

Big Fling In Georgia's LATE JUNE High Country

• In the North Georgia hills, Rabun County is home country of a number of employees and retired persons of Firestone, Gastonia. Rabun County is also host to thousands of homefolks and visitors for its biggest annual event every third week in June. That's when the Mountaineer Festival offers one of the most fun and frivolity-packed "shindigs" in all the Southern Blue Ridge Country.

This year's Festival dates are June 19-22, with the biggest crowd-fetching events on the 21st — Crowning of Festival Queen, and mammoth street parade featuring hillfolk, covered wagons, bands, horses—and all depicting pioneering rural times.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS of the four-day program: Motorcycle climb, skydiving shows, children's amusements, musical programs; a "sock hop", also round and square dancing.

Too, there's a cloggers convention, horse show, contests for the best costumes and beards, the giveaway of a saddle horse, displays and sales of mountain arts and crafts.

Still other recreational events in the "high cool" of Clayton and surrounding hills are hiking, mountain climbing, swimming, golfing, a coondog race.

JAMES RAMEY of production scheduling and control says of his home country: "It's where



spring spends the summer. There are five lakes in the area, with good fishing and lots of scenery, and friendly people who'll see that you have a good time when you visit." • For other travel suggestions, see "People Going Places" on page 4.

Of Tire Tread And The Law

North Carolina state law now requires motorists to have on their vehicles tires which meet safety standards as set by the law enacted by the General Assembly May 1.

The law requires that tires have a 2-32nds of an inch of tread and to be free of other defects.

Joe Garrett, NC motor vehicle commissioner, reminds the public that mechanics who are certified for auto safety inspection checks have attended orientation classes on the new tire-inspection law, and are now inspecting tires.

Garrett notes that motorists may be cited to court for having unsafe tires. A motorist can defend himself in court by showing that the unsafe tires have been replaced within 15 days of the citation.

Happiness: Being Busy & Productive

A newly-organized colony of honeybees on the move camped in an oak tree near the main office in May, and resumed the industry for which they are so well known.

Before a Firestone "bee man" hobbyist could transfer them to his home apiary, they'd gathered about two pounds of honey and placed it on their chosen tree branch.

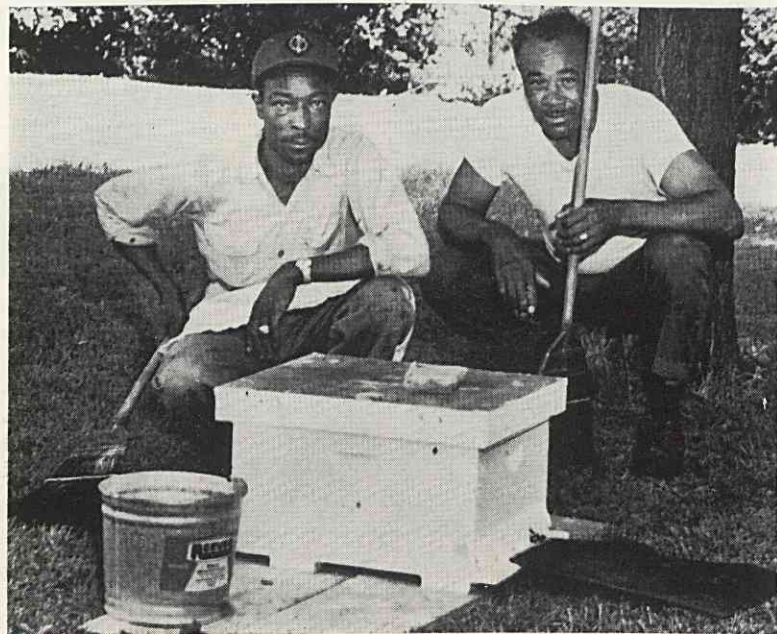
R. E. Mack, safety supervisor, first noticed the wandering honeymakers. He called Roy Marr of twisting-TC, knowing that Roy has been making bee-keeping a hobby for many years.

Roy brought along an equipped hive and invited the swarmers inside. In the moving process, the hastily-deposited honey fell dripping to the walk below.

THEIR new owner placed the hive under the tree and at the close of his work shift, took them to his home on Church Street. There, he placed them alongside the five "stands" he has had for three years.

Marr said that had not someone provided the bees a per-

manent home, the colony's scouts eventually would have located a more suitable place to carry on their industry.



THEY DIDN'T STING • George Chalk (left) and John Bryant of the shop (sanitation service) stopped to make friends with the visiting honeymakers. Why didn't they sting George and John? When picture was made, the sun was shining and nectar was abundant. Under such favorable conditions, bees are usually too busy to bother with people.

Firestone NEWS

JUNE • 1969

GASTONIA
NORTH CAROLINA

Jon Ward And 34 Others '69 Scouting Awards

"His is the most outstanding record I have ever reviewed in our Scouting competition down through the years," said Ralph Johnson, announcing Jon S. Ward as recipient of the Harvey S. Firestone Jr. Scouting Award for 1969.

The plant employee relations manager and coordinator of the company's Scouting awards competition here, pointed out that the winner this year recorded a higher total of points than had any other winner in years past.

Jon, a member of Troop 13, Gastonia, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Ward Jr. of 516 W. Sixth Avenue, and grandson of W. B. Ward, a Firestone retiree.

Jon attained Eagle Rank in April this year. In Scouting since late 1965, he has made the unusual record of 42 advancements within the past year alone.

Jon, who will be a senior at Hunter Huss High School this fall, has an "A" school record. He also has an outstanding list of achievements at St. Michael's Church.

He will be 16 on upcoming Nov. 18. For his Scout project in the Firestone competition, he constructed a pack frame.

Says his Scoutmaster, Bruce Wofford: "Jon is an outstanding Scout — always anxious to demonstrate his skill at meetings and to help other Scouts in the troop to get their merit badges and advance."

The 1969 winner is the 24th

outstanding Scout to be honored in the company program at Gastonia.

Presentation of award was made May 27 at the annual Scout Awards dinner meeting in Firestone Recreation Center.

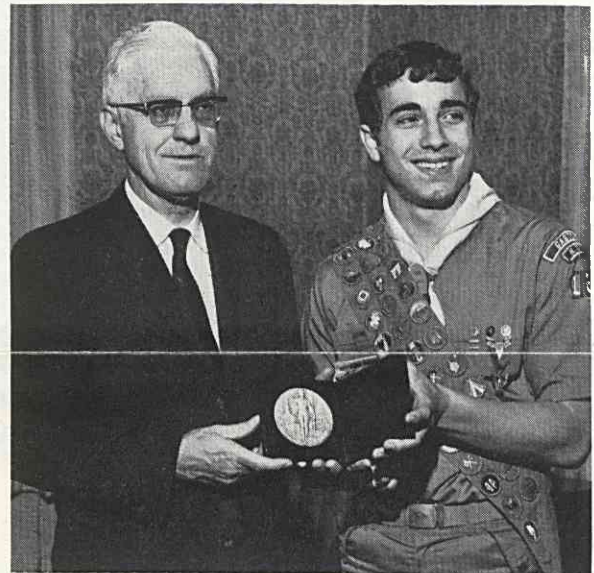
Besides Jon's recognition, 34 other Scouts from Gastonia and four other Gaston communities were named Merit winners for noteworthy Scouting achievement.

Plant manager John V. Dar-

win presented Jon the Silver Medallion emblem of the award, a Certificate of Merit, a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond and a \$20.80 check for an expenses fund to Schiele Scout Reservation encampment or for purchase of Scouting equipment.

The 34 others honored for Scouting achievement each were presented a Certificate of Merit and a gift check of \$20.80 toward expenses for a stay at Schiele Reservation in Polk County, or for equipment.

Bessemer City • Troop 37: Scott Sarvis, Randy Scott
More on page 3



Jon Ward received Medallion from John Darwin

Suggestion Emphasis

THROUGH JUNE

June is wrap-up month of a quota-by-department suggestion program designed to stimulate production of ideas and their turn-in to the Suggestion System at the Gastonia plant.

The special effort, started at the beginning of April, sets quotas based on the number of people working in each department.

Members of supervision are "key salesmen" for stepping up suggestion participation. By the in-person approach, supervisors encourage suggestions by calling

attention to problems in such areas as waste control, increase of production efficiency, and improvement of safety.

Each month the Suggestion Board Secretary sends department supervisors a subject list of suggestions turned in. This report is an index to the progress the three-month program is making.

Open Line To 'Fire Center'

On utility poles at intersections all over Gastonia—77 bright red boxes are marked FIRE. One of them is located on W. Second Ave., in front of Firestone's Industrial Relations office. Another is at the Second Ave.-Dalton corner near Firestone Recreation Center.

Placement of the alarm boxes is part of a new Emergency Reporting System for the city, and installed by Southern Bell Telephone Company.

The boxes, designed by Bell's marketing department, were selected by the city after extensive studies by Ernest L. Rankin, police chief; and John L. Farris, fire chief.

EACH UNIT contains a telephone connected directly to the city Fire Communications Center which is in operation 24

hours a day. The phone works without dialing.

Mr. Farris says the system affords a high degree of flexibility to meet the city's changing needs in emergency communications, and provides effective protection.

The systems, maintained by the telephone company, are all situated at street intersections having traffic control signals working on a full-time basis, and at certain other critical locations.