifestyles AB Lifestyles RV Bedding participated and set up a spot inside sharing products and selling that day – I hope y’all got to see what they had to offer and bought some of their products. They had a drawing for a \$50.00 Gift Certificate – Frank won that drawing.



Jonathan Brown with 360 Detailing also participated and did a great job of making some coaches look brand new with their equipment and skills – even with the slideouts out!



The Ice Cream Social was at 2:00 PM sharp – this is always enjoyed. It’s fun to see how many come back for seconds!



This is Frank making sure the ice cream was to be delivered on time – all the Winnies are expecting it!



Looks like there was plenty – whew!

Our first night's dinner, as always, is a full-blown pot-luck feast made up of "heavy" snacks that everyone prepared and brought into the big pavilion.

Every year we all out-do ourselves in making sure our appetizers have all the necessary food groups and this year was even better!



Later, Jim Bell and Lyn Brown entertained us all at our annual "**Live Auction**". They make all the items being auctioned look like we could not possibly live without them; and, at the same time, make us want to beat out the other bidders!



Friday morning gave us our first official breakfast with scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits and gravy, juice, and coffee.





You can thank these gentlemen for getting up so early to get breakfast ready for us.



And our servers too!



And of course our clean-up crew.

Games began promptly at 9:00 AM; this year some were outside and some were inside. We played ladder golf, bean bag toss, and even made it back outside for mini-golf after lunch at 2:00 PM.





Just about everyone played something, several participated in as many games as they could.



Waiting for the 25 golfers to arrive...
It was a little chilly, but nice – the air was fresh, the trees were blooming...





Games were followed by our annual Pet Parade, where our pets made us proud with their personalities, looks and perfect behavior – they all were winners in their own category! It is so much fun to see our friends and their pets each year.



Dinner was served at 6:00 PM, We enjoyed a delicious dinner of Meatloaf, southern style green beans, mashed potatoes, gravy, rolls and finished off with a Brownie Trifle. “Brother’s at Willow Ranch” catered our dinners for Friday & Saturday night – and they have always provided us with delicious meals!



After dinner, Linnie Pearl entertained us with her life’s funny adventures and situations. She never fails to give us a belly ache from laughing so hard! And she does update her tales from year to year – so you have to come back each year to hear what else has happened that she’s found funny or strange.



Following Linnie Pearl’s entertainment, everyone stayed for the drawings for prizes – if your name is drawn and you are not present – you get NOTHING. Friday nights Raffle drawings were the 50/50 and a POD Rocker.

Saturday began with a pancake breakfast with sausage and assorted fruit. Many thanks again goes to the men who got up early and fired up the griddles, skillets and who knows what else both Friday & Saturday mornings –Breakfast was enjoyed by all!





Then at 9:30am Bean Bag Baseball began. We had quite a few teams but, we only let one team win.



Did you get your Cake Walk tickets and try your lucky dance around the tables around and around until all the cakes have been won? It began at 3:00 pm Saturday.



Seating for dinner was at 5:30 PM and Brother's cooked another great meal for us. We were served chopped sirloin with mushroom & onion gravy, macaroni & cheese, carrots with dill butter, rolls and finished off with a slice of red velvet cake. Almost everyone dressed up country-style which made our big night more fun.



The Steve Bryson band was our entertainment this year – it wasn't long after they started playing and singing their songs, Winnies started dancing – in the customary fashion. Saturday night is the best night of all!



Winnies danced anywhere they could find. If their partner pooped out, they found another partner!





Costume contest was next - every year a few more of us go ahead and dress up and get more comfortable getting out of our comfort zone and go ahead and dress up. It is fun feeling silly and dressing for this occasion.



We had them all lined up for the voting



I don't think we got everyone to line up – but these were the ones willing to be judged



This year's costume winners:
Donna Smith and Jonathan Bang!
(this is Donna's 2nd year in a row!)

After the music was over, we had our raffle drawings and Game Winner announcements. Linda Tomsett won the 50/50 drawing and Richard Hutson won the GA Basket! You know that in that Georgia basket are only products made in Georgia.



Sunday morning was our final song - ‘ 🎵 **Happy Trails to You** 🎵 – which is a continental breakfast . We say our good-byes and thank you's, help get everything out of the Pavilion and wish everyone's next journey is a safe one and we hope y'all come back next year.

Thank you to Linda Tomsett for planning and organizing this rally and thank you to the rest of the GWR members. They led teams and helped out in so many ways, including working with our favorite vendors to get sponsorships that provide items for our goody bags, door prizes, and meals– this could not have happened without everyone's support. A special call out goes to 1) our VP Frank Alciati who led all our hamburger & hotdog meals, breakfasts and the ice cream social, 2) to our entertainers: Jim Bell and Lyn Brown and 3) John Findeis who led our games (see page 15 for game winners).

We especially thank our sponsors and vendors who always help make our Rally's and events great to participate in. This year's sponsors were: Winnebago Industries of Forest City, Iowa, AB Lifestyles RV Bedding, 360 Detailing , Campers Inn RV, Open Roads Complete RV, Integrity RV, Mid State RV, RCI XL

and National Indoor RV Centers. As you find you need things for your RV or need service for your RV, please consider our sponsors first!

Thank you all who came and participated AND volunteered to help us make this 50th Georgia Winnie Rebel State Rally so much fun and a success! My personal thank you goes to Lyn Brown, who provided me with 450 pictures – with descriptions, the Rally’s Agenda and Team Lead list. I also received great pictures from Roy Sowers, Jim Bell, and John Findeis

Our latest schedule is on the last page of this newsletter and we have three outings through December. Next year’s Rally has been booked in 2025 -mark your calendars for our 51st GWR State Rally – April 30-May 4, 2025, same place, same agenda for “the” same Georgia fun – different theme.

Safe Travels Everyone and keep dancing!

Leslie
GWR Secretary



2024 GWR State Rally Game Winners

(Presented by John Findeis)

Ladder Golf: 1st place, Glenda Christian, 2nd place, Tom Wheeler

Bean Bag Toss: 1st place team: Bob & Glenda Christian
2nd place team: Linda Tomsett & Ron LeMaire



Place Ladder Golf



Bean Bag Toss 1st Place



Bean Bag Toss 2nd Place

Bean Bag Baseball: Winning team:

Linda Tomsett, Bob Christian, Glenda Christian, Linda Tomsett, Tommy Tansil, Sandy Tansil, Julie Zevcheck, Len Zevcheck, Carol Horner, and Tom Horner



Bean Bag Baseball Winning Team

Mini Golf Winners: (presented by Ann Paramore & Joanne Thurston) Fred McCoy, Julia Zevchek, Tom Wheeler, Tommy Tansil, Linda Tomsett, & Sandy Tansil.



Mini Golf Winners



NEVER GO ALONE

2024 GWR Schedule

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Campsite Costs/Notes</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Hosts</u>	<u>Host Contact Info</u>
Sept 13 - 15, 2024	TWIN OAKS RV PARK 305 GEORGIA HWY 26 EAST ELKO, GA 31025 (Exit 127 Off I-75) (478) 987-9361 www.twinoaksvpark.com	A.\$218.28 (11-15 SEP) - 4 nights B.\$163.71 (12-15 SEP 24) - 3 nights \$54.57/night	Check In: 1 pm; Check Out: 12 Noon	Dennis & Jean Harrison and James & Stulynn Simpson	Dennis Harrison: 478-957-6619; hummersix@cox.net Simpsons: 229-300-3024 (J) 229-30-3023 (S) wsim0922@bellsouth.com stulynn68@gmail.com
Oct. 4 - 6, 2024	Willow Valley RV Resort 323 Yorkhouse Road Raven Gap, GA. 30568 706-746-0078 willowvalleyrv.com	10 spots being held together for GWR Rate \$65/night	Check In: 1 pm; Check Out: 11 am	Wanda & Bobby Eubanks Barbara & Jim Bell	Wanda 706-540-8766 Barbara 770-891-0339
Dec 4 - 8, 2024	River Rocks Landing, 1 River Road, Gadsden, AL 35901; 256-543-7111; www.riverrockslanding.com		Check In: 1 pm; Check Out: 12 Noon	Linda Tomsett	404-861-5215; ltomsett11@outlook.com
Apr 30 - May 4, 2025	State Rally - Theme TBD Hiawassee KOA Holiday, 751 Gander Gap Rd, Hiawassee, GA 30546; 888-562-3202; hiawassee@koa.com		Check In: 1 pm; Check Out: 12 Noon	GWR; Linda Tomsett	404-861-5215; ltomsett11@outlook.com