



The REBEL ROUSER



Official newsletter of the Georgia Winnie Rebels - We rouse you to ACTION!

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Volume 1

SPECIAL RALLY ISSUE - APRIL, 2009

Number 2



WESTWARD HO THE WAGONS



OUR PIONEER WOMEN FOLK PREPARED TO HIT THE TRAIL WEST



Betty Werner, Charlene Brewton, Wanda Eubanks, Betty Sprayberry, Christel Cason & Ronnie Padgett

Looks like our pioneers had good weather to start their journey west. Blue skies and glorious sunshine greeted them at the AgriCenter in Perry, Georgia. Our annual State WIT Rally from April 16th through 19th saw them off on their long, arduous journey.

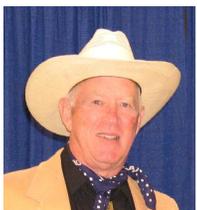
Our greeters, Ronnie Padgett, John Byrnside, JoAn Blankenship, Patricia Heath, Winky Parker and Theda Chambless, set the friendly, down-home pace that lasted throughout the rally.



Tom Padgett, Tom Holloman & Tom McHaney

Our three Toms, along with Bill Moye and Wayne Thomas, were ready and waiting for the gate to open. They did an outstanding job of parking everyone, even though they had to repark a few coaches Tuesday morning as the park management advised us we couldn't use the closer parking lot this time due to several other events that were scheduled for the same week. To those who had to be reparked, we regret any inconvenience this might have caused you. However, we think you will

MESSAGES FROM YOUR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT



Dan Rankin,
President

The 2009 Georgia Winnie Rebel rally "Westward Ho The Wagons" is now history and what a great time was had by all. We had 113 coaches attending from as far north as Minnesota, states in between and one Canadian visitor. All in all, 16 states were represented. In addition to that, we had 18 vendors with 13 of them camping with us.

I want to personally thank everyone who contributed their time and energy in putting this rally together. The list is long!!! Without these wonderful members, our regular members and the out-of-state guests who came and

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I think this year's rally was the best we have ever done. The surveys show that most of our guests were very pleased. We will share the survey results with members at the May State meeting. We were successful because of our members' hard work.

From the top with President Dan Rankin and the rally committee, down to the members that jumped in when needed to move things from place to place, we were a great team. I will point out many of these hard-working folks in the rally web site. When completed, there will be a button on the state website that will

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Fred Tomsett
Vice President



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You'd think you were driving through Monument Valley in your wagon when you entered the meeting room. The back drop that Fred and Linda Tomsett designed and executed kept the "Westward Ho The Wagons" theme in mind, complete with the Indian smoke signals.

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 agree that the new area was beautiful. Walking past the lake and seeing the rippling water as is shown in the preceding picture was a real treat.

The gate was opened on Tuesday morning for the scheduled pre-rally events. Our talented, organized tour director and guide, Elaine Byrnside, led a tour of Macon on Tuesday and Wednesday took the group to the Rural Telephone Museum and Jimmy Carter's Boyhood Farm. I have a feeling she is going to be asked to give a repeat performance at the next rally. Everyone enjoyed it thoroughly.



Our tour director, Elaine Byrnside

Wednesday evening we were treated to a tasty hamburger dinner with all the trimmings. Thanks, partners - you did a great job!



Mary Ann and John Findeis enjoy bingo

Other evening activities were bingo and movies - with popcorn yet, thanks to John and Elaine Byrnside.

OPENING CEREMONIES

With the introduction and welcoming speeches by Mayor James Worrell, AgriCenter manager Rick Davis, and Georgia Travel Representative Mandy McCullough, the 2009 Georgia Winnie Rebel WIT Rally was officially in session.



Mayor Worrell, Keynote Speaker Mandy McCullough & AgriCenter Mgr. Rick Davis

Games played a big part in the enjoyment of the rally, thanks to James Boatfield and his crew. Washer toss and string golf were fun, but the tractor game was a riot. The tractor driver was blindfolded while his partner sat behind him with cords fastened to his arms. The partner had to guide him between the cones. There were many a cone killed that day.

And the winners were . . .



Dan and Linda Tuzzolo from Florida

Thursday afternoon a homemade ice cream social was a tasty event headed by Grant Baldwin. Not only that, but we were serenaded by "Jamin' with Dan" and his sidekicks Eric Oswood and Jim Kobs.



Friday was picture day as Fred Tomsett made extra money for the State coffers.

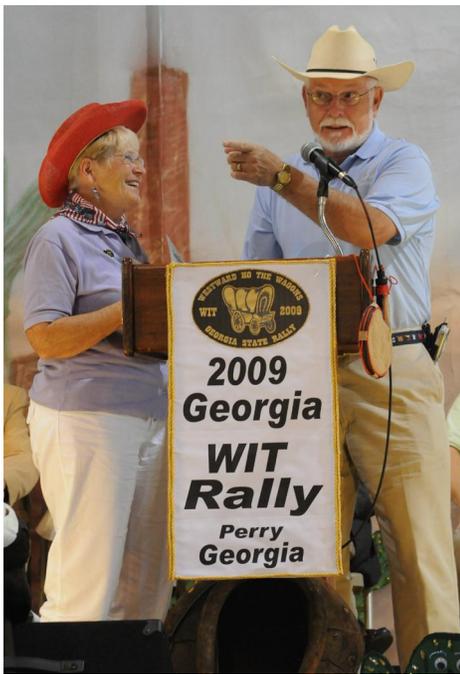


Nita and Lou Sokowoski Posed with Clyde the Wonder Horse



JoAn Blankenship congratulates Ronnie Padgett on the impressive plaque received for her dedication to the Georgia Winnie Rebels for so many years.

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As usual, Mikki and Dick Dodge, our Eastern Area WIT Representatives, added so much to the rally. Their outgoing, friendly personalities make them seem a part of our Georgia family.



Gwin Brewton, Russ Peters and Hubert Blankenship get buns ready for the Friday hot dog luncheon sponsored by John Bleakley Motor Homes.



Response was overwhelming for the old fashioned cake walk which turned out to be a "Cowboy Country Clog." Thanks folks for all the goodies. They were luscious-looking, as you can see above.



Johnnie Carroll draws a winning ticket for "barker" Jim Bell at the cake walk



Ray Shaw was our Friday night entertainment. Back by popular demand, he sang the old favorites that are so beloved by our generation. He and his wife contributed some of their cd's for door prizes. Door prizes were numerous and every coach won at least one.

The Chuck Wagon Style breakfasts kept us all going back for more. Thanks to the Georgia Winnie Rebel men for all their hard work.



Jim Bell, Dennis Sloan, Joe Fowler, Jesse Chambless and Gwin Brewton

We had a wonderful array of vendors this year. They all seemed happy with the results from the rally.

Seminars and classes gave us much needed information, such as CPR training, how to drive a motor coach for ladies and much more.



Ladies that completed the driving course Square dancing with Bob Shiver on Saturday afternoon gave us plenty of exercise to work off some of the great food we had at the rally.



A new event this year was the Pet Parade. I didn't know we had so many cute doggies. There were two categories: Best Dressed and Cutest. Below are pictures of the three winners with the proud owner's names.



Best Dressed - Roscoe Theresa Oswood



Runner-Up - Tootsie Kristin Lambert



Cutest-Maddie-Dan Rankin

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FUND-RAISER WINNERS



Georgia Basket



Theme Basket



Money Umbrella



Money Hat

Fund-raising project winner tickets were drawn Saturday night before the entertainment. The Georgia basket was won by Dalton Bray from Florida; the Theme basket by Ronnie Padgett; the money umbrella by James Cason, the money hat by John Regal from Pennsylvania; and the 50/50 was won by Jim and Cindy Hoffren.



Jim Adkins

Saturday night entertainment was provided by the Cedar Hill Blue Grass Band. They were hilariously funny and uniquely talented, performing what they called "Duck Wave" music. Jim Adkins, who can make his voice sound like a duck, keeps you in stitches from start to finish.



The Cedar Hill Blue Grass Band

Saturday night, in addition to our pioneer ladies, many of us were dressed in our finest Western outfits. Some were even packing guns or wore impressive badges. There were some really good costumes. The following pages with pictures were just too good to be left out.

Sunday morning after a continental breakfast, Henry Good, our chaplain, lead a devotional. One thing he pointed out is that God can use our leaders, even if they aren't Christians, if we all pray for them. Makes good sense to me!



We then said our goodbyes and were on our way until the next time we will again see our RV family.

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supported the rally, it could not have been done.

The food, entertainment, tours, games, cookouts, etc. and most of all, the fellowship made for an outstanding week of "Winnebagoing" the WIT way. Itasca too!

Thanks also to our vendors, the suppliers of door prizes and to John Bleakley Motor Homes for their support in helping to make this an enjoyable and fun rally.

We are already planning for next year's rally. "Pirates Visit Mardi Gras." Get ready to sign up as a committee leader or team member and let's do it again!

Until then, happy trails to you. Dan Rankin, President

(Vice-President Continued from Page 1) point to these invaluable individuals.

I had a few helpers taking pictures this year and I now have about 2,000 pictures from which to choose.

Thanks again to all who helped with this year's rally. I look forward to seeing most of you at the May State meeting.

Fred Tomsett, Vice President

2009 GEORGIA STATE SCHEDULE
May Meeting - May 15-17 at River Country RV Park in Gadsden, AL. Hosted by Gone With The Winnies
September Meeting - September 18-20 at Pine Mountain Campground in Pine Mountain, GA. Hosted by the Atlanta Metro Winnies

I stole these pictures from Fred Tomsett. Don't anyone tell him.



Gwin and Charlene Brewton



Milt and Paula Burch



Elaine and John Byrnside



Don and Kay Stroud
(Continued on Page 5)

TOO GOOD TO BE LEFT OUT



*It was Bill Moye's lucky day
He won three cakes
James Boatfield thinks that's too many*



*Bobby Eubanks can't believe he
won a third cake*



*JoAn Blankenship
Whatta you mean, you won again?
You already won twice!*



Whatever Johnnie Carroll drew was unexpected by the look on Jim Bell's and her faces.



*Theda Chambless - Gate Worker
The badge kept out the riff raff*



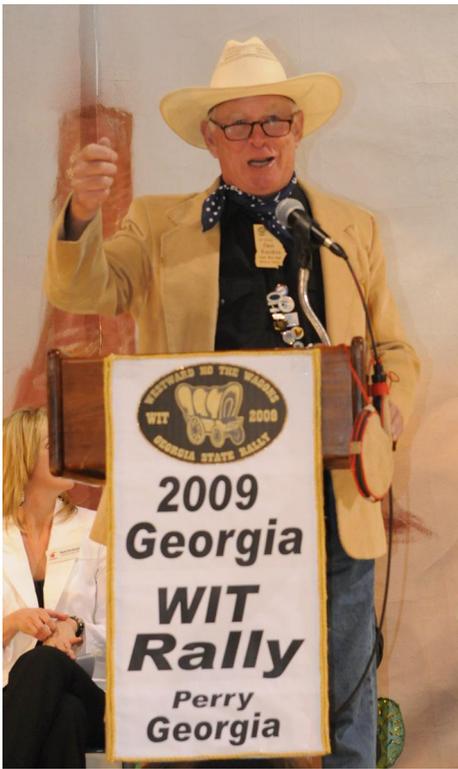
*Shorty
Shorty got lost at least one day. The person finding him returned him to the meeting room for a reward. You just couldn't trust Shorty to stay at home.*



Clyde the Wonder Horse and his sidekick Fred Tomsett



*Clyde driving Fred's motor home
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President Dan or Preacher Dan?



Jim & StuLyn Simpson enjoy the cake walk



Linda and Fred Tomsett



Pet owner parade their pets in front of the judges



Mikki and Dick Dodge and Dan Rankin thought we had a great Opening Ceremony, but you can't prove it by Fred Tomsett.



JoAn Blankenship and Ronnie Padgett cavort with the blue grass band



Giving away door prizes. We had so many door prizes that each coach received a prize We wish we could thank each donor personally, but to you who read this: WE THANK YOU!



Mikki Dodge really got into that Cowboy Country Clog



Mayor Worrell knows how to sell Perry



Jesse Chambless and Charlene Brewton Selling cake walk tickets



George Werner and James Cason Prepare hot dogs



Our Pioneer Ladies

Betty Werner, Charlene Brewton, Wanda Eubanks, Betty Sprayberry, Christel Cason, Ronnie Padgett and our lone Indian Pat Heath

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PRIZE WINNERS



Mr. & Mrs. Dalton Bray won the Georgia Basket



Christel Cason won the Money Umbrella



Joan Regal won the Money Hat



Ronnie Padgett won the Theme Basket



Cindy Hoffren won the 50/50 Pot



Fred Tomsett gave Dan Rankin and the audience a preview of next year's rally. The theme will be "Pirates Visit Mardi Gras". So all you pirates get your costumes ready for next year.



I caught Barbara Bell just as she sneaked an extra weiner. Looks guilty, huh?



A bear relaxing with a cold drink while watching the Pet Parade



Jim Bell seems to be practicing for the fishing competition, but he didn't win.



Linda Tuzzolo from Florida captured the elusive Shorty



"Granny" Betty Sprayberry forgot her cane, so can't walk very well
(Continued on Page 8)



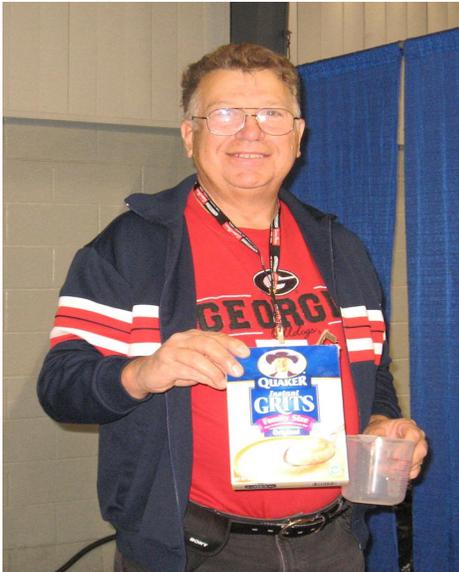
Eugene and Patsy Johnson



David and Myra Stainback entered the Tractor Game where she guided him blindfolded between a path of cones. He said his arms were sore for some time afterwards. They didn't win, but had a great time.



Myra was a great sport and conceded defeat to the audience



David Stainback starting to cook grits for one of our Chuck Wagon breakfasts



Economic transportation for our President



Christel Cason tries the Washer Toss



Jammer Jim Kobs from Louisiana



John Findeis tackles the String Golf



Ice cream makers Jesse Chambless, Henry Good, Rickey Heath, Grant Baldwin and Theda Chambless

These pets didn't win, but they sure were cute



Florida doggie with Georgia blanket



This one is ready to move on!



These three Greyhounds added interest



Judges for the competition

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Left: Fred and Linda Tomsett display Linda's dance hall costume.

Middle: Linda shows us the little gun in the garter of her stocking.

Right: Linda flashes her fabulous ring to Betty Werner.



Lewis and Joyce Crosby



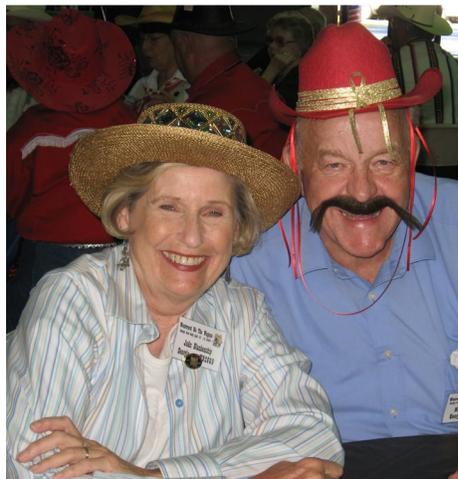
Joe Fowler always comes last so no one will notice how much he eats



Jesse and Theda Chambless



Margie Rankin



JoAnn and Hubert Blankenship



*Patricia and Rickey Heath
(Continued on Page 10)*



Roy and Sarah Sowers



Rick and Mary Ann Spilman



Bill Moye and Tom Holloman, Parkers



Rene Boatfield helped James with games



Wonder what's so funny?



THE HOMER BUNCH
Milton and Melva Dalton, Bobby and Wanda Eubanks and Betty Sprayberry



David Stainback, Roy Sowers and Don Stroud grill hamburgers for outing



Ticket Sellers
Betty McHaney and Barbara Bell



Terry and Eric Oswood



Kathy and Grant Baldwin



Steve and Pat Thomas



George and Betty Werner