

# 2012 SMOKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER FALL FROLIC

By Kelly Bowling

The Smoky Mountain Chapter of the NCVA held its third Fall Frolic in Cherokee, North Carolina on Friday and Saturday, 12 and 13 October 2012. The event was graciously hosted by Dave and Lenore Snell at the Chestnut Tree Inn. (The Snells had previously hosted an outstanding gathering in Dillsboro, North Carolina in 2005). This Frolic was a rousing success with lots of camaraderie, sea stories and some renewing of old acquaintances. Several prizes and awards were handed out to deserving and undeserving folks. Never a dull moment with this group.

Forty nine folks attended the event and nine states were represented. The host state of North Carolina was well represented by fifteen attendees. Ron and JoAnn McMillan came from Michigan and next from the Flatlands were TJ and Edna Gaylord from Illinois. The other states represented were Alabama, Kentucky, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Tennessee.

Two tours were organized by the host. These tours were the Oconaluftee Indian Village and the Museum of the Cherokee Indian. Covert sources reported one attendee from Florida was offered membership in a tribe and his Indian name would be Big Chief With No Hair On Head. This was not verified by reliable sources, however. The writer believes this reliability matched the amount of money some guests reportedly won at the casino!

Prizes and awards were varied and plentiful for this Frolic. Hank Kershner won the door prize and Jo Kershner won an adult beverage combo kit. John Peltier and Don East won some fruit of the vine and some of Tennessee's finest. Burl Perry won the 50-50 drawing but would not share with anyone. Frank Vesci purchased, at auction, a container of Maker's Mark which he donated back to the Chapter for the next Frolic. Thanks to Frank for his generosity. Certificates of gold, silver and bronze awards for restricted information entries, as judged by Pete and Pattie Moore. Joe Barrantine was golden, Jim Lindley was a silver winner and Hank Kershner showed, as they say at Keeneland Race Course! Dave and Lenore Snell were also presented a Certificate of Appreciation for hosting this Frolic.

A very solemn and touching presentation of the 01' Jake Award (the late Jake Karoly was co-founder of the Chapter) for honesty, semantic obfuscation, modesty and for not telling sea stories lacking in substance was the old Turk Dusty Rhodes. And, as so many folks have been prone to do, he did ask: "Who, me?" This award was more significant than the Air Medal Award presented to Dave Fiehtner. In fine print on the award, however, it read "Hot Air Award."

The Saturday night fun and games ended with Kelly Bowling (the writer) turning over the presidential duties to a skilled in all facets of everything, Pete Moore. Pete will be a good one. The city for the 2013 Frolic has not been declared nor voted on at this time. This will be posted later at the website of the Chapter.