

GOOD LIFE NEWS

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 3

FLORIDA UNIT 027

MARCH 2007

The President's Letter

Another milestone in the annual rally schedule has passed. The Florida State Rally was a big success. This year, we had 483 trailers and motor homes attend. This is a sizeable increase over last year. Hopefully next year will be even bigger. Plans are afoot to publicize the event on a wider scale to boost the attendance.

A couple of items of note took place. First, during the board of Governors meeting, a vehement complaint was lodged by a unit member (not ours) regarding the judging of the food donations. Last year the winner contributed money only. It was a hefty \$400. There was much discussion and a motion was made and passed to judge only the barrel decorations and not the amounts of food or money. Since it is not possible to equate a money donation to the weight in food, it is best not to try. Betty Wenger did a superb job decorating our barrel.

Ironically, this year all the money is being returned to the donors. The Second Harvest folks have not picked up the cash and check donations in person or acknowledged the donation for the past 3 years. Judy Martin, the food drive chairperson, feels that if they don't appreciate what we do, then our donations should be given to a charity that does. Who that may be is to be determined. For our unit, we will ask the donors to void their initial check and make out a new one making the payee the WBCCI Florida Unit with Food Donation on the "For" line. It will be held in escrow until the 2008 Florida State Rally.

The second item of note: Don Shafer, the International President, held an ad hoc meeting with the Region 3 president and the unit presidents to brief us on the amendment that has been presented. He is halting any further discussions on the constitutional amendment proposed by the Coastal South Carolina Unit. In essence, the problem is with the request to use Article XVI Sect. 1 to vote on the amendment instead of Sect. 2. Sect 1 has never been exercised and does not allow for open discussions. This is against Robert's Rules of Order for a deliberative organization like the WBCCI. The letter did not address the amendment content, only the method requested for voting.

A third item: At the Saturday evening announcements time, I accepted, on behalf of the unit, a letter of congratulations from Don Shafer for our 50 consecutive years as a unit in the WBCCI. This is an honor for all of us. The letter has been laminated and will be given to our historian for safe keeping. I was not given the opportunity to respond, but had I done so, I would have pointed out that the success of our unit rests with its members, the ones who are always there. Afraid that I might leave someone out, I won't name names, but you know who they are. They are the ones who are always willing to work for the unit in whatever capacity that is needed.

Beyond those folks, every organization succeeds through the efforts of an impassioned leadership with a vision. That's Frank and Joan Carson. Their untiring efforts have made our unit a success; from directing the St. Augustine and other rallies, to their drumming up members for the WBCCI and our unit, to Frank's presidency of the Florida State Rally Board of Governors, to their dedication to making our unit a living, breathing and thriving organization. My hat is off to the Carsons and all the people who continue serving our unit.

Our next rally is The Blue Grass Festival at Fort Christmas March 14-19. We hope to see you there.

Vic Smith, President of the Florida Unit

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Excerpts from IBT Report

After the IBT meeting that was held at Perry, GA 1-19-07, Gene Post wrote for "Pirate Patter", the Florida Treasure Coast newsletter, an extensive summary of the actions that took place. With the permission of that editor, a condensed version is being printed here.

Committee reports:

The Family & Youth Chairman reported the kids love the new youth/teen website.

The Common Cents program has reached \$15,000 and now will go to the selected family.

The 1st vice president reported that the contract with Bozeman, MT for 2008 has been signed.

The International Relations Chairman reported the Cape Town to Cairo caravan for 25 units is full with a standby list started.

The Membership Chairman reported the membership is down 5% to 6699.

The Electric Communications Study Committee reported there is now capability for each unit to have a web page on WBCCI.NET. A program will be ready by June for training.

Actions voted on and passed:

The 2nd vice president was authorized to sign a contract for the 2009 International to be held in Madison, WI.

At the International, "all animals" will be permitted in the general parking area. It also directed the rally committee to provide an animal area on grass for those who desire to park there. Because the next two rallies will be parked on black top or concrete paving, it could be harmful to the dogs.

A completely re-written Bylaws Appendix 6 that details content of unit constitutions and bylaws was approved.

(Our B & C as mentioned in Vic's letter will need renovation in 2007.)

Consolidation of more than two units is permitted.

A motion was passed directing a committee be established to present a motion at the next Delegates Meeting (June 27, 2007) to amend the Constitution so that people purchasing Class A motor homes manufactured by Four Winds Inc. (including Mandalay division) be permitted membership in the club. All such members' motor homes would be required to have an "Airstream Edition" decal or similar form of identification applied by an authorized dealer or at the manufacturer's facility.

There were 23 committee reports and 19 motions submitted from which 8 were withdrawn for various technical reasons.

On the Subject of Changes

One of the toughest things a membership chairman or a newsletter editor has to do is keep addresses and phone numbers up to date. With the advent of cell phones and e-mail addresses plus summer and winter addresses, it becomes an enormous task.

We need your help. When there is a change in any of the above information, please let us know via e-mail or snail mail asap. We don't want you to miss out on any information we have to pass on to you.

Thanks for the Information

Change Larry and Linda Scovotto's e-mail address to: wbccci3451@mac.com.

Change Larry and Marie Moser's e-mail address to: Imoser@cfl.rr.com.

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Sarasota Review

The 34th Florida State Rally had an increase of 45 units over last year with 485 units in attendance. The Florida Unit was well represented with 38 members present and 2 for-a-day visitors. The weather was ideal.

As reported in Vic's president's letter, the unit was honored by Don Shafer for its 50 years and for being one of the original three units chartered.

As customary, members of our unit worked on various committees. **Earl Leggett, Dave Wenger, and Earl Trask** were on scooter patrol. **Whit and Marilyn Blasdell** were in charge of Tables and Chairs. **Frank Carson**, president of the Board of Governors, as well as presiding at the board meeting, gave two seminars, one on digital cameras and computers and one for First Timers. **Helen Leggett** was in charge of the morning donuts. **Jean Gilbert** took care of registration.

We were well represented among the winners of various activities. **Marilyn Blasdell** took 1st overall in Bridge. **Helen Leggett** took a 1st in Bridge. **Joan Carson** took a 1st in Collections in the Hobby Show. **Betty Ritter** took a 1st in Quilting. **Betty Wenger** took a 2nd in the Barrel Decorations. Congratulations to all, and we hope we have not omitted anyone.

Earl and Bev Trask donated one of their beautiful tables to the rally as a door prize.

Whit Blasdell took over as Bingo Chairman for next year. There is always a need for new people to take the jobs and add new ideas.

Attendees were: **Ron & Alice Archambo, Phil & Phyllis Azerado, Dave & Becky Barto, Whit & Marilyn Blasdell, Frank & Joan Carson, Jean Gilbert, Ed & Marion Krajewski, Lorna Moeller & her daughter, Henry Lappen, Earl & Helen Leggett, Charlie & Roxann Nix, Willard & Jeanne Pickrel, Bill & Wendy Reilly, Tex & Betty Ritter, Larry & Linda Scovotto, Ted & Donna Smith, Vic Smith, Tom & Jackie Tisdell, Earl & Bev Trask, and Dave & Betty Wenger.**

Sarasota Future

The 35th annual Florida State Rally will be held February 20-24, 2008 at the Fairgrounds. The theme will be *Hawaii*, so find your grass skirts and colorful shirts so you may join in on the fun.

If all goes well, prices for the rally will remain the same, \$135.00 for the whole rally and \$85.00 for the weekend.

At the Board of Governors meeting, the following officers were reelected: Frank Carson as president, Mary Potter as vice president, and Don Kenney as secretary.

Harold Kern announced that 2008 would be his last year as rally director.

The assignments for the various jobs for all the units are done by rotation. For 2008, the rally sponsor will be the Pensacola Florida Unit, the stage decorations will be the Big Bend Florida Unit, and guess what? The Florida Unit gets to take care of sanitation. Don't be alarmed. All you have to do is hand the dumper the hose. The rest is up to him.

Be sure you save the dates for the rally!

Rally Fees Needed

The Fort Christmas **Blue Grass Festival Rally** will be held March 14 to 19, 2007. Frank Carson needs your registration. If you come on Wednesday, the fee is \$6.00. If you come on Thursday or Friday, there is no rally or parking fee. Please let him know asap. You will be helping much like at Cracker Christmas but on a smaller scale.

If you plan to attend the **Easter Rally at St. Augustine**, Frank needs your registration and money now. He needs to pay for tours and food in advance. Make your check payable to St. Augustine Easter Rally and mail it to him at 29129 Johnston Rd. 546, Dade city, FL 33523. He'll appreciate your prompt response.

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About Our Members

Janelle Whaley, past Queen of the Royal Family, and spokesperson for the royalty when they have appeared at our rally, has a serious health problem and is receiving treatment.

Pat and Wray Finn mourn the loss of Pat's aunt who lived in Maryland. They spent many weeks looking after her.

Our thoughts and prayers are with **Janelle** and the **Finns**.

Vic and Josie Smith have been having their home put together after a leaking pipe flooded their house and caused extensive damage. They have been dealing with the insurance company, inspectors, painters, carpet layers, tilers, and whomever else. They have been living in their trailer while all the work has been going on. Josie missed the Sarasota Rally so that she could oversee the workers. We wish the Smiths a speedy recovery of their home.

Region 3 Charity Project

Our own Pat Finn is in charge of the community service project at the Region 3 rally to be held at St. Augustine April 10-15, 2007 following our rally. The selected project is The Florida School for the Deaf and Blind with 748 students on campus and 120 off campus.

There are two other programs reaching out: The Parent Infant Program (birth through 5 years) and the Small and Rural District initiative that serves school-age children, ages 3 through 22.

The little youngsters need jazz CDs and CD players so the parents and children can hear the music at the same time, bonding together.

And for children of all ages, think of what your grand kids would like, checking with your teens to see if the style of clothes is acceptable.

If you can't be at the rally, I'm sure Pat would accept your monetary donation. Call 321-638-2484 or e-mail her at patfinn@bellsouth.net.

Pot Pourri

Welcome to new members **Randy and Patsy Godfrey**. 2148 Auburn Lakes Dr., Viera, FL 32955-6764. Phone: 321-633-7591 E-mail RGODFREY@cfl.rr.com.

When choosing an e-mail address, consider a hyphen instead of an underline. When printing, the computer underlines all e-mail addresses, and your underline may get lost.

Check out the following websites for unit info. http://www.airstream-adventures.com/FU/Florida_Unit.html (That's an underline between Florida and Unit.)

<http://hometown.aol.com/fc23343/myhomepage/personal.html>

Go to <http://www.region3.org> for some great pictures of others caravanning.

Planning Ahead

It hardly seems possible that we're into March already and our Easter Rally is right around the corner. Our rallies and our unit don't run all by themselves. They need the cooperation and willingness of all the members to keep the unit an active and thriving organization.

It won't be long before the nominating committee consisting of Vic Smith, Dave Wenger, and Frank Carson will be looking for a 2nd vice president to help fill out the necessary office positions. If you're approached, please give the job some serious thought. You would have two years to learn what would be expected of you as you move up the ladder. Those who will hold the positions in front of you will always be willing to give you some help.

Trustees will be needed as well as committee members, and other jobs may open up. We need some willing and able folks to keep us going. May we count on you?

Ellen S. McMillan, Editor
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Tom Tisdell and Friends

WELCOME WALLY BYAM CARAVAN CLUB FLORIDA STATE AIRSTREAM RALLY



Dave Wenger Parked with his vintage scooter



Pizza!!



Base Camp



Vic's Vintage



Herb's 1965
Award-Winning Globetrotter



Where's the Pizza?



Happy Hour at Whit and Marilyn's



The Stage is Set



Vic carries our flag



Loan with First Place Collection



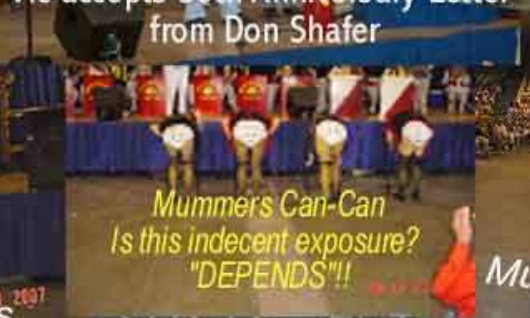
Vic accepts 50th Anniversary Letter from Don Shafer



Billy Wenger's Second Place Barrel



Rodeo Rhythm Kings



Mummers Can-Can
Is this indecent exposure?
"DEPENDS"!!



Helen Struts Her Stuff
Mummers Strut



Music City Brass



nuff said



Fearless Leader