



Foothills Travelers Newsletter, November 2025

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Hello, Foothills Travelers!

This newsletter has several topics of importance so please take the time to read it thoroughly and let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. As always, if you have information that you would like to share with fellow chapter members please let me know and I'll include it in the next Newsletter or another chapter communication.

GEAR 2025, Myrtle Beach

We had a good Foothills Travelers turnout at GEAR 2025 with 9 memberships and 17 folks attending the rally. They were:

- Eleanor Allen
- Daryl and Rose Cook
- Greg and Saunie Hall
- Dwellion and Jacky Howard
- Mike and Kathy Keith
- Tom and Annette Larson
- Larry and Pat Lawson
- Jerry Sneed and Sandy Harmon
- Mike and Doris Smalley

The weather was great and the activities were plenty. Games, crafts, and seminars were abundant and well attended as were the RV technical seminars. I was super excited to participate in the Wednesday evening entertainment with the Frustrated Maestros band and chorus but their rehearsals absolutely wore me out! These guys and gals were outstanding and no, I don't play an instrument. However, our own Tom Larson may soon be playing his trombone with a musical chapter. We'll look forward to his debut!

Entertainment on Thursday was Carson Peters and the Iron Mountain Band, a multiple award-winning Bluegrass Band. On Friday there was the Synergy Twins, violinists playing all kinds of music on their electric violins, and on Saturday there was Too Much Sylvia, a great local band that played tunes from many eras and had the crowd dancing! The evenings were lots of fun!

Many other activities filled the days and evenings but my favorite part of the rally was the Chapter Fair and the two Chapter Gatherings the Foothills Travelers hosted for members and those interested in joining the Foothills Travelers. Everyone, especially our ladies, was very welcoming to all that attended and we had a wonderful time. The best news is that while at GEAR we added eight new members to our chapter!! Let me give you a brief introduction:

- Stan Cromlish, Belmont, NC
- Bob and Barbara Hall, Landrum, SC
- Tommy and Brenda Loftin, Troutman, NC
- Caryl Mallory, Columbus, NC
- Archie Moore and Leni Lebron, Advance, NC
- Tom and Guynn O'Dare, Conway, SC
- Tom and Terri Pennoni, Sherrills Ford, NC
- Rick and Chris Thayer, Stanley, NC

We also have two additional folks who should be joining soon! I hope that everyone has a chance to meet our newest members soon. I'll add a few pics of our time at GEAR at the bottom of this Newsletter but you can [click here](#) to see many others and [click here](#) to go to our Facebook page to see other pics. I ask that you also post any pics you have from GEAR on our Facebook page.....we'll be looking for them!

GEAR 2026? By the way, we will not have a GEAR in 2026 because the East Area will host the 2026 FRVA International Rally in Perry, Georgia. Our next GEAR is in 2027 at WV State Fairgrounds.

FRVA Data Management System Update (FRVA Website); It's very important to be aware of the pending change of FRVA Data Management Systems (FRVA Website) mentioned below. Each family member (spouses) must have their own email address for access to the FRVA website. After the update, everyone will login using their own email address. I don't think it will be difficult, but you must be aware. The message received by Chapter Officers follows. ***The new membership database switch will happen on December 8, 2025. It's very important to note that the login for the website will be different. If you have that webpage bookmarked, it will not work. Please delete your bookmark and once you have signed into the new system, you can resave your bookmark. You must have an email address on file to log in to the website. Be sure to check/update your profile now, before the switch. Both names on the membership records should have their own email address. You will not be able to log into the website without an email address.***

Rally Updates:

NOW AVAILABLE FOR REGISTRATION! Into the Smokies FRVA 2026 International Area Destination Rally; Mail-in registration is now open for the 2026 International Area Destination Rally, May 13-17, 2026, in Sevierville, TN. Camping will be at The Ridge Outdoor Resort, 1250 Middle Creek Road in Sevierville. Jacky and I have stayed at this resort and it is very nice with an outstanding facility. We also have the opportunity of staying up to four additional nights at the rally rate of \$79.99 per night. A copy of the registration form is attached to this email so register now!

Myrtle Beach, SC Foothills Travelers Rally, April 7th through the 10th, 2026: This rally was first mentioned in the August 2025 Newsletter and as of today **we have eight (8) memberships booked with the campground.** Everyone enjoys Myrtle Beach, there are tons of things to do there, and lots of restaurant choices so I hope we have other members join us. Following is the original post.

*Jacky and I will be hosting a chapter rally in Myrtle Beach on April 7th through the 10th at Hideaway RV Resort, 101 Cypress RV Way, Myrtle Beach, SC 29588. This will be our first weekday rally and, since most of our members are retired, this should be no problem. I really don't have to describe Myrtle Beach to anyone because I think all of us have been there at some point. Hideaway is located right on the Intracoastal Waterway within sight of the Socastee swing bridge and has docks and a boat ramp right on the waterway. Hideaway is within minutes of just about any kind of dining you can imagine and of course, seafood galore! We will have the use of a large activity center if needed but we are not planning any large group meals at the campground so the ladies can have a much-deserved break! We have reserved a block of campsites near each other at a rate of just \$54.90 plus taxes per night. You may upgrade to a waterfront site for an extra charge or arrive earlier or stay later if desired. **You must contact Hideaway at 843-444-2119 by October 5th, 2025, to reserve one of these campsites.** You may book after October 5th at the same rate but they cannot guarantee one of the adjacent campsites or availability. Therefore, please reserve your campsite as soon as possible.*

NOTE!! This Myrtle Beach rally replaces the April 2026 Clemson rally we discussed but couldn't book because we couldn't get a host for it. CAMPSITES STILL AVAILABLE!

Mount Airy, NC, Foothills Travelers Rally, June 16th through the 19th, 2026: This rally was first mentioned in the September 2025 Newsletter and as of today, **we have four (4) memberships who have booked with the campground.** This is a beautiful campground and will be a relief from the summer heat. Please contact the campground and book your registration. Be sure to mention you are with the Foothills Travelers for the rally rate. Our campsites are at the very top of this campground and it's a hike if you don't book one of the sites that have been reserved for the Foothills Travelers. Following is the original post.

*Mike and Kathy Keith will be hosting a chapter rally at Mayberry Campground in Mt. Airy, NC on Tuesday June 16th through June 19th, 2026. We will have use of a covered shelter with tables. A block of campsites near the shelter and each other have been reserved at a rate of \$55 plus tax per night. You are welcome to come early and stay later based on availability. **You must contact Mayberry Campground at 336-789-6199 by Dec 1, 2025, to reserve one of these campsites.** You may book after Dec 1st but there is no guarantee your site will be adjacent to the rally group or available. Therefore, please reserve your campsite as soon as possible.*

[CLICK HERE](#) Mayberry Campground's website. Feel free to contact Kathy if you have any questions about this rally, (864) 525-4153 or kathykeith@charter.net.

Cleveland, SC Foothills Travelers Rally, October 6th through the 9th, 2026. This rally will be hosted by Larry and Patt Lawson and is still in the early planning stages. It's been rumored that we may have another chapter joining us at the rally. Either way, it will be fun as usual. This rally will also be a Foothills Travelers business meeting. For those that haven't been to Palmetto Cove before it's probably the least expensive campground you'll find with some of the best views. Palmetto Cove is closed for the season but will reopen and take your reservations early in 2026. We will let you know when they are open. Call them at 864-836-6221.

All future rallies are open for booking.

- March 18-21, 2026, FRVA's International Convention, GA National Fairgrounds, Perry GA
- April 7-10, Hideaway RV Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC
- May 13-17, 2026, FRVA's 2026 International Area Destination Rally; Sevierville, TN
- June 16-19, Mayberry Campground, Mt. Airy, NC
- October 6-9, Palmetto Cove, Cleveland, SC

We are still looking for members to host a rally of their own. It's important to schedule your rally well into the future to ensure campsites and time are available for planning. It's also important to book your campsite as soon as we are notified of a new rally so that the hosts have plenty of time to prepare. We have tons of resources to help you plan and execute your rally and the best part is still that since it's your rally, you can choose the location and activities that you prefer!

Remember, be sure to post pics from your travels on our Facebook group page, even if those travels were not an FRVA event. We would all like to see how you roll.

Finally, Jacky and I want to wish each of you a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday! Till we see you again!

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