



# GOOD LIFE NEWS



VOLUME 8 ISSUE 11

FLORIDA UNIT 027

SEPTEMBER 2008

## The President's Letter

We are still in the midst of hot, summer weather, but we do have the promise of cooler days shortly. I feel very fortunate that the storms did not hit our area this year, and the folks in Texas and Louisiana are in our prayers as they recover from their losses from Hurricane Ike and Hurricane Gustavo.

The first fall activity planned for our club is a luncheon/business meeting to elect our officers for the coming year and discuss plans regarding upcoming rallies and other activities for our club. Please think about volunteering to help out at our State Rally and/or Easter Rally, or perhaps by putting together a bulletin board for our International Rally in Wisconsin next summer.

The luncheon will be held **Nov. 1, 2008 at the Golden Corral Restaurant in Orlando** with lunch starting at 11:00 am followed by the business meeting.

Directions: Traveling West on I-4 take Exit 75A toward International Dr for 1.2 miles. Merge onto W Sandlake Rd for .9 mile, then left onto International Dr. approx. one mile ending at 8032 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819.

Directions: Traveling East on I-4 take Exit 74A toward International Dr. for .3 mile. Turn right onto W Sandlake Rd for .2 mile. Then right on International Drive ending at 8032 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819

A month after our business meeting is our **Installation Rally at Ft. Christmas, FL, Dec 3-Dec 8**. This is a volunteer rally where we help Orange County Park put on their Christmas Craft Show on Sat. & Sun. Dec 7 & 8. We spruce up the houses and fort and help put up Christmas decorations throughout the park – getting ready for Christmas visitors. One morning we dice vegetables and pull pork for barbeque sandwiches. On Saturday and Sunday we doct the period homes located in the park. Some of our members have a lot of fun dressing in 1800's clothes for the weekend. Lots of opportunities for great photos! We always have a good turnout for this rally and trust this year will be the same. There are two more buildings open this year; we will need all the "willing hands" we can get to help out.

There is no limit on the number of Airstreams we can accommodate with water, rally electric and free parking. We especially hope that our working weekend members will join us. There is ***no rally fee if only attending Friday, Saturday, Sunday and that includes six meals***. For the Saturday evening meal we join with the crafters for a potluck meal in the "village" under lantern light (meat is provided). Even though we put in quite a few hours of work (one of the reasons we win outstanding unit awards), we really do have a lot of fun at this rally. A new feature this year will be a "Bull and Belle Session": What I should know about keeping my rig trouble free. Also, we will have some outdoor games to choose from such as bocci-ball, horseshoes, and croquet. If you have other games, bring them with you. See page 2 for the coupon to sign-up. The rally fee is \$15.00 per person when you come for the entire rally. **Wednesday evening meal is provided by**



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**the club, Thursday: continental breakfast and catered dinner included.** On this evening we will have our installation meeting to welcome our new officers for next year. **Friday: breakfast repeat, Saturday: pancake breakfast, lunch and potluck dinner, and Sunday: pancake breakfast and lunch all included in the rally fee.**

We wish to say a special thank you to Pat Finn who has gracefully stepped in as our Newsletter Editor for Ellen McMillan who is unable to fill this position as she and Joe will be staying in the North for awhile due to family health problems. Hope to see you on November 1.  
Dave Wenger, President

**DUES, DUES, DUES** (By: Frank Carson)  
NOW IS THE TIME to think about sending in your membership dues. To continue receiving both the Blue Beret and the wonderful newsletter put together by Ellen and Pat (and you do not want to miss one of those great newsletters), please send your **\$65.00** made out to **WBCCI Florida Unit, and mail it to Frank Carson, Treasurer, PO Box 135, Crosswicks, NJ 08515.** All of our officers and Rally Directors are volunteers. Some do multiple jobs and ***your sending your dues in early*** really helps me out. Thanks!

If you miss our rallies, you are missing some of the best rallies in the country. **December is our annual Cracker Christmas Rally. NEWSFLASH:** This year, something new will be *added* to this rally. Our most knowledgeable members will be shedding light on the upkeep and maintenance of your rec. vehicle. We will even have the gauge to measure the amount of propane to make sure your appliances, refrigerator, hot-water heater and stove are getting the correct amount of fuel to those appliances. This doesn't take place in a conference room or a garage, but under some of biggest shade trees you have ever seen as a camper. This gorgeous spot and rally offers lots of craft shopping, food, Santa, and covered dish under the stars. Don't miss out on this rally, and watch for the announcement of new rallies. This is going to be a fun season, so send your dues today.

**Cracker Christmas Rally**

*If you have ever been or possibly will be an officer* - then you know how meaningful and moving this installation dinner is each year. It is the highlight of the rally and all officers are dressed in their uniforms and installed by a Reg. 3 Officer. This year the installation dinner (turkey with all the trimmings) will be on Thursday evening.

Cost for rally is \$15.00 per person, includes 9 meals. If only Fri, Sat. & Sun, no fee, includes 6 meals. Send check to Frank (see below)

-----coupon-----

**Cracker Christmas/Volunteer Installation Rally  
1300 Fort Christmas Road  
Christmas, Florida  
December 3 - 8, 2008**

**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

Cell # \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**WBCCI Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **Vehicle type** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vehicle size** \_\_\_\_\_ **Payment due by 11/1**

I(we) will arrive on (Early parking Tuesday \_\_\_\_\_) Wed. \_\_\_\_\_  
Thurs. \_\_\_\_\_ Friday \_\_\_\_\_

Rally fee \$15.00 per person if coming for the full rally.  
No rally fee for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.  
Water and rally electric and free parking.  
Dumping can be arranged at Christmas TR. Park.  
Rally fee includes nine meals including two dinners and one pot luck.  
Everyone must be on grounds by 9:00 AM Saturday. No vehicular traffic through park on Sat. or Sunday between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM.  
Remember, this is a Volunteer Rally, and your help will be greatly appreciated. The theme of this rally is learning about your Airstream, maintenance and up-keep.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE!**

Make checks payable to **WBCCI Florida Unit** and mail to Frank Carson, Treasurer, POB 135, Crosswicks, NJ 08515, if before Nov 1. **You can include your dues in the same envelope if before Oct 15, 2008).** After Nov 1, mail to 29129 Johnston Rd 546, Dade City, FL 33523.

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**FLORIDA STATE RALLY**

**Insider Info:** Upcoming in the October Blue Beret will be an article by our own Treasurer, Membership Chair for Reg 3, and the new Director

of the (February) Florida Rally in Sarasota. Frank Carson! (Drum roll, please!) Frank has assisted each of us so much as we held offices and served in so many other capacities. We need now, MORE THAN EVER, to support Frank in this new endeavor. Frank is determined to make this rally something more than it has ever been – and it has been good! Read the article, sign up to go and please volunteer to help! (by: Pat Finn)

### **TRAVELERS**

**Fred & Sue Mount:** We have not gone anywhere with the trailer this summer as have been trying to update the house for sale. It will go up in the Spring!! We depart NJ 9/26 heading for the Storytelling Rally in TN then over to TCPC for a week. Then are going to the Carolina's Rally followed by the Georgia State Rally. By that time I'm sure Fred will be rallied out!!

Will then meander thru GA and probably go visit with friends in St. Augustine before making the final push to Paradise Park. Of course all this is contingent on weather conditions as it will still be hurricane season in FL!! Will most likely be in the park the first week in Nov. Selling a B-van...see ad below. Safe travels ~ Sue Mount

**Larry & Marie Moser: SW Caravan** (See photo) This was our first trip in the South West. Our leaders, Dave & Carol Keller and Dave & Vickie Buttleman, did an excellent job of taking us to interesting and historical places around the four corners and keeping us well fed. The four corners are where Utah, Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado meet and it is only place in the U.S. where four states meet.

In Albuquerque we watched a beautiful sunset as we dined at the High Finance Restaurant. To reach the restaurant we rode on the world's longest aerial tramway which climbs to an altitude of over 10,000ft.

We rode a train from Durango to Silverton, CO, and got to enjoy a fresh snowfall. We were at the Green Corn Dance also on a very cold day. The Indians danced in family groups and the children were

adorable. We were invited into one of the homes where we were served drinks and pastries. They were very friendly. The visit to the Church of the Holy Dirt was interesting and we all were given a plastic bag of "Holy Dirt" to bring home. At Pagosa Springs, NM, there were 17 pools with temperatures ranging from 94 to 114 degrees. We enjoyed the cooler pools. We also visited the Atomic museum, Carlsbad Caverns, rode trucks through a beautiful Indian canyon, and visited a UFO museum. At Page, AZ, we took a boat trip on Lake Powell and a raft boat ride on the Colorado River. We saw a large number of mesas, bluffs and mountains that were just spectacular in size and color. At Jacobs Lake, we traveled 44 miles to the north rim of the Grand Canyon. Marie counted 186 deer on the way to the Lodge. Our caravan ended at Jacob's lake after 44 days of traveling and enjoying our beautiful country.

**Janet & Bill Cordsen:** Well, Bill & I left on March 28th heading north and west. Traveled along the coast and spent some time in Texas, birding. Also, visited friends in McAllen and spent one afternoon in Progresso, Mexico. We visited the Alamo, and then San Antonio and visited the Missions. Went to Carlsbad Nat. Park, Saguaro Nat. Park, White Sands, and Guadalupe. We went from Yuma, AZ to San Diego. Temp was 104 in Yuma and 76 in San Diego. What a relief! Visited North Island and Coronado Hotel and then on to San Francisco to Alcatraz Island. Boy, that sure was interesting! We saw the Hollywood sign, went to Forest Lawn and stood at W.C.Fields crypt.(Bill's favorite star). On to Napa Valley and north up the coast. Then over to Yosemite and Kings Canyon National Parks. Then back to the coast and to Redwoods and Olympic Nat. Park. Then over to Victoria, before heading north to Suma, WA. where we crossed the border into Canada. We spent exactly 2 months in the provinces and AK. Went over the Top of the World Hwy. and came back the Cassier. Took several small cruises to see wildlife and glaciers, etc. We enjoyed AK, but were very glad to get back to the USA, as it's a bit too desolate for us. I guess it's more interesting for fisherman and hunters. We came back thru Montana, after visiting Jasper, Lake Louise and Banff. Went on the Columbia ice fields, too. Before leaving Alberta, we went to Head Smashed In-Buffalo Jump. Wow, if you haven't been there and are in the area, be sure to go! It was wonderful. A real museum and an actual site where the natives ran the buffalo over the cliffs. We then visited Waterton International Peace Park and then

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Glacier. How lovely the scenery is along the way!! We have seen so much!! It sure is humbling! On to Theodore Roosevelt Nat. Park in ND and then to Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse and then on to Deadwood. Wow, there's a town that is original and still there! The whole town is on the National Register. We really enjoyed this one. Onward to Idaho and then to Utah. Stayed in Ogden and visited the Golden Spike Nat. Monument in Promontory, Utah. We took the Metrolink to Salt Lake City for the day and visited Temple Square. How interesting that was! Onward to Arches Nat. Park on Sept. 3. We are at the OK RV Park in Moab, UT. The next morning I got up with doubling over abdominal pain. Bill took me to the ER and they kept me 4 days with severe pancreatitis. The Dr. and care were wonderful. I guess God put us right in the right spot. On 9/15 the Dr. did my surgery (laproscopic) removed my gall bladder and fixed an umbilical hernia that I had, also. We'll leave after the Dr's release and finish our trip. We will go to Canyonlands, Bryce and Zion. I have 2 nieces in Utah and will see them, also. We'll go to Hoover Dam and on to the Grand Canyon and then Kansas and Oklahoma and Colorado. This is our "bucket list" and it is almost finished. Most of you have done something like this, but I guess Bill & I did it a bit different - all at once. It has been a wonderful, educational trip and we have met so many wonderful folks along the way. However, we are ready to get back home to Florida. We really miss our place at TR.  
Jan & Bill Cordsen

**Willard and Jeanne Pickrel** 9/21 We are finishing up our RV trip out West and will be back home next week. We left on August 29<sup>th</sup> and headed for South Dakota with stops in Warm Springs GA and Independence MO to visit Roosevelt's and Truman's places of interest....No, we are not Democrats.

When we arrived at the welcome center in SD, they showed us all the great things to do and see there and we did all of them. My Mom joined us in Rapid City, after her 20 hr bus trip. She really must have wanted to spend time with her favorite son-in-law. SD is great; we loved Deadwood, and Rushmore, etc. We headed to Yellowstone with a stop-over in Cody. After 2 days in Yellowstone we headed for Stanley ID because Willard needed to spend time in the coldest place in the US. And he needed to **Fish**. Now we are in Utah and have

seen Zion and spent a wonderful day at Best Friends in Kanab. Yesterday was Capitol

Reef and today is Moab with the Arches NP. My daughter joined us in Zion and she and Mom will depart us in a couple of days. It has been a lot of fun and a lot of variety.

**Marie Chapman** I still have my B Van. I've started writing my memoirs and attending a workshop once a month. It's something I think we all should do. There have been so many changes and who better to record them than "we'uns?" The very first drive-in movie was down the field from my home. We could watch from the window and hear without any problem. No in-car speakers, (what's that?); just huge speakers that sounded a couple of miles away. (That was the first in the entire U.S. – not NJ)

### **Doctor's Corner**

Joan Carson - hopes to have all major dental work (bone grafts and implants) started by 9/30. If all heals by November, we will be on our way to Florida. Frank

Ellen and Joe McMillan are remaining in Ohio to be caregivers for Ellen's sister, Margaret, (per Ellen)

Helen Leggett still sporting a broken arm due to a fall. (per Earl)

Janet Cordsen: Surgery while on their trip (see above).

Thelma Carlisle: Having major problem with right leg as reported by Harvey

In Sympathy: Sorry to report the passing of Betty Kucowski's mother

### **New Members:**

Roxanne & Charlie Nix, from Brooksville, FL – formerly Assoc. Mbrs (see Directory) are now full members. Welcome aboard to a former Coast Guard member and Master Plumber & his first mate). The Nix's contact was a friendly letter and invite from Joan Carson.

### ***Special note on Pot Luck Saturday 12/6***

If you plan to attend the Potluck, remember to bring a side dish to feed 8 people. Meat will be supplied.

**AIRSTREAM B-VAN FOR SALE**  
**1994 B-Van, 88K miles, big engine – wired to tow an Airstream, has awning and generator, flex steel front seats. \$15K Call Fred Mount in NJ (cell 609-527-2687) or Frank Carson (cell 352-467-9530).**

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**From our Web Wizard, Vic Smith** now published on the Region 3 at website: <http://www.wbccci3.org/> (Vic Smith, Editor)

***SOME OF MURPHY'S OTHER LAWS...***

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

He, who laughs last, thinks slowest.

Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.

The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.

It is said that if you line up all the cars in the world end-to-end, someone would be stupid enough to try to pass them.

The things that come to those that wait may be the things left by those who got there first.

Flashlight: A case for holding dead batteries.

The shin bone is a device for finding furniture in the dark.

When you go into court, you are putting yourself in the hands of twelve people who weren't smart enough to get out of jury duty.

**New Member:**

Steve Martin  
6732 Sunset Ave.  
Panama City Beach, FL 32408  
Telephone# (850) 258-9196  
E-mail: [guacst454@gmail.com](mailto:guacst454@gmail.com)

Steve will be towing a 2005 25ft Safari! Please welcome Steve & daughter, Breanna (see photo). Steve's contact was Randy Godfrey.

**Reg. 3 – Jean Gilbert – Nominating Committee**

Anyone interested in being nominated for the Reg. 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP opening, please send your resume' before the Region Rally in Perry GA April 22-26, 2009. Each candidate will be interviewed and one will be selected to be placed on the ballot. Please mail your resume to me or any of the Region Officers ASAP. Jean Jean Gilbert,  
6404 Garrett Rd, Midland, GA 31820

**NEWSFLASH!!!!** Earl & Bev Trask are somewhere in GA trying to find sufficient gas to get back to FL. I can't wait to hear this story at our luncheon meeting!  
Ed.

LOOKING FOR NEWS FOR OCT NEWSLETTER!

