



August 2017 Newsletter

<http://piedmontunit.wbcci.net/welcome/>

Region 3, Unit 161

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"The Total Eclipse"

Palmetto Cove Campground
August 21, 2017

Bill & Shelley Townsend, Richard & Pat Paschall and their grandson Walker, and Jim & Margaret Hamernick made the trek to South Carolina to watch the eclipse. There were a large number of rigs there, many SOB's who wanted to view this rarely occurring event.

Unfortunately, it was very hot and humid so there wasn't a lot of socializing, but when the big day arrived we donned our special glasses, had a group picture taken by a drone and settled in for the viewing. The glass lens are black and the only thing you could see through them was the sun. We were hoping for a clear day, but the clouds moved in, some, so as the clouds became dense they blocked out the sun entirely. We were in and out of cloud cover throughout and missed the final shebang (i.e., totality of the eclipse). We knew when the total eclipse occurred because we were in darkness for over 2 minutes and the temperature dropped probably 20 degrees. We're glad we made the drive even though conditions were not perfect.

Jim Hamernick

The **September Rally** will be held the 7-10th at Rutledge Lake Campground, 170 Rutledge Road, Fletcher NC, this a buddy rally. Reservations: (828) 654-7873

We are encouraging folks who are planning to attend the Piedmont Unit September rally in Western North Carolina, to attend the NC Mountain State Fair. We are fortunate that it is taking place during the time of our rally, thus folks can visit the Fair a number to times during out weekend at the campground. The NC Mountain State Fair is the third largest fair in North Carolina.

<http://www.wncagcenter.org/p.aspx?PID=mountainstatefair&>
<https://www.visitnc.com/event/nc-mountain-state-fair>

Another event to consider is “Evening at PARI”, which is the Pisqah Astronomical Research Institute, located at 1 PARI Drive, Rosman, NC 28772

The phone for information at that event, to be held on Friday, Sept. 8, 2017, entitled “Evening at PARI”, is 1 828-862-5554. Margaret and I are avid fans of Astronomical viewing and are looking forward to attending this at the observatory.

[PARI | a public not-for-profit organization](#)

PARI is a public not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing hands-on educational and research opportunities for a broad cross-section of users in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) disciplines.

www.hawgwildbar-b-que.com An option for dinner.

A location for a little pastime enjoyment during our stay in the Fletcher area. We have several to chose from, and will have wineries as well on our list.

<http://www.newbelgium.com/community/asheville-brewery>

It’s a fun time to chose from a variety of places to visit and view during our weekend in this area. Here’s a list of options for consideration.

<https://www.exploreasheville.com/stories/post/asheville-under-100-do-it-all-the-budget-savvy-way/>

Margaret and I are big fans of Elvis and find this an interesting stop for some enjoyment during our stay in Fletcher. The location is not too far away, just down IH 26, past Hendersonville.

<http://www.flatrockplayhouse.org/show/donny-edwards-live-a-heart-and-soul-tribute-to-the-king/>

The North Carolina Arboretum is always a nice place to spend some time, any time of the year. This is close to our rally location.

<http://www.ncarboretum.org/plan-a-visit/>

Rally Hosts Jim and Margaet Hamernick

17th GALAX RALLY
August 6-12, 2017
Galax, Virginia
Hosts: Region 3

In attendance from the Piedmont Unit:

Bob and Marge Bennett
Bernie and Ann Lackmann
Bud and Donna Moore
Mike Bizon and Gaile Broom
Bob and Amy Olson - Affiliates
Rick and Marsha Morgan
Jim & Margaret Hamernick
Carl & Karen Newton

We arrived Sunday afternoon from the International Rally in Escanaba, MI, just in time to hear the entertainment, "Presley Barker and Shadowgrass". They are a great group - Presley 13 playing Guitar, Luke Morris 17 on bass, Russell 16 on banjo and Kayseri George 12 years old on guitar. They've won many awards and are a delight.

Monday we were to caravan to Cumberland Knob Park on the Blue Ridge Parkway for the history of the Parkway, but due to inclement weather, we met in the community room at Cool Breeze Campground for the history presented by Betty Patton. Construction of the 469 mile Blue Ridge Parkway began September 11, 1935 at Cumberland Knob during the Great Depression and became the first National Park. Watermelon was served - a tradition.

At 3:00 o'clock we went to the Rex Theatre for the opening ceremonies for the Galax Rally. There was presentation of the flags, pledge of allegiance, National anthem and prayer. We were entertained by another youth group, named Carson Peters and Iron Mountain. Carson is 12 years old and a fiddle player that began playing at 3 years old. The group is also made up of his father, Jamie Peters on guitar, Eric Marshall on banjo, Ben Marshall on mandolin and Austin Tate on Bass. Another great group with many awards.

The competition began downtown, at Felts Park, with contestants 15 years of age or younger. Presley teamed with Carson Peters and two other musicians and won first place in their age competition.

Tuesday began with a Ladies Breakfast Tea at "Shirley's Homestead". It was a catered event by "Great Events". Shirley is a friend of Betty Patton. The breakfast was delicious - egg casserole, bacon, fruit, muffins, juice, tea, coffee. She has a lovely home and interestingly enough is a "B n B" host. She takes in people from all over the world who want to rent a room for a night, week, etc. They have use of the kitchen facilities, living room, plus a deck if they want to entertain, play cards, etc.

In the afternoon, we drove in a caravan to the Blue Ridge Music Center, to see Wayne Henderson & Friends.. Wayne is a renowned international guitarist and "fiddler". He and Helen White have traveled extensively in the US and Europe. He played with Helen White on guitar or fiddle and Herb Key on bass. They were great - told several jokes throughout the performance. Helen started JAM (Junior Appalachian Musicians). Founded in 2000 to enrich the lives of children through active involvement in the music community. Visited the museum on the evolution of mountain music.

Competition in Felts Park starting at 6 PM

Wednesday - Caravan to Hillsville, VA Courthouse to hear about the Allen Tragedy presented by "Shelby", another teacher friend of Betty Patton. Always interesting. A trial of Floyd Allen. During the trial gunfire erupted and several people including the judge, prosecutor and three others dead and seven wounded. There were 200 men, women and children in the courtroom - several conflicting stories about the events of the day. Visited the museum where the courtroom scene was depicted in carvings of all main parties in the courtroom that day - March 4, 1912.

We visited the Carter Home - originally built in 1845 as a 13 room. 2 story plus attic home. After ownership by Captain Hale, then James and Ginny Wilkinson, then Mayetta Wilkinson Carter (daughter) and her husband George, in 1924 the top 2 floors were added. After their deaths their son offered the house to Carroll County for government offices at a cost of \$60,000. In July 2006 the Hale-Wilkinson-Carter Home Foundation was approved. Today through grants, donations and fund raisers, three floors have been restored. Lunch provided by the ladies of the foundation consisted to ham, navy beans, potatoes, sliced tomatoes, cucumbers, cold slaw, corn bread, beans, peach cobbler with vanilla ice cream, served on the veranda. Very good.

Entertainment at the campground followed with Jeanette Williams on electric bass, John Williams on guitar, Stevie Barr on banjo. Terrific musicians all. Stevie, with his dad, run a guitar shop in Galax. They make and sell guitars as well as other stringed instruments.

Thursday we had a guided tour of downtown Galax by Ray Kohl, director of the Galax visitors bureau. We stopped at Chestnut Creek School for the Arts - There are gifts available from local artists which many of us took advantage. He pointed out where the restaurants are, Stevie Barr's guitar shop, the many antique shops, the woodworking shop where classes are held, and the jewelry shop where Galax leaf jewelry can be purchased, etc.

The entertainment at the campground was "Loose Strings Band". A female group we all enjoyed. Four of the girls have performed together for 12-13 years, the newest member is 16 years old. All of these groups compete at the Old Fiddlers Convention.

Friday we rode to Rugby, Virginia to the workshop, home and museum of Wayne Henderson. He is a terrific guy - showed us the basics of building a guitar and told several stories of how he started playing guitar at age 4 and how he came about making guitars (the first was out of a cardboard box). He has made over 700 and they are very much in demand with a backlog of 8 years(?). One story is that he built a guitar for Eric Clapton who had to wait almost ten years for it. He told us that he's actually working on his 726th guitar. Check out the website "Waynehenderson.org" to see more of Wayne Henderson. One fellow waited 17 years for one of them. He has a temperature-controlled room for his collection - his oldest was from 1902 if I recall. He has guitars made by Martin, Gibson, etc. He has a bass, violins, mandolins, and various other stringed instruments. His daughter is now making instruments.

Entertainment at the Cool Breeze was a group - Toby Harmon & Friends. Another great group. They call themselves "County Fools". Toby was playing guitar #16 that Wayne Henderson made for the Patton's son.

Friday night we had dinner prepared by a prior student of Betty Patton - BBQ, slaw, cheese mashed potatoes, cooked carrots, rolls and strawberry shortcake and cobbler for dessert.

This was the closing ceremony for the Region 3 Rally. Kudos were given out and everyone thanked Betty and Junior Patton and Julian & Lynn for a job well done.

Saturday was a free day - many chose to leave since the festivities were all but over. Bob & Marge Bennett left to visit their daughter in Boone. Bernie & Ann left earlier in the week as Ann wasn't feeling well. Everyone went their separate ways - The Moore's and Hamernick's had breakfast at Aunt Bea's. Then walked around downtown Galax where several artists were showing their wares. Donna and I tried our hand at mosaic art. A short wall behind Chestnut Creek School for the Arts had artists and anyone who wanted to participate was shown what to do. There was a large tub of various pottery and glass broken into small pieces. You were given a template of the area you could arrange these small glass pieces on and then transfer to the wall. It was fun doing the arrangement - not so much getting it to adhere to the wall.

Saturday night dinner at "Twisted Fork" in downtown Galax. Bob & Amy Olson, Bud & Donna Moore, Rick & Marsha Morgan, Mike Bizon and Gaile Bloom, Carl & Karen Newton in attendance. Dinner was pretty good and reasonably priced. This is the first event Carl & Karen Newton have joined with our group. Also, Bob & Amy Olson have decided to join our Piedmont Unit as full time members rather than affiliate members.

Jim Hamernick

MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR August 2017

I have now started receiving the lists of new Airstream owners in North Carolina from Barb Langston, WBCCI Membership Coordinator. In August I received the lists of new owners for May, June, and July and mailed 30 packets to those that are east of Hickory inviting them to join our unit.

Bob & Amy Olson, who were members of the Western Carolinas Unit, have renewed their membership and have decided to become regular members of the Piedmont Unit. Bob & Amy have been active in our unit this year, have attended several rallies, and hosted the rally in Shelby in May. They also participated in our Michigan caravan to the International Rally in July and hosted the stop in Zanesville, OH. Welcome Bob & Amy, we're glad you decided to join the Piedmont Unit as regular members.

It's time to renew your WBCCI and Piedmont Unit membership for the coming year. If you would like, you can renew online at WBCCI.org, select the Join tab, and charge your dues to your credit card. Of course, you can still complete a hard copy of the membership form, and send your dues check to Stedman Brown.

Our membership is now 67 regular members and 3 affiliated members.

Donna Moore, Membership Chairperson

Treasurer's Report For August 2017

When August rolls around, it is time to start talking about 2018 membership renewals. All renewals must be processed and in the hands of WBCCI by November 30th for renewals to be in the 2018 printed directory.

Renewals can be made online using a credit or debit card, or the traditional process using a paper form and writing a check. I am encouraging members to use the online process if possible. Information entered online by the renewing member is electronically entered into WBCCI's system without re-keying. The traditional paper form has to be verified, processed through our local records, mailed to WBCCI and then keyed into their system. Either way the cost to the member is the same \$80 (\$65 for international dues and \$15 for our unit dues).

When renewing online one has to enter their WBCCI membership number and email address. Follow the prompts to complete the renewal. One final thing, you will have a drop down arrow for selecting the unit number; we are Region 3, Unit 161, Piedmont NC.

Anyone having any questions about either process can call me and I will be glad to walk them through the process. For your convenience, below is a link to the online renewal page.

<http://wbcci.org/>

Stedman Brown, Treasurer



August Birthdays

Bob Bennett
Colleen Bureau
David Funaro
Sarah Jensen
Dee Lloyd
Bud Moore
Donna Moore
Karen Newton
Richard Paschall
Kelly Radford
Tom Rydzewski

Anniversaries

Albee
Barefoot
Becker
Leake
McCoy
McMillian
Moore
Paschall
Porter-Sharpe



Gregory Ray, KK4MHY
Piedmont NC Unit, WBCCI
Unit Corresponding Secretary
179 West Drive
Winston-Salem, NC 27107

First Class

WEBSITE: <http://piedmontunit.wbcci.net/welcome/>

2017 Rally Sites:

February 11- Exhibition of Ansel Adams: Masterworks, North Carolina Museum of Art, 2110 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC 27607 (919) 839-6262, Tour cost estimate \$42 per person including lunch. Noon to afternoon. Hosts: Lance and Shirley Perryman

March 10- Carolina Fur Dressing, Big Rock Sports, International Wildlife leather goods tour, **10AM**, 900 Freedom Drive, Raleigh, NC 27610, Hosts: Rick and Marsha Morgan (919) 231-9933

April 6-9- Raleigh Four Oaks RV Resort Rally, Buddy Rally, 527 US Highway 701S, Four Oaks, NC 2 Hosts: Todd and Debbie Stroud (919) 963-6953, Campground (919)-934-3181

April 19-26- "Mountains of NC" Unit Caravan to Region 3 Rally, Schedule to follow, Leaders: Shelly & Bill Townsend, Nancy & John Becker

April 26-30- Region 3 Rally- Hiawassee, GA. Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds, <http://www.georgiamountainfairgrounds.com/> 1311 Music Hall Road, P.O. Box 444 Hiawassee, GA 30546 (706) 896-4191 Region 3 Hosts

May 11-14- Country Music Rally, Shelby/Cleveland County Fairgrounds 1751 E. Marion St., Shelby, NC (704) 487-0651 Hosts Bob and Ann Olson

June 8-11- Cross Winds Family Campground, 160 Campground Lane, Linwood, NC 27299 (336) 853-4567, Hosts: Richard and Pat Paschall, Chris and Shirley Brown.

July 22-29- WBCCI International Rally, Escanaba, MI

August 7-12- Galax Fiddler's Convention www.oldfiddlersconvention.com Cool Breeze Campground, 2330 Edmonds road, Galax, VA 24333 www.coolbreezecampground.com Reservations: (866) 342-0300 Hosts: Region 3 Unit Host: Bernie and Ann Lackmann

August 21- The Total Eclipse, Palmetto cove Campground, SC

September 7-10 Rutledge Lake Campground, Buddy Rally, 170 Rutledge Road, Fletcher NC 28732 www.rutledgelake.com Reservations: (828) 654-7873 HOSTS Jim and Margaret Hamernick

October 12-15 – New Bern KOA, www.koa.com/campgrounds/new-bern, 1565 B Street, NC 28560 Reservations: (252) 638-2556 HOSTS: Ned and Ann Albee

November 9-12 – Installation Rally

North Carolina Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Contact, Claudine Davis, Claudine.davis@ncagr.gov, (919)-839-4501, www.ncstatefair.org, Raleigh, NC, Advise you are with the Wally Byam Piedmont Unit. Hosts Dick and Becky Martin