

FLORIDA STATE WINNIE GATORS  
General Meeting Minutes  
Seasons in the Sun RV Resort, Mims, FL  
May 14, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Jack Caffrey at 10:04 am. Chaplain Shirley Halstead delivered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Caffrey.

Current officers were introduced to the membership.

President: Jack and Gloria Caffrey

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Mike and Barbara Sofarelli

Secretary: Judy and Cal Sweep

Directors: Ted and Janis Fumia

Second Vice President Richard and Dorinda Gest and Treasurer Susan and Frank Kiefer were acknowledged but were unable to attend the meeting.

Shirley Halstead made a motion that the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting be waived. The motion was seconded by Joe Sala. The motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was read by Secretary Judy Sweep in the absence of Treasurer Susan Kiefer. A comparison of rallies 2012 through 2016, a listing of income and expenses of the 2016 rally and financial results for February 1, 2016-March 31, 2016 are contained in the report. The entire document is attached to this report and will be posted on the website.

**President's Report:**

President Caffrey explained that the deficit loss for the 2016 rally was due to a multitude of factors such as; a new location, last minute cancellations of coaches, migration of "snowbirds", a new date, the sudden withdrawal of a third dealer, etc. The loss was minimal and leadership will insure a break-even tally for the 2017 rally. Thanks were expressed to all chapters who supported the rally effort.

Kevin Scribner from La Mesa was introduced and will have coaches on display after the meeting.

The following "First Timers" were introduced and welcomed:

Bill and Nancy Mattress from Lakeland

Jim and Cheryl Sweet from Fleming Island

David and Hope Spradlin from Ocala

Since our last meeting, former State President Bud Geng and member Stuart Pierce passed away. Condolence cards have been sent to their families and donations in their memory will be sent to either their stated charities or to the state charity if none is specified. Secretary Sweep read thank you correspondence from Everyday Blessings, Florida Dog Guides, Diane Colvard and Paula Geng.

### **Committee Reports:**

Linda Levine has resigned her position as Chair of the Vendor/Seminar Committee due to extensive overseas travel. President Caffrey explained the responsibilities of the position and the need for an immediate replacement due to preparations for the 2017 rally. Linda Levine and Barbara Trent were commended for their efforts in making this year's Vendor Hall and Seminar schedule such a success. The wine and cheese event will not be located in Vendor Hall next year to allow more space for participants to mingle. An additional area for the location of vendors is being pursued and is dependent on the potential reconstruction at the fairgrounds.

### **Old Business:**

During the rally Mike and Barb Sofarelli and Frank Kiefer inventoried all contents of the supply trailer. The trailer is now in covered storage at Mike Junior's business at no cost to the club. There being no discussion, the trailer issue was tabled until issues arise in the future that need to be addressed.

The old FSWG documents have been reviewed most of which were old emails that had no historical significance. Those items of historical importance (old rally and GNR programs, 80's and 90's condensed financial records, art work, etc.) were retained, boxed and will be placed in the trailer in a water-tight bin. The remainder of the documents, including old membership records with names and addresses, were securely destroyed to prevent identity theft. The idea of scanning records and future documents on a thumb drive was discussed. This issue will be tabled until a future date.

A CPR class will be scheduled for the October campout at Travelers Rest in Dade City.

All chapters were asked to review the FSWG By-Laws and make written recommendations for changes. Chapter Presidents need to forward these to President Caffrey by August 30<sup>th</sup>. State officers will then collate all recommendations and prepare a final list for review at the October meeting. If the recommendations are approved, a new FSWG By-Laws document will be submitted to WIT for review and approval.

Membership asked if the annual state rally date could be moved back to March to accommodate the snowbirds. The Sarasota Fairgrounds has an annual contract with the

county in March to house the county fair. The County Health Department requires a thorough sterilization of the facility which takes three weeks. FSWG plans to request reservations for the last week in February.

**New Business:**

New Chapter of Excellence forms were sent to all Chapter Presidents, and they were asked to return these forms along with a current membership roster at this campout. Copies will be retained and originals will be forwarded to the Eastern Reps for consideration. The Chapter of Excellence certificates will be distributed at GNR. President Caffrey will bring back the certificates for chapters unable to attend GNR. President Caffrey will be sending a request that all future Chapter of Excellence forms delete the item that subtracts a point for each lost member. As a volunteer organization, we have no control over who stays or leaves our chapters or club. Thus, the deduction is unfair and should be deleted.

The January 20-22 date for our January 2017 campout in Eustus conflicts with the Tampa RV Show (January 18-22). To avoid this conflict, the chapter Presidents were contacted and they overwhelmingly supported going to Lazydays from January 5-8, 2017. A contract for these dates has been signed as it gives the greatest time between the January meeting and the rally. Individual reservations must be made directly with Lazydays by December 6<sup>th</sup>.

President Caffrey emphasized that now is the time for members to step up and volunteer for the positions of President, First Vice President and Secretary. All chapters were asked to encourage their members to volunteer for these positions. Ted and Janis Fumia are accepting names for these positions.

It is standard practice for the club to support the expenses for GNR Head of the Row. Funding for this will remain the same as last year.

It is standard practice for the club to support the GNR Youth Program. Funding for this will remain the same as last year.

An email will be sent to all FSWG members asking who is attending GNR which will aid in the planning of purchasing supplies. Our state theme is "Florida Sun & Fun" and attendees are asked to bring decorations appropriate to the theme. There will be an email group organized to help coordinate the planning of these items.

To ease the transition for the new slate of officers, a contract has been signed for the May 2017 campout to be located at Wilderness RV Resort in Silver Spring for May 18-21.

Submissions for the rally theme logo for 2017, "Pajama Party" are due at the October rally at which time the voting will occur for the winning design.

Ted Fumia shared an item under the heading of "Items for the Good of the Club". Winnebago has an extended warranty policy in conjunction with Coach Net which offers mobile coach repair across the country.

Kathleen Bock was added to the prayer list.

A fuel filter water separator was offered for free to a member of the club.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bill Schilp and seconded by Bruce Cinader. The meeting was adjourned at 11:11 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Sweep  
Secretary