

Florida State Winnie Gators, Inc.
General Meeting
Central Florida Fairgrounds, Orlando, Florida
Sunday, March 18, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Jerry Miller at 10:00am. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and Christine Ross gave the Invocation.

Jerry gave a warm welcome to all in attendance and introduced the officers. Ted & Janis Fumia, 1st VP, Cliff and Ree Spiller, 2nd VP, Christine and Bob Ross, Secretary, Walter and Belinda Feldgoise, Treasurer and Nancy Miller, Director. Jerry gave a BIG thanks to everyone for all the hard work each chapter did in performing their assigned tasks. He also thanked the officers for a great job.

Jerry welcomed our visitors Doug & Pat Formanek, WIT Club President, Butch & Becky Moore, Eastern Area Reps, and Bob and Kathy Olson, "Retired".

Secretary's Report - A motion was made by Joe Sholtes and seconded by Ed Tyndall to waive the reading of the January minutes. Copies of the minutes are available if requested.

Treasurer's Report – Walter Feldgoise read the Treasurer's report which covered a period from January 1, 2012 to February 29, 2012. Walter reported that our club's finances remain in a good position. We started the period with \$22,675.21 and ended with \$66,306.14. This increase of \$43,630.93 is largely due to registrations, vendor and dealer fees for the March State Rally. The financial results from the March Rally will be reported at the May State Meeting. As always the treasurer's report is filed for audit.

Presidents Report – Jerry congratulated all chapters for a JOB WELL DONE!! There were a total of 287 coaches in attendance, 26 states represented and 56 vendors. Membership Directories were given out to all state members in attendance. We had 74 preordered t-shirts and sold the few extras we had. Bob and Kathy Olson were this year's Mystery Couple. Everyone really enjoyed the Cookbooks. GREAT JOB to the Cookbook participants. Jerry noted some concerns about the cost of our March State Rally. We have not raised our prices in over 5 years. This is something we have tried our best not to do by cutting out Thursday's catered meal and replacing it with the Row Party. However, with the cost of everything going up from food to entertainment we will likely raise the cost by at least \$10.00 per coach.

Officer and Committee Reports - Jerry gave recognition to each chapter chairperson for their part in the March Rally Events.

- Buccanner Winnies – Arts and Crafts
- Caloosa Winnies – Parking and Pet Parade
- Funtime Travelers – Ice Cream Social
- Du-Bol Winnies – Registration and Goody Bag Assembly
- Florida Sunshine Winnies – Wine and Cheese Party
- Mid Florida Winnies – Servers and Coffee Crew
- Miracle Strip Winnies – Table & Chair Setup and Book Fair
- Panhandle Winnies – Table & Chair Setup and Book Fair
- Seaside Winnies – Greeters
- South Florida Winnie-Gators – Games
- Spacecoast Winnies – Friendship Walk and Bingo
- Suncoast Winnies – Stage and Table Decorations
- Bud Geng – Dealer Display Setup
- Gene & Lois Hogan – Door Prize Table
- Jim & Jane O'Neill – Door Prize Table
- Bill & Sue Fuss – Door Prize Table
- Corinne Wightman – Vendor and Seminars
- Sally Rayburn – Pet Parade

Ellen Zucker – Pet Parade
Phil Halstead – Badges and Website
Joe Sala – Handicap Parking

Jerry also mentioned that Bingo collected \$620.00 which was used for the prizes. So there were some very large prizes awarded. Also thanked for their participation in handing out door prizes were Doug & Pat Formanek, Butch & Becky Moore and Bob & Kathy Olson. There were some beautiful baskets handed out on Friday and Saturday night. Jerry also reminded us that our website master won 1st place in the website competition. So we need to visit it often. You can find all kinds of information on the website. Phil will also place items for sale such as parts, tires, tow bars and even your motorhome with pictures.

Old Business – If anyone has any suggestions on how to improve any areas of the March State Rally please put them in writing so we can evaluate the suggestions at the May meeting. Send them via email to jerry.miller828@gmail.com or via snail mail.

New Business - Jerry stated we have good news! We will not be following the Fair next year. There will be a week between. YEA!! Our theme for next year's rally is "Kartoon Karavan". The rally dates are March 21-24, 2013. It's not too early to be thinking about your costume.

Other important dates to remember –

May 11 -13, 2012 Paradise Oaks, Bushnell, Florida (Winnie Wild West)
July 7-14, 2012 Pre Week GNR, Forest City, Iowa
July 15-20, 2012 GNR, Forest City, Iowa (Treasure Island)
October 19-21, 2012 Torrey Oaks RV Resort, Bowling Green, Florida (October Fest)
January 18-20, 2013 Central Florida Fairgrounds, Orlando, Florida
March 21, 24, 2013 Florida State Rally, Orlando, Florida (Kartoon Karavan)

GNR plans are underway. We will have a float in the Puckerbrush Parade so we will need designers and engineers to help with the construction. Dinner on Monday July 9th will be at the Branding Iron. Our hog roast will be on Tuesday July 11th. We also need volunteers for the Beanbag Baseball team.

May Meeting Highlights – Our May outing is at Paradise Oaks in Bushnell, Florida. The theme is Winnie Wild West so get those cowboy and Indian outfits out of storage. We will have a chapter challenge; a chuck wagon cookout on Friday night and the Skeeter Creek Band will perform. Special prizes will be awarded to the chapter with the highest percentage of their membership in attendance. More information will be in the Winnie Gate Newsletter. So look for it!!!

GNR – We are still taking names for early volunteers to help with GNR setup. Contact Jerry or Nancy if you are interested in helping. You can come in as early as June 29th. Our very own Larry Bergsman and Frank Cipolla plan on entering the cooking contest. We will have the pig roast again this year all STATE MEMBERS will get to eat first. There may be a charge of \$5.00 per person all others will pay \$12.00. Soooooo this can be a reminder that if you haven't paid your state dues please do so now. State dues are only \$15.00 for the year and can be mailed to Christine Ross, P.O. Box 1176, Sebring, Florida 33871.

Closing Comments -

Jerry requested that each Chapter President maintain a book with emergency contact numbers for each chapter member. This helps should something unfortunate occur.

Doug Formanek president of our WIT Club stated that this was one of the best Rallies he has attended. He stated that all chapters deserve a word of praise for all their hard work. Doug enjoyed working with the State Officers and stated that when someone needed anything they were right there to help. While walking around visiting people he heard folks

from other states stating that we need to remember this for our rally or look what they did, we need to do that at our rally. Doug stated that we should all be proud of ourselves for our hard work. He also mentioned that if you go to a campground and ask them if they would consider giving a WIT discount they can be added to the list of many others who participate. You can send him an email with the name of the campground, address, phone number and the amount of the discount provided to this email address dformanek@winnebagoind.com

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Ed Gies and seconded by Shirley Halstead. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted

Christine Ross
Secretary