

FLORIDA STATE WINNIE GATORS  
General Meeting Minutes  
Wild Frontier Campground  
Saturday, May 16, 2015

The meeting was called to order by President Jack Caffrey at 10:33 am. Jeff Roudebush delivered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by the group.

The Secretary's report was read by Secretary Judy Sweep with a motion to accept made by Joe Sala and seconded by Linda Levine. Motion passed.

The Treasurer's report running from March 1, 2015 through April 30, 2015 was read by Treasurer Susan Kiefer. The entire report is attached to this document. A motion to accept the report was made by Bruce Cinader and seconded by Shirley Parks.

**President's Report:**

Jack introduced the club officers in attendance:

President, Jack and Gloria Caffrey

First Vice President, Mike and Barbara Sofarelli

Secretary, Judy and Cal Sweep

Treasurer, Susan and Frank Kiefer

Directors, Ted and Janis Fumia

Members with questions concerning any issue pertaining to the club were encouraged to contact this collective team who will strive to find the answers.

In spite of the Orlando Fairground's best efforts, the officers feel the area is unsafe for our members. A contract is being negotiated with Sarasota Fairgrounds for the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida State Rally during February 18-21, 2016. The Sarasota Fairground requires a six week span between the county fair, occurring the second week in March, and the next scheduled event. This requirement prevents the FSWG Rally from occurring at this location in March of this year. When the contract is signed, all will be notified.

**Committee Reports:**

Vendor Chair, Linda Levine, presented a need for three committee members and emphasized the idea of "new blood-new ideas". Use the email address: [FSWGvendors@gmail.com](mailto:FSWGvendors@gmail.com) to communicate these ideas. Our first seminar will be this weekend with a Tech Talk presented by the Service Foreman from Camping World of Ocala. The committee's first project will be the construction of a quilt to be auctioned at the state rally. Each chapter was asked to construct a quilt block and Ferol Drust volunteered to be part of this quilt committee.

**Old Business:**

All Chapter of Excellence forms have been turned in and will be sent to WIT. Seaside and Spacecoast Chapters have submitted their charters to WIT thus closing these chapters.

WIT has approved the dates of February 18-21 for the 2016 Annual Rally. The Winnebago Reveal date was changed to avoid a potential conflict with our new rally date. Chapter Presidents are to communicate to their respective chapters the need to start planning early for their respective duties at the rally. Chapter duties remain unchanged from last year. When new floor plans are available they will be sent to chapter presidents and rally committees.

First Vice Presidents Mike and Barbara Sofarelli shared their findings and recommendations concerning the FSWG Supply Trailer. The idea of using a trailer or a temperature controlled storage area was discussed. The availability of renting a U-Haul trailer for transportation of items was mentioned. Ed Parks made a motion that the officers review the cost of a trailer versus renting a climate controlled storage facility. If the cost is beneficial for the replacement of a trailer to a storage shed then the officers are to move forward with the rental of an air conditioned storage shed. Joe Sala seconded the motion. Motioned carried.

Previously chapter presidents were asked to survey their membership concerning the idea of chapters collecting state dues at the same time as local dues. Most declined this idea however those chapters already collecting dues in this manner are encouraged to continue and to notify Susan Kiefer of this decision.

In appreciation for co-hosting this May meeting, the Du-Bol Winnies were presented at Publix gift card. The idea that we are "One Big Club" was emphasized and the need for chapters to co-host future meetings was discussed.

The current officers are paying their own camping fees for all meetings except for the annual rally. Director Ted Fumia suggested a change in the By-Laws might be needed.

#### **New Business:**

Bill Schilp had asked that the decorating committee at the rally be reimbursed for the early days needed for preparation but later rescinded the request. This item on the agenda was disregarded.

Mike and Barbara Soferalli will lead Head-of-Row at GNR. Susan Kiefer, Treasurer made the following three motions.

I make a motion that we fund travel expenses for Head-of Row Coordinator at GNR in the amount of \$1,500.00. Motion was seconded by Cindy Hoffren. Motion passed.

I make a motion that we fund food and decorating expenses for the State Row Party at GNR up to the maximum amount of \$1,500.00. Motion was seconded by Linda Levine. Motion passed.

I make a motion that we donate \$250.00 to the GNR Youth Program. Motion was seconded by Ed Parks. Motion passed.

Susan and Frank Kiefer reported that the air-conditioned storage unit in Naples used for FSWG supplies and historical documents is no longer on the books. All necessary paperwork was retrieved and papers older than 7-8 years will be shredded. All critical documents are at WIT in computerized files. The original charter will be retained. Pins from past rallies are available to members after the meeting.

Southern Palms in Eustus, FL has been selected as our meeting site for January 2016.

The purchase of an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) for emergency use at meetings and rallies was suggested at the March rally by a first timer who is a physician. After discussion the decision was reached to re-address this in October after consulting an attorney concerning liability issues.

Directors Ted and Janice Fumia were appointed as Co-Chairman of the Nominating Committee to obtain candidates for 2016 officer positions.

At the October meeting we will be hearing nominations for the 2016 club charity and voting. Members who nominate a charity should be prepared to give details such as the charity function, percent of collections that go to administration costs, if charity is within Florida, etc.

A "charity box" will be located at the Board of Director's table at future meetings providing an opportunity for individuals to contribute to the club's charity of the year.

The club's 50/50 drawing will remain as currently established: 50% to the winner/50% to the club.

Those going to GNR were asked to notify Mike and Barbara Sofarelli and to get their cell phone number. Remember to wear flowered shirts at Row Party Day.

Pray for Linda Drenning's mother who fell.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Joe Sala and seconded by Russ Grimm. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Sweep  
Secretary