

# September 2010 Newsletter

Hello! This is the Mountain Lakes Convention & Visitors Bureau's monthly e-newsletter. The aim of our newsletter is to keep you informed with what is going on here in the Mountain Lakes Region of South Carolina. Below you will see the who, what, where and when Oconee County has to offer. So read ahead and if you have any questions give us a shout at 1.877.MT.LAKES (1.877.685.2537) or on the web at [www.scmountainlakes.com](http://www.scmountainlakes.com).

## Message From the Director

It's hard to believe that the summer of 2010 is over, but what a great summer it was. While it was hotter than usual, this past Labor Day weekend was magnificent! We had clear blue skies with perfect temperatures in the 80's (at least that is what it was up here in the mountains!). I spent Saturday on the river,



Sunday on the lake and



Monday touring through the mountains visiting the mountain towns of NE Georgia. I noticed that the leaves are already starting to change on some of the trees, so with fall in the air, you should start planning on visiting the Mountain Lakes region of South Carolina for our spectacular fall foliage nature show. My

preference for viewing the fall colors is Lake Jocassee - no traffic, incredible views of mountain foliage combined with a tour of the numerous waterfalls on the lake. Senior groups absolutely love this trip. For more information on fall foliage trips, please contact me at [ken@scmountainlakes.com](mailto:ken@scmountainlakes.com).

Our [Lake Hartwell Marketing Alliance \(LHMA\)](#) hosted our first Triple Crown Watercross on Lake Hartwell on August 13 - 15.

We had over 150 competitors and over 5,000 spectators who witnessed jet skis hydroplaning at speeds that exceeded 80 mph! They also had a free style competition that included jet skis performing mid-air 360's, submarine dives and many other unbelievable jet ski stunts. We look forward to their return next year and I will keep you posted on the dates and location. Oh yeah, on Friday the 13th,



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we had a Corporate Challenge with 12 teams from the six LHMA counties and my WildWater team from Oconee took home second place! Congratulations to "Big" John, Keith, Katie and Amy - my white water rafting guide buddies from WildWater Ltd.



On Aug. 21 - 22, the [Chattooga Belle Farm](#) and Shaver Center hosted the SC Disc Golf Doubles Championship. We had 78 competitors and a waiting list. Adam Wright, the administrator of the event said that this was a huge success and the golfers absolutely loved the farm course.

Unfortunately, the rain poured down all day on Saturday, but these athletes dawned rain suits and umbrellas and played through it. Visit their [website](#) for results and more details. As an added bonus, Bob and Donna Bradley of Disc-O-Dogs, brought their disc dog team to the farm and performed for us during lunch. Their Border Collies and Aussies made all sorts of leaping fetches. Bob and Donna are also very active in Border Collie adoptions. For more information on Disc-O-Dogs and adoption, please see their site at [www.disc-o-dogs.com](http://www.disc-o-dogs.com) or email them at [noopy2@earthlink.net](mailto:noopy2@earthlink.net).



After the Disc Golf tournament on Saturday, I took advantage of the location in Long Creek, SC and ate supper just down the road at Brasstown BBQ.

Unbelievable!!! I had ribs and brisket and I do believe it was the best BBQ I have ever eaten in the Carolinas.

They do not have a web site or telephone, but you can find them at **The Gathering Place Brasstown Creek BBQ** - 288 Brasstown Rd- Westminster, SC 29693. Look them up the next time you are in town - You WILL NOT REGRET IT!!!

Our peach and apple farms have had a banner year. As I drive past the orchards I can still see the apple tree branches hanging to the ground with the weight of limbs full of fruit. When you visit Oconee County you will find produce stands all over the north-west corner of the county. One of my favorites is Carvers Orchard located in Mountain Rest on the corner of Hwy 28 and Whetstone Rd. In addition to locally grown fruits and vegetables, they also sell the worlds best Apple and Peach Fritters. Just down the road from Carvers on Whetstone Rd (actually after you cross the four-way stop it becomes Earls Ford Rd), there is Robins Dairy that

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sells fresh milk - straight from the cow to the jug! My grand father used to say that it was "unpasteurized" milk. They sell via the honor system, so if you go there, make sure you have \$4 to drop in the bucket and then grab a gallon from the fridge. I gained 10 pounds last month on fritters and milk!

As you can tell, I had a fantastic summer here and I am looking forward to the fall. I hope to see you soon in the Mountain Lakes region of SC.

## **What's happening in the Mountain Lakes region of South Carolina:**

**White Water Rafting** - Wildwater Ltd. is turning 40! Come help them celebrate this fall and enjoy 40% off most activities. Simply enter the coupon code **40Fall** when making your online booking. **Valid for:** Rafting trips, Zipline Canopy Tours, Scenic Jeep Tours, Canoe and Kayak Tours and classes. **Not valid for:** Lodging, Raft and Rail, Pigeon River Hummer Tours, Plumtree Canopy Tours, Transportation, Meals, Retail, or Wetsuits.

**Restrictions:** *Cannot be combined with any other offer or discount. Some blackout dates apply. Online bookings only.* For online booking please click this link <http://reservations.wildwaterrafting.com/>

**Lake and Mountain Quilters Guild (LMQD)** - The LMQD will hold their 23<sup>rd</sup> annual quilt show at the Shaver Center in Seneca, SC on Fri - Sat, Sept. 17 - 18. Come see over 200 hand made quilts and their makers. For more information, please visit their site at [www.lmqg.org](http://www.lmqg.org). Oconee County is very proud to be the home of the Oconee Heritage Quilt Trail who will have a booth and quilt displays at the LMQD show. The Quilt Trail has been extremely busy and now has 27 quilts displayed throughout the county. For information and locations please visit their site at [www.oconeeheritagequilttrail.com](http://www.oconeeheritagequilttrail.com).

**National Hunting & Fishing Day at Duke Energy's World of Energy** - Duke Energy will be hosting their annual Hunting & Fishing Expo at the World of Energy in Seneca, SC on Sat., Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 - 3:00. Bring the kids and experience hands-on demonstrations for Air Rifle Shooting, Archery, Butterfly Garden, Camo Games, Fly Casting, Campsite Safety, Wildlife Critters, Lake Fishing, Fly Tying, Take One Make One Trailer, Boating Safety, and Kayaking and Retriever Demonstrations. For details go to [www.Duke-Energy.com](http://www.Duke-Energy.com).

**LHMA Golf** - The Lake Hartwell Marketing Alliance is selling LHMA Golf Trail passes at all of the chambers of commerce in the LHMA area. For \$100 you get a

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round of golf at 16 golf courses located in the six counties that touch Lake Hartwell, including four courses in Oconee County. For more information go to [www.mylakehartwell.org](http://www.mylakehartwell.org).

**Oktoberfest** - Upcoming on October 15 - 17<sup>th</sup> is the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Oktoberfest where the town of Walhalla, SC bids you "Guten Tag! (Good Day!)" and invites you to experience "Gemutlichkeit!!!" (good spirits, good Times, laughter and goodwill). For more information please visit their site at [www.WalhallaChamber.com](http://www.WalhallaChamber.com).

**Vet-Vest** - Coming up in November is the second annual Vet-Fest Motorcycle Poker Run. The date is Nov. 13, 2010. For details on the schedule and route please visit their web-site at [www.Vet-Fest.com](http://www.Vet-Fest.com).

**Blue Ridge Double** - The Blue Ridge Double is a back-to-back weekend bicycle ride through the Blue Ridge Mountains in Oconee County (Issaqueena's Last Ride) and Cashiers, NC (Tour de Cashiers). The dates for next year have been set for April 23 (ILR) and April 30 (TdeC). For more information go to [www.ILRSC.com](http://www.ILRSC.com). We look forward to your visit!

Kind regards,

Ken Sloan  
Executive Director

*Oconee County - An irresistible environment for a remarkable experience!*



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Mountain Lakes CVB - Oconee County, South Carolina

## September 2010 Calendar of Events

[FOR A COMPLETE CALENDAR OF EVENTS CLICK HERE](#)

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Coming in October is another staple here in Oconee County. The 32nd Annual Oktoberfest. Oktoberfest will run from October 15th-17th. There will be continuous shuttle service available. Pick-ups and drop-offs include Main Street, Walhalla High School and the City Parking Lot on South Catherine Street. Service dogs only permitted on field. Admission is \$4.00 for Adults, \$3.00 Children ages 3-10, Children 3 and under are free. For more information [CLICK HERE.](#)

## In The News



### **Fall Produce Available at Farm**

Long Creek, S.C., September 1, 2010- Apple season continues at Chattooga Belle Farm, and we also have muscadines and scuppernongs.

The farm currently has Gala, Fuji and Golden Delicious apples and Carlos (Bronze) Scuppernongs and Nobel (Purple) Muscadines. Produce is available for u-pick or can be purchased in the farm store, which also sells local made jams, jellies, relishes and other items.

The farm is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. The farm closes at 1:00 when there is an event at the barn. Prices are as follows:

Apples:

\$15/bushel we pick or \$12/bushel u-pick

\$8/half bushel we pick or \$6/ half bushel u-pick

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\$5/peck we pick or \$4 peck/u-pick  
All other quantities are \$1/pound

Grapes & Muscadines:  
\$12.00 gallon or \$4.00 quart we pick  
\$1.00 pound u-pick

For more information about Chattooga Belle Farm, please visit our website at [www.chattoogabellefarm.com](http://www.chattoogabellefarm.com).



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