

Carolina Drifters Newsletter, May 2026

Spacious Skies – Peach Haven, Gaffney, SC

A big THANK YOU! goes out to Charles & Janet Goding who were our hosts this weekend.

Those joining us included: Tim & Dottie Keppler, Rod & Neily Trump, Gary & Barbara Lyons, Mike & Betsy Beaulieu, Walter & Deborah Moore, Jonathan & Janis Krauss, John & Linda Marano, Charles & Janet Goding, Greg & Barbara Nicholas and Rene & I.

Don & Betty Elliott had to cancel due to Betty not feeling well. I hope by the time she reads this newsletter she is feeling like her ole self again and making plans for the next campout.

Tim & Dottie invited their neighbors, Billy & Suzanne Cooper to join us for pot luck Friday. Gary Lyons invited our Easter Area Rep, Mike Smalley & Doris, his wife to also join us for Friday's dinner.

Thursday saw everyone, including Mike & Betsy arriving and getting set up. At 6pm we all brought our chairs, snacks and drinks to C6, where Charles and Janet had already prepared a nice campfire and a table set up for snacks. Everyone enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere as we shared stories and played catch-up.

Friday we were on our own until dinner time. Some went to Strawberry Hill Farms for fresh fruit and lunch, while others went shopping at the outlets. Rene & I joined Rod & Neily and together we went to Cowpens in search of fine junk and collectibles.

Once back at the campground it was time to get our part of the pot luck cooking. Around 4pm the smell of BBQ chicken cooking on the grill filled the air. My stomach instantly started to grumble, it was empty and it wanted to be filled! The aroma of chicken cooking on the grill seemed to intensify and I later found out that three other people were also making chicken for dinner. Everywhere I turned there was chicken cooking. Woohoo! I LOVE CHICKEN! Everyone's dishes were absolutely delicious. I cannot say that there was anything bad or that I did not care for anything, it was all great! Our club has some amazing cooks for sure! After dinner, everyone helped clean up and then we played Bingo. Barbara & Greg Nicholas each won twice! Linda Marano won once as did Suzanne Cooper. I do believe everyone had a good time.

Saturday morning, we were all a buzz about the "Sugary Surprise" Janet had planned for us, but by 9:15, people were starting their generators. Evidently the campground had lost power and they were not sure how long it would be out. Janet must have been a girl scout because she had plan B already in the works like she knew ahead of time the power was going to go out. We certainly did get a Sugary Surprise, chocolate and coconut covered

cupcakes, along with Pop Tarts, various granola bars, Pecan Swirls, Swiss Rolls and Sunkist Fruity Snacks all tempted our taste buds and our waist lines. After breakfast we were on our own until dinner time. So, off everyone went. The outlet mall was popular as was downtown Gaffney and the Strawberry Hills Farm. Greg, Barbara, Rene & I went to check out the battle field nearby. Our guide was very informative during the walking tour, retelling the history of various campaigns and skirmishes you swear you could almost see and hear the equipment, the men and horses.

Around 4:30 or so, we made our way to Daddy Joe's Beach House BBQ & Grill, in Gaffney, about 10 minutes away. Dinner was really good and the service was outstanding. It was the waitresses first ever big group, and she did amazingly well keeping up with everyone's drinks, making sure everyone's food was correct and even managing to keep the bills straight when returning change. All in all, a good experience. Back at the campground, Rod brought out a box of wood for Charles to burn. The perfect ending to a perfect day, sitting around a campfire with full bellies, sharing stories and laughing with friends.

REMINDER: Our next campout is

September 10-13, at Palmetto Cove RV Park, 521 Table Rock Road, Cleveland, SC. 29635, 864-836-6221, this is a joint campout with the Palmetto Winnebago Club.

October 1-4, Pine Ridge Campground, 199 Pineridge Campground Road, Roebuck, SC 29376, 864-576-0302, Reservation by July 1, 2026

December 3-6, Barnyard RV Park, 201 Oak Drive, Lexington, SC. 29073, 803-957-1238