

February 24, 2020

Rocky Tops Newsletter for February

About time that I sent you a note about our upcoming events!

We have a new couple who has joined our chapter, Bill & Faith Campbell from Breeding, KY. They are going to join us at our May muster here at Spring Lake but cannot join us at the SC Regional Muster in June as they have a previously scheduled a 2 month trip out west.

Speaking of our muster here at Spring Lake, I am awaiting word from the Oak Ridge Convention and Visitor's Bureau about our 'guided' tour of the 3 Oak Ridge facilities I previously mentioned to you. They are waiting a response from the ORAU (Oak Ridge Associated University) and ORNL (Oak Ridge National Laboratory) as to who is going to head up the project! If they cannot arrange for a bus tour, we will have a guided tour of the American Museum of Science and Energy in Oak Ridge and they will send us on our way to see as much of the other facilities as we can. The other tour that I suggest that we take is to the former Brushy Mountain State Prison above Jamestown. It now has guided tours, makes their own moonshine, sample tastings, has a gift shop, and a nice restaurant called the Warden's Table. (Several here in FFG have gone and say it is great!) You may remember that the assassin James Earl Ray was sent here and was stabbed to death! As is our usual custom, please bring finger foods for Monday night's meal. We will have full breakfasts on Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday and a 'breakfast bag to go' for your departure on Friday. We will NOT have a potluck. I haven't determined which evening will be our Wagonmaster's Dinner – it will depend on the scheduling for the trip to Oak Ridge and/or Brushy Mountain. Be prepared to eat lunch out on the days we go to those two sites. The 3d day's events will be sort of on your own exploring Crossville – we still have an Outlet Mall, some great new shops in the downtown area as well as a couple of neat places to have lunch downtown! (There is a very nice Military Museum in downtown Crossville also.) But the order of where we go when is not set yet but I think we will have our Wagonmaster's Dinner on the day you explore Crossville. Can you tell I'm really organized?

Don't forget you only have until April 10th to make your reservations at Spring Lake (877-707-1414 or 931-707-1414). Rate is \$33.00 per night (30/50 amp full hookup). Please be sure to send me your registration form which is available on the website (www.smartrving.org) under the All Events tab. If you need one and can't get to it there, just email me (herbnquilt@gmail.com) or call me 931-510-6251 and I'll get it out to you right away.

I am enclosing the latest membership listing of our chapter. You will see that there are just a few of you who owe dues for 2020. As I said earlier, you may mail them to me (\$6.00 a year) or pay them when you arrive for the muster if you are coming to that.

And the details for the South Central Region's Muster from June 1 - 6 are now available out on the HQ website also. It is being held at the Shreveport, LA Fairgrounds. (It is a good opportunity for those of us in the SC & NC region to check the facility out for the 2021 National which will be our responsibility with Ed Pate as Muster Master.) However, June 1st is really for the staff to get started with setup but depending on how far away you are, you may want to arrive to park that night (June 1st). Registration hours are from 9-11 am and 1 – 3 pm, beginning Tuesday, 2 June 2020. I believe that Opening Ceremonies are that evening 2 June. Departure date is early morning on 6 June 2020 as they have another group coming in. Registration fee includes 3 breakfasts and 3 evening meals as well as

attendance at all events at the muster venue. There is an additional charge for the ladies' and men's luncheons. Kathy Pate and I have agreed to present a craft class on Wednesday June 3d – I'll enclose a separate sheet about that. Glen & I have to leave on June 4 to get to Des Moines, IA for a family wedding.

If you are like Glen and I and no longer have an RV or choose not to drive your RV that distance, there are several reasonably priced motels/hotels in the area. We have reservations to stay at the Travelodge in Shreveport. But Barksdale AFB is nearby and they have an Air Force Inn. They are fun to stay in also.

Feel free to contact me anytime!

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