

FLORIDA STATE WINNIE GATORS
General Meeting Minutes
Sarasota Fairgrounds, Sarasota, FL
February 21, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Jack Caffrey at 9:00 am. In the absence of Chaplain Shirley Halstead, President Caffrey delivered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by the group.

Chris Ross made a motion that the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting be waived. The motion was seconded by Sylvia Smith. The motion carried.

The Treasurer's report running from January 1, 2016 through January 31, 2016 was read by Secretary Judy Sweep in the absence of Treasurer Susan Kiefer. The entire report is attached to this document. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Joe Sala and seconded by Barbara Trent. The motion carried.

President's Report:

A huge "thank you" was expressed by President Caffrey to all the chapters and FSWG members for putting on another great rally. A good time was had by all attendees! Rory Martin and the fairground staff were acknowledged for their assistance in making this event such a huge success.

There were approximately 220-230 coaches in attendance and 16 cancellations. Drive-in coaches and those who did not pre-register helped make up the difference for those cancellations. There were several problems such as the last minute cancellation of Camping World of New Port Richie, the refusal at the last minute by Sarasota Ford to pay the full vendor fee, and the absence of sales personnel on Wednesday for Ford and Camping World. These few "glitches" aside, the rally ran smoothly with compliments to all chapter committees.

The total amount of money collected for our charity, Every Day Blessings, was \$1001.00 (less expenses) and 2nd Vice Presidents Rich and Dorinda Gest will hand deliver the contribution. The total amount collected from the 50/50 Money Raffle for the club and a full and final Financial Report on the Rally will be reported by the Treasurer in May.

Committee Reports:

Linda Levine, Vendor Coordinator, reported 27 total vendors in attendance with 24 paid, 3 comped and 1 cancelled. A questionnaire will be sent to FSWG members providing an opportunity to rate individual vendors and to state preferences for future rallies. Ideas presented from the floor to increase the attendance at Vendor Hall were:

- Vendor cards placed in goodie-bags for members to place in vendor's booths for a drawing
- Introduce vendors one evening and provide them an opportunity to present an over-view
- Sheet listing vendors placed in goodie-bags requiring a signature of vendor and a chance to win prize drawings

Thank you letters will be sent to participating vendors by the Secretary. The need for more RV related items at Vendor Hall was expressed. Camping World of Tampa plans to bring a mini store next year and excess parts can be sold at the "Yard Sale" table. Plans are under way to add the 4H Building to accommodate additional vendors and seminars. Positive feed-back was received concerning the food offerings by the food-truck vendor. A pocket schedule will be available for attendees next year to aid in locating and choosing seminars.

President Caffrey asked attendees to discuss with their chapters the idea of adding an additional day to the rally next year. The suggestion was made to offer tours in the Sarasota area such as the Ringling Museum to the schedule.

Old Business

The following items from the January meeting will be tabled until the May meeting: the Supply Trailer, old FSWG documents and future CPR classes.

The chapters voted to retain their rally assignments for another year with the exception that Funtime Travelers will switch assignments with Suncoast Winnies. Funtimers will be in charge of stage and table decorations and Suncoast will conduct the games.

Please see Treasurer Susan Kiefer for questions and use of the FSWG Expense Reimbursement Form which will soon be available online.

Chapters are reminded to continue to review the FSWG By-Laws for change recommendations as we will discuss updating them at future meetings. WIT By-Laws are being re-written therefore FSWG will wait for guidance from WIT before revamping ours.

New Business

WIT advises that the Chapter of Excellence forms are being revised and will be available for download from the website in mid-March. As soon as it is posted, the revised form will be sent to all chapters for completion. The membership roster should be included with this report. The Chapter of Excellence form needs to be turned in by or before the May meeting.

The WIT name, Winnebago Industries Travelers, currently appearing on the website, will be changed to the previous title, Winnebago International Travelers.

The idea of a FSWG January meeting for FSWG officers and chapter Presidents only does not comply with FSWG By-Laws. This meeting involves the election of state officers and the By-Laws prevent a proxy vote for this election. Glo Caffrey is striving to adjust our schedule for January 2017 to allow for the largest span of time between the January campout and the February rally.

Member Jan Danielson would like to donate a quilt to be raffled with the money being donated to the Make a Wish Foundation. This will be discussed in more detail at the May meeting.

Secretary Judy Sweep read a letter of appreciation from the Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services for our contribution in the amount of \$50.00 given in memory of Bob Gill.

Two candidates for the FSWG 2017-2018 Slate of Officers were announced: Chuck and Becky Smalley, Treasurer and Bob and Dorinda Gest, 2nd Vice President.

Members were asked to pray for: Shirley Halstead, Bud Geng, Frank Cipolla and the Gill family.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Joe Sala and seconded by Bruce Cinader. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Sweep, Secretary