



September 2026

Dixie Travelers Newsletter



Chapter News /Member Recognition

Congratulations Randy Dexter on your Accomplishments:

“A Lifetime of Achievements in One Year”

“Here on Labor Day, I wanted to share some lifetime achievements that I received this year in 2026:

- January 2026 I was inducted into the Webex Experts Class of 2026 program. 11,000 engineer's world-wide and 106 of us were selected by the Cisco Webex business units, program managers, developers and technical staff to be part of an elite group.
- June 2026 I was invited to join Cisco Insiders Group at Cisco Live 2026.
- July 2026 I was inducted into the Cisco Champions group. 16,000 were invited to join, 400 filled out the lengthy application process and 286 were chosen.
- August 2026 I was selected as Cisco Webex Expert of the Year for 2026 out of the 106 that were chosen to be in the Cisco Webex Experts Class of 2026 program. My picture and quote will be presented and on display in the Cisco Expert booth at the Cisco WebexOne 2026 conference the first week of October in Austin, TX. There is supposed to be 15,000 attendees at the conference.

You ask what this brings to me. I get early access to product knowledge, training, beta testing, access to engineers and program managers. This helps the products develop with our insights and this allows my professional career to grow and to help my peers.

I am a Cisco Partner, and this is one of the crowning achievements of my 26 years working with Cisco, which is a great company. My company Verizon Business has supported my efforts throughout my career.

In my next post I will give a detailed highlight of my journey.”

Randy Dexter

Welcome Home

We have had **Mark & Dora Bell** and **John & Diane Miller** traveling on 4-5 month journey to Alaska. Mark & Dora left the First of June. Not sure when John & Diane left but all are on their way back home. If you have been watching their posts on the Dixie Travelers Facebook page, you have seen some amazing pictures!

WELCOME HOME to you ALL! Glad you had a safe and blessed journey!

Upcoming Rally

Our next Rally will be at Pigeon Forge Landing RV Resort in Pigeon Forge, TN. Our Rally will start on Thursday, October 22 to Sunday, October 25, 2026. For those coming in early, be sure to let the Resort know if your intent of what date you plan on arriving.

This will be our last Rally of 2026. We have had a great year of travels and sure look forward to another great year in 2027!

Your 2027 Rally Schedule is ready for your review and planning. You can see at the following:

<https://thedixietravelers.com>

Click on “FILE STORAGE” then 2027 Rally Scheule. Go to your DASHBOARD on the <https://frva.com> new “HORIZON” platform, “LOGIN” then click on “Chapter – Dixie Travelers” – “Rallies”, you will see it listed there as well.

September Rally News & Activities

Our Rally destination was in the State of Georgia at the Pine Mountain RV Resort, Pine Mountain, GA. We were small in numbers but MIGHTY in representation for the DIXIE TRAVELIERS! Enjoyed being with each other and the fellowship that was shared by all. We had 14 people at this Rally. We had more scheduled to be there, but various conditions and situations keep them from attending.

We had a great time in Pine Mountain RV Resort! It was HOT!! The temp everyday was 96 or above with a heat index of over 109 and up! We still sit outside under the awning with the help of a BIG FAN! Pine Mountain had lots of little restaurants that we visited. The one we visited the most was AJ's. They had a great breakfast and dinner. We visited Luke's Pub & Grill which was fantastic! The serving was for two people and WOW; there was so much food that all of us brought back enough for two again! Thanks to Steve and Karen (K3) for suggesting this establishment) the food and atmosphere was wonderful. We had two of Steve and K3's friends join us.

Some of our members went to Callaway Gardens on Saturday where there was a festival going on. Others went uptown to see the murals and learn about them. They had some of the prettiest murals there. Pine Mountain was est. in the 1820's. Very cool little town.

Of course, the ladies went into LaGrange to visit a Quilt Shop looking for fabrics. While there, Walmart got a visit as well. You know you can't go anywhere without going to Walmart! Ha! They had a great time together, I am sure.

We were honored to have guests come camp with us from the Dixie Travel Blazers, Sally & John Overstreet – President and VP, respectively, and Bob and Linda Menning all from Alabama, in the Southeast Area of FRVA. We were glad they join in and wish them well in growing their Chapter.



What we do best – EAT - Eating dinner on Thursday night at San Marco's Mexican Restaurant

The food was delicious and the fellowship was even better. Lots of laughter FUN.



Eating at A J's- great food here! We ate here 3 times! Food was that good! 2X Breakfast – once dinner.



Playing SYN and teaching Sally and John how to play syn. They caught on FAST!



Meet John & Sally Overstreet from the Dixie Trail Blazers. They were a lot of FUN! Glad they joined in with us.

Tim Keppler enhanced the photo a little bit! LOL

Our next Rally will be in Pigeon Forge, TN at Pigeon Forge Landing RV Resort, October 22 – 25, 2026. Looking forward to seeing everyone for this our last Rally of 2026. Be sure to call and make your reservations so you can be sure to get a spot with everyone.

Please keep, Ron Laird, Doug Hollifield, and Marvin (Santa) Ballard in your prayers. Ron is still having some issues with his energy. Doug had his right hip replaced September 11 and is doing well, but his doctor asked him to take it easy for a couple months. Santa, he is anxiously waiting for his heart doctor to release him so he can drive so Helen and him can join us again at our Rallies! We are anxious to see you both Santa and Helen!

Safe travels wherever your journeys take you.

Gary Bowman

President – Dixie Traveliers