

GOOD LIFE NEWS

From Our President

Another Florida State Rally has come and gone with the Florida Unit doing itself proud with 26 units in attendance. The theme was Romance and Roses, our congratulations go out to Ron & Chris Allen for the great backdrop they designed, I doubt any other unit in the future will top it. Thanks to all who participated in the great team effort getting it assembled and put in place.

My thanks also to Dave & Betty Wenger for getting up so early, preparing, and serving the coffee and donuts; Earl Trask for being chairman of the scooter patrol; Whit Blasdell and his crew for running Bingo; Nancy Scime for chairman of the WBCCI store; Phil Drugge chairman of the golf tournament; George & Linda Perry for putting on a great pet show; Tom Maciejczyk for participating in the vintage open house; and Vic Smith for getting those 15 pizzas for our unit luncheon. Not to forget our own Frank Carson, rally director, and Randy Godfrey, registrar for the rally. Congratulations to Vic and Josie for winning first place in the best decorated unit. Now I'm sure in my senior moment that I've overlooked someone and I do apologize.

My friends, you missed a great little rally hosted by Phil & Doris Drugge at The Life Enrichment Center last month. This is just a laid back rally with no structured activities. Phil made his famous cowboy egg breakfast, Ron & Chris demonstrated the art of Dutch Oven cooking with some of the best beef stew you will ever eat, Phil made an upside down pineapple cake in a Dutch oven, Dave Wenger made a delicious apple pie in a Dutch Oven, and of course there was plenty of Joker Games. Take my advice and never play against a certain husband and wife team.

Welcome to two new members, Jerry & Frances Friend, and John Leonard & Rae Chamberlain. I'm sure you will enjoy our unit. Hope to see you and all our Unit members at the Bluegrass Festival Rally.

-Willard Pickrel

Third Life is Good Rally

Good Friends, Good Eating, Good Fun.

The third Life is Good Rally was held at the Life Enrichment Center in Fruitland Park, FL. Our group consisted of Unit President Willard Pickrel & Lady Jeanne, 1st VP Phil Drugge & Lady Doris, 2nd VP Ron Allen & Lady Chris, PP Dave & Betty Wenger, IPP Randy & Pat Godfrey, and Brad, Janet & Robert McGloin.

Thursday night found the early birds going out for dinner

at Cane Garden, one of The Villages country clubs. Friday the rally began and folks enjoyed traveling to The Villages for shopping, taking a free trolley tour and otherwise enjoying the surrounding area. We had no

planned agenda, although Brad & Dave did do some "heavy" work helping Phil pick up some furniture for a local charity. Thanks guys. A little Unit service project there! Back at the campground, Phil & Doris Drugge worked on preparing a delicious "New England" ham & bean supper for everyone. Everyone said it was excellent, including 2nd VP Ron Allen who was expecting southern style

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Please Give A Big Welcome To Our Two Newest Members!

Jerry and Frances Friend
10136 Dusty Hill Loop
Dade City, Florida 33525
(352) 437-4148
mill900@gmail.com
WBCCI # 2388

John Leonard and Rae Chamberlain
11 Myrtle Ave.
Saint Augustine, Florida 32084
(860) 304-2117
sparklerae@gmail.com
WBCCI # 1464

Jerry and Frances have been members, and have been to the Easter Rally about 5 years ago before dropping out. Welcome back! John and Rae have a 1957 26 foot Overlander which they are working on in hopes of getting out sometime this season, but they just wanted to join now to get their feet wet.

WANTED: A NEWER AIRSTREAM FOR TV COMMERCIAL

Vic Smith our webmaster has been in contact with Scott Barnett, a producer of TV commercials near Miami, FL. He is making a Toyota Tundra commercial featuring the Tundra's new sway control. He wants an Airstream trailer to feature in the commercial. Vic's is too shiny and the camera would reflect in the trailer. He wants an Airstream with a standard finish. If you are interested in this, and making a little money with your rig, contact Vic and he will put you in contact with Scott. The shoot is on March 10, 2011.

WBCCI Florida Unit

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http://www.airstream-adventures.com/FU/Florida_Unit.html

THIRD LIFE IS GOOD RALLY (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)



ham & lima beans. What can you expect from Yankees, Ron?

On Saturday the schedule was pretty much the same, get up and enjoy breakfast by Betty & Dave Wenger. Cowboy eggs with bacon & cheese. That went down pretty well. Then it was off to the Marion Flea Market and other exotic locales. Saturday night we had a shrimp boil, potatoes, shrimp, corn on the cob, and kielbasa. Another feast! Later on the Joker games went on in earnest.

Sunday morning after Betty's continental breakfast, we had a short devotional service led by Phil Drugge, and then the cooking got serious. With dutch oven cookware provided by Ron & Chris Allen and Dave & Betty Wenger, we all pitched in and prepared beef stew, pies (prepared by Dave and Willard), pineapple upside down cake, and hot biscuits. It was *delicious!* Unfortunately Randy & Pat Godfrey had to head home early for a church function. We had as invited guests, Len & Rita Doucette, Airstreamers from Maine who are work camping at LEC this winter.



Some left early on Sunday night and others remained until Monday morning, and then it rained! We had a good time in spite of the rain, and the hitching up was accomplished quickly and we headed home. As I said, there was a small group (out of our 164 members, only 13 came), but we enjoyed being with good friends and had fun! Maybe next year, you'll join us or even sooner at one of our upcoming rallies. Why haven't you been at a rally lately?

-Phil Drugge

CANOPENER RALLY REPORT

The weekend before the Life is Good Rally was the Canopener Rally in Destin, FL hosted by our Unit member Steve Martin. The Canopener is an informal rally. You sign up on AIRForums.com, and anyone, WBCCI member or not can come.

Pat and I traveled to Destin along with Unit members Tim & Alice Wymer, Joe & Annette Conoly, Laura Funk, Tom Marciejczyk, and we met our new members Russell & Linda Drake from Panama City, FL there. Steve was sick and missed the rally, but the other 40 plus trailers there shouldered on.

The fun started after dinner Friday evening with an im-

promptu Bourbon tasting. There was at least a dozen different bottles of Bourbon on the table. One attendee even had a test kit so he could verify the content of each drink. These are serious Bourbon aficionados.

After a very hardy breakfast with the Ranger on Saturday morning, Joe & Annette opened



their famous Bloody Mary bar on their campsite. I'm not a fan of Bloody Mary's, but Annette's recipe was very tasty.

Saturday afternoon was Airstream open house. Everyone strolled the campground visiting each other's trailers and getting ideas for "home improvements."

Saturday night brings the biggest potluck supper you will ever attend. It started with a large table full of happy hour snacks, then went right into dinner with two packed tables of food, and a table of deserts. If you didn't get enough to eat, you must have been at the wrong event. For those that stayed for Sunday morning, there was a breakfast potluck.

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CANOPENER RALLY REVIEW (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

We had great, warm weather for the weekend. Pat and I stayed in North Florida the rest of the week and it really got cold after that. Twenty-one degrees one morning! For that cold morning we had everything disconnected and drained, and wrapped the plumbing below the belly pan to keep it warm. The heat-pump kept icing up, so we had to shut it down and switch to the LP gas furnace. We stayed warm and nothing froze, except my hands when I was getting everything ready for the night.

The rally is held at Topsail Preserve State Park in Destin, FL. This is an excellent Park with full hook-ups and cable TV included in the fee.

To get back to Central Florida and the Life is Good Rally, from Destin we followed US-98 around

Florida's Big Bend. This is a very scenic drive if your heading that way in the future.

- Randy Godfrey



FLORIDA STATE RALLY REVIEW IN PICTURES



Finishing the backdrop flowers



The backdrop hanging crew



C Lot, some of the over 320 trailers parked here



Tom's trailer in the vintage area



Happy hour!

FLORIDA UNIT PLANNING SURVEY - PLEASE GIVE US YOUR IDEAS

Next year I will be the Florida Unit President and I need some help planning the year. I am truly interested in increasing the participation in our Unit Rallies. A unit such as ours with over 160 individual members should be able to have more than a dozen people at a rally. So, if you're not there, then the rally activities must not have attracted you. While I applaud your membership in the Unit, I am encouraging you to get that trailer cleaned up and on the road! As PP Randy Godfrey has said many times, "Airstreams are made for traveling, not parking" (or something like that).

Take a look at the last page of this newsletter. I want you to answer the questions and let me know your thoughts. It should take you all of a few min-

utes. If you got the newsletter by email, copy and paste the questions on the last page into an email, make your responses and send it back to me. Or, you can rip off the last page, fill it out and mail it to me. Please do it right now. Don't procrastinate! And, if you think of something I forgot, add that in. I'll publish the results.

I will put the names of all respondents in a hat and draw a name. The winner will get a free Unit Rally Fee of their choice next year.

See you down the road; travel safe.

Phil Drugge
 1102 Davenport Drive
 The Villages, FL 32162
 WBCCI #4941

2005 - 39' AIRSTREAM LAND YACHT 396XL MOTOR HOME - ALL THE BELLS & WHISTLES

This one may already be gone.



Airstream 396XL production stopped in 2007 - Priced fairly to sell @ \$159,495.00

DougDoberer@Yahoo.com
 (540) 631-6322 - located Front Royal, VA

Make: Airstream • Year: 2005 • Length: 39' • Model: Land Yacht 396XL • Mileage: 9,398

Body Style: Class A • Style/Type: Diesel Pusher • Fuel

Capacity: 150 Gallon • Orig. Doc. Yes

Exterior Color: Red Metallic • Interior Color: Golden Touch • Interior Color 2: Hickory

Self Contained: Yes • Generator: Yes/284 hrs • Air Conditioners: 2 • Water Capacity: 105 gal • Sleeps: 4 • Leveling Jacks: Yes (Auto) • Awnings: Front Door / 19' Patio (Electric)

1993 AIRSTREAM B-190 FOR SALE



This is a 1993 Van with 100,007 miles on the odometer. All appliances including 2.8 KW generator are in working order. The van has a 460 cubic inch engine and a 4.10:1 rear end that is capable of towing an Airstream or other types of trailers. The engine and transmission are genuine Ford replacements with approximately 3,000 miles on each. Very good tires and brakes. The cabinets are genuine oak. The body is in good shape. The roof had been repainted by an Airstream authorized dealer. No smokers, and no pets were in this van. \$11,000 firm!

Contact Fred or Ruth Carey at 407-281-9193. Callers may leave a message if no answer. More pictures can be found on the following website: <http://bit.ly/fKvZyx>

BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL RALLY; MARCH 16 – 21; FORT CHRISTMAS HISTORICAL PARK; CHRISTMAS, FL

It's too late to fill out a coupon and mail your registration back to Frank Carson, but **we still want you to come.** Just call Frank at (352) 467-9530 and let him know which day you will be arriving. Parking committee only on Monday, March 14. Early parking starts on Tuesday, March 15.

The rally fee is \$10.00 per person (Frank will collect from you at the rally) and parking is free with rally electric and water. The meals included in your rally fee are: Wednesday evening, hoagie supper; Thursday morning, pancakes;

Friday evening, barbecue pot luck, (everyone bring a side dish to feed 6 to 8); Saturday morning, pancakes and sausage; Saturday afternoon, lunch; Sunday morning pancakes and sausage; and Sunday afternoon, lunch. That's seven meals included in the fee.

Please call by March 11.

This rally is by reservation only since the Unit must purchase supplies for meals ahead of the rally.

Attention Weekenders: If you can only come for the weekend, there is no rally fee. You may

come anytime on Friday, but you must be parked onsite by 9:00 a.m. Saturday.

Attention First Timers: For those of you that have never been to this rally, it is completely laid back with professional Bluegrass bands playing continually both Saturday and Sunday. This is a volunteer rally, with not too much work. Make us proud. Show your support for the Orange County Parks, Fort Christmas and especially our Unit!

15TH ANNUAL WBCCI NATIONAL ST. AUGUSTINE EASTER RALLY; APRIL 19 – 24; ST. JOHNS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS; ELKTON, FL

The Florida Unit is the host of the annual St. Augustine Easter Rally. The rally is held at the fairgrounds with 30 amps electric, water, modern restrooms with showers, dump station, and a school house that seats 120 people where we will meet, eat, and be entertained.

The Rally Fee is \$225.00 per Airstream with two people and for that you get six nights of parking (a \$210.00 value or more at a local RV Park). So what do you get for the additional \$15.00?

✓ Refreshments every night

✓ Red Train tickets to tour St. Augustine, good for Wednesday through Saturday.

But wait, there's more for that \$15.00!

▶ Tuesday: Is the arrival day with an afternoon social hour, opening ceremonies, and professional entertainment.

▶ Wednesday: A pancake breakfast, a tour of St. Augustine on the Red Train and in the evening professional entertainment.

▶ Thursday: A boat cruise on the Matanzas River, free time to sightsee, followed by professional entertainment in the evening.

▶ Friday: A tour of the Fountain of Youth followed by free time to relax. The evening ends back at the fairgrounds with more professional live entertainment.

▶ Saturday: Enjoy our delicious breakfast special: Omelet in a Bag. Then the famous Earl Leggett Zany Olympic Games, ending the evening with a presentation by actor and historian Robert Gill.

▶ Easter Sunday: You can attend the Sunrise Service on the Castillo de San Marcos Grounds, or at a venue of your choice. Then back to the fairgrounds for an Easter Egg Hunt (with money in the eggs). Next, on to the Easter

Parade in downtown St. Augustine, then back to the fairgrounds for the catered Easter dinner at the school house followed by the closing ceremonies.

There are no extra-cost items at this rally. You get it all for \$225.00 or just \$15.00 over the normal 6 night fee at a regular RV park. What a great bargain!

Time is getting short and space is limited! Make plans now to join the fun. Only the first 50 applicants get to attend, but we always save room for our Unit members, and we need your help.

There is fun for all with games, tours, prizes, food, entertainment and great camaraderie.

See the coupon in the back of the Blue Beret. If you have additional questions: Contact Frank Carson at (352) 467-9530 or email at: fc23343@aol.com.

RALLY ELECTRIC – WHAT IS IT?



Whenever you attend a big rally such as the Florida State Rally or the Cracker Christmas Rally, someone will tell you that we have “Rally Electric” for your electrical connection. You may even be told that it is “3 amp” or some other low amperage figure. If you haven’t been RV’ng for a long period of time, you may wonder what that all means. Well, here is a very short and hopefully easy to understand explanation.

At the rally, you will hook up your electrical cable to a “daisy chain” of wires that start back several trailers or motor homes before you. Everyone seems to be hooked up together with the initial cord plugged into a 120 volt outlet on either a twenty (20) or thirty (30) amp breaker.

Now we’ll assume that all the cords plugged together are large enough to carry the 120 volts without anyone getting short-changed by something called volt-

age drop. It shouldn’t be a problem.

Okay. Now we’ll assume a 30 amp circuit and 10 trailers hooked together on the line. If only one person uses any electricity on that line, they have 30 amps available to them. If two people get on and use equal amounts of electricity, then each has, in theory, 15 amps. They each get ½ of the usable amps. If three people get on equally, then each has ten amps and so on. If everyone is on, then each one has 3 amps to use. Now remember this is if everyone is on at once. If it’s midnight, probably no one is on and you can have the full 30 amps.

So that’s it. It’s really simple. As long as no one uses more than their share at any moment, then we’re all set. Does this mean you are guaranteed 3 amps? No, it doesn’t. If your 2 neighbors are using a combined total of 28 amps and you use anything that has more than 2 amps of current required, *everyone* goes down as the

circuit breaker is tripped and now *no one* has power.

So discretion is the key along with consideration for your neighbors. If you must use that hair dryer, do it when no one else is likely to be using a large amount of power. Getting warm? That AC will need a lot of power to turn on. Open the window and turn on your Fantastic Fans and you’ll have a nice breeze. Lots of beverages in the fridge? Switch it over to gas operation, and get an old fashioned stovetop percolator for that morning coffee? It’ doesn’t use any electricity only LP gas.

So there you have it. Rally electric simply means you’ll be sharing the power with your fellow Airstreamers. Be considerate and enjoy the good life!

Below is a chart listing “approximate” amperage ratings for various appliances that may be found in your Airstream. You might want to post the list on the inside of one of your cabinet doors for future reference.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Air Conditioner | 12 – 16 | Food Processor | 6 |
| Blender | 5 – 6 | Hair Dryer..... | 5 – 15 |
| Coffee Maker | 5 – 8 | Iron | 5 – 10 |
| Compact Disc Player | 1 | Light (60 watt/120V)..... | <1 |
| Computer (Laptop) | 2 – 3 | Microwave..... | 8 – 13 |
| Converter | 1 – 2 | Microwave (Convection Oven)..... | 13 |
| Crock Pot | 1 – 2 | Refrigerator on electricity..... | 4 |
| Curling Iron | <1 | Space Heater | 8 – 13 |
| Drill | 2 – 6 | Television | 1.5 – 4 |
| Electric Blanket..... | 0.5 – 1.5 | Toaster | 7 – 10 |
| Electric Fan | 1 | Vacuum (handheld) | 2 – 6 |
| Electric Water Heater (6 Gals.)..... | 9 – 13 | VCR..... | 1 – 2 |
| Electric Skillet | 6 – 12 | Washer/Dryer | 14 – 16 |



SUNSHINE LIST

For those who haven't heard, Joan Carson's tumor in her jaw was benign. Frank and Joan are here in Florida enjoying the winter out of the snow and cold of New Jersey.

Ruth Carey had a total knee replacement on November 29, 2010.

Nothing else to report, so we hope everyone is well and enjoying the good life. Please let your editor know of anything that needs to be published here.

HOUSE CLEANING DURING CANCER TREATMENTS

If you know any woman currently undergoing chemotherapy, please pass the word to her that there is a cleaning service that provides free housecleaning once per month for 4 months while she is in treatment. All she has to do is sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment.

Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service. This organization serves the entire USA and currently has 547 partners to help these women. It's our job to pass the word and let them know that

there are people out there that care. Be a blessing to someone and pass this information along. <http://www.cleaningforareason.org/> You may not know someone going through chemo, but someone on your address list might.

NOTES FROM REGION 3

At the Region 3 Board Meeting held at the FL State Rally, two new officers were appointed. Please welcome Jay Thompson #7293 our new First VP, and Dick Martiny #22693 our new Second VP.

The Region 3 Rally is scheduled for April 23 - 28, 2012 in Myrtle Beach, SC. The theme for the rally is not yet stated.

Each Region 3 unit is asked to submit an idea for the rally theme, but not a beach theme, by June 1, 2011. The unit whose theme is selected for the Region 3 rally theme will receive a free luncheon at the rally.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT EDITION OF GOOD LIFE NEWS IS 4/25/2011

Please send your editor any articles you have for publication in the May 2011 edition of our newsletter by April 25, 2010. All news and items of interest to members of our Unit are welcome.

Items can be accepted in any format by email at: rgodfrey@cfl.rr.com, or by mail at the following address:

Randy Godfrey, Newsletter Editor
2148 Auburn Lakes Dr
Viera, FL 32955-6764

2011 Calendar

January 8

Unit Luncheon; Melbourne, FL

January 13 - 17

Life is Good Rally; Fruitland Park, FL

February 15 - 20

Florida State Rally; Sarasota, FL

February 16

Unit Luncheon; Sarasota, FL

March 16 - 21

Bluegrass Rally; Ft. Christmas, FL

April 19 - 25

St. Augustine Easter Rally; Elkton, FL

June 28 - July 4

54th International Rally; Du Quoin, IL

October 20 - 24

2nd Annual Tom Moore Memorial Rally; Port Orange, FL

October 22

Unit Luncheon, Annual Meeting & Elections; Port Orange, FL

November 29 - December 5

Cracker Christmas Rally; Ft. Christmas, FL

December 1

Unit Dinner & Installation of Officers for 2012; Ft. Christmas, FL

Your Editor apologizes for the omission of this in our last newsletter.

To all of our volunteers –



*You've a special job each year,
 we just have to brag
 You put Cracker Christmas
 in...the.... bag!
 Ho...Ho...Ho!
 You work hard all day,
 But to you it's play...
 What else can we say,
 you are Christmas elves
 We know who's good,
 do the things you should,
 and you can bet, we won't forget you.
 You are Christmas elves. 🎵*

Even though it was cold, we still had over 18,000 people on Saturday alone and 25,000 plus for the weekend. Our volunteers are the best.

*THANKYOU one and all
 from all the staff*



**Thank you for the help you gave us at our 33rd Cracker Christmas 2010.
 Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!**

FLORIDA UNIT PLANNING SURVEY

Please complete and return to: Phil Drugge
1102 Davenport Dr
The Villages, FL 32162
pedrugge@comcast.net

Location for a Unit Rally

Where would you like to go?

Distance to a Rally from your home

How far will you travel for a Unit Rally?

Rally theme or local attraction

What would you like to do at a rally or do you know of a local attraction?

Maximum Parking Fee

How much are you willing to spend per day to park at Unit Rally?

Rally Fee

What do you think is a reasonable Unit Rally Fee? Fees usually pay for some meals, morning coffee, etc.

September/May Rally

Would you go to a September and/or May Rally?

Help

Would you help organize or conduct a Rally? I didn't say be the Rally Master (unless you want to).

Other activities

Are there any other activities you would like to see our Unit do?