

Florida State Winnie Gators, Inc.  
General Membership Meeting  
Torrey Oaks RV Park, Bowling Green FL  
October 16, 2010

Nancy Miller, President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 am, leading in the Pledge of Allegiance. Jerry Miller had the invocation.

Nancy introduced the officers:

Dan Tuzzolo, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president  
Ted and Janis Fumia, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-presidents  
Kathryn Griffin, Secretary  
Jerry Miller, Treasurer  
Linda Tuzzolo, Director

Nancy asked that all chapter presidents stand; they were acknowledged by applause. There were two new members (Larry and Jeanne Daland and Pete and Gayle Putman) and one visitor (Pete and Connie Ley); they were acknowledged by applause. Nancy welcomed all attendees and announced that 53 coaches and nine chapters were represented.

It was moved by Joe Sholtes and seconded by Dave Nobert that the reading of the minutes of the May 2010 meeting be waived; the motion passed unanimously. Nancy reminded attendees that the minutes are posted to our website ([www.winniegators.org](http://www.winniegators.org)). It was moved by Stuart Pierce and seconded by Ted Fumia that the minutes be approved as posted; motion passed unanimously.

Jerry gave the highlights of the Treasurer's Report for Year-to-Date 2010; the club is in good financial condition with a cash balance of \$21,300 as of 9/30/2010. Florida had 108 coaches at GNR. We made very small profits on both the May meeting and GNR. Nancy indicated that the Treasurer's Report would be filed for audit. A copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached to these minutes.

Old Business:

- Nancy announced that the Winnie Gators were awarded Club of Excellence for 2010 as well as the following eleven chapters for Chapter of Excellence . . . Buccaneer Winnies, Caloosa Winnies, Du-Bol Winnies, FL Sunshine Winnies, Funtime Travelers, Mid-FL Winnies, Panhandle Winnies, Seaside Winnies, SO FL Winnie-Gators, Spacecoast Winnies and Suncoast Winnies. Nancy congratulated each of the chapters and thanked them for their efforts in completing the paper work.
- GNR Review – Winners of awards: Sharon Zopff-Best of Show in Arts and Crafts; Pat Crosby-1<sup>st</sup> Place in Decorated Shirts; Nancy Keser-2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Acrylic Painting; Betty Ireland-2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Quilting; Michael Schwartz-3<sup>rd</sup> Place in Woodcarving; Row Party Raffles of Admission to 2011 Rally-Charlie and Ellen Zucker and Hadley and Leona Guillory of Post St Lucie (First Timers); Bob Kleinberg won the portable computer back-up drive; Cook-off Contest-Pat Crosby (Paula Dean) and Joe Sholtes (Guy Fieri) came in 2<sup>nd</sup>; Gil Trad (aka Groucho Marx) won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Costume Contest; John and Ella Thurston's grandson, Sam, won a bicycle during the youth activities. Our beanbag baseball team lost to Texas but we had oodles of fun and Belinda Feldgoise is now known as "Slugger" for her outstanding performance at the plate; many thanks to Mike Sofarelli for being team captain. Kathryn read thank you notes from the two youth who won the gifts that the Winnie Gators had given (through our donation) to the program.
- Nancy advised that purchase of new walkie talkies has been done and the parkers used them this weekend; seem to be working really well. Cost was \$53/set of two.
- The new sound system decision has not yet been made; we hope to have a system to test at the January meeting. This will be a very good test as we will be meeting at the fairgrounds that weekend.

## New Business:

### ➤ 2011 Rally

- Dates – March 10-13, 2010 at the Central Florida Fairgrounds
- Theme – “Hillbilly Jamboree
- Homer Noodleman is entertainment on Friday and Dixie Highway Band on Saturday
- Winnie Gators will be celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- The officers will be meeting with the fairgrounds personnel at the January meeting to set parameters for the rally; Nancy announced that the fairgrounds will have a new manager this year.
- Rally pin and t-shirt design entries were submitted by Gale Putman and Lee MacDonald. Vote was



taken; Lee MacDonald's design was chosen by majority.

- Job duties are changing for 2011-2012; Nancy and Dan will meet with each chapter at the January meeting to help understand the information on job duties passed out following this meeting.
  - Goody Bag chapter donations are being requested again this year; each chapter is asked do something, any number being acceptable but the more the better the content of the bags.
  - Gene and Lois Hogan will be the Door Prize chairmen again this year.
  - Row Party will be held again this year on Thursday afternoon from 3:30 to 5:30. Set up will be similar to the 2010 Rally.
  - Dealers to participate in the rally will be handled by Winnebago Corporate Sales; Phil Raner has agreed to coordinate this task to insure that we have four dealers.
  - Dorinda Gest of Suncoast Winnies showed some of the items to be used as decorations and asked that everyone save (and bring to the January meeting) tuna cans and vegetable and soup cans (Chunky soup size) preferably with labels attached (all cans to be well rinsed). Also, they would like to use the Mississippi Mud beer bottles (replica of moonshine jug) and will appreciate any donations of those (full or empty!). One other item is a large tub to be used as the base for the still.
  - Our very personable bar tenders have agreed to “perform” again this year.
- January 2011 meeting – January 14-16 at the Central FL Fairgrounds; Thursday will be an early day; Nancy asked for show of hands for interest in a bus to go to Tampa RV show; 20 responded affirmatively; games and happy hour will be featured on the bus ride.
- Dining with Doug and Pat – Nancy introduced the new promotion for getting new chapter members. Doug and Pat Formanek will begin gathering names of new members in each chapter and will have drawing to determine which chapter (one in each division) will get the prize. Flyers were available and Nancy encouraged each chapter to start concentrating on new members.
- Proposal for benches to be purchased for rally grounds at GNR. Nancy had a flyer explaining the project; the benches will be constructed of very durable material and will be placed at the head of the state row of each club which decides to participate. The cost will be approximately \$440. Joe Sholtes moved that we purchase a bench; Dan Tuzzolo seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.
- GNR 2011 – Nancy announced that the theme will be Hillbilly Jamboree. She shared that Doug had checked with her to be sure the Winnie Gators did not object to GNR having the same theme as our State Rally. She assured him that we did not. The dates are July 17-22, 2011; pre-week event begin July 9. There will be a hog roast on Wednesday of pre-week at our state row; tickets will be sold for that event with WG members receiving a special discount. Nancy reminded everyone that we can use the same costumes for both events so to plan on keeping the one used at State Rally for GNR.
- Linda Tuzzolo presented the slate of officers for 2011 as follows:
- President – Jerry Miller
  - 1<sup>st</sup> VP – still open—

- 2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Ted and Janis Fumia
- Secretary – still open—
- Treasurer – Walter Feldgoise.

As noted, need to have nominations for the two open positions; please let Linda know if you are interested or want to suggest a name. Election will take place at the January meeting.

Announcements:

- Future camp out dates:
  - 1/14-16, 2011 – Central Florida Fairgrounds, Orlando FL
  - 3/10-13, 2011 – Florida State Rally at Central Florida Fairgrounds, Orlando FL
  - 5/13-15, 2011 – Blueberry Hill RV Resort, Bushnell FL
- Kathryn spoke about email addresses and dues for 2011. She received applause for the last issue of the Winnie Gate.
- Nancy reminded everyone to check the Winnie Gators website at [www.winniegators.org](http://www.winniegators.org) often as lots of good things get posted there by Phil Halstead.
- Thanks with applause were given to Dave Nobert for arranging the golf tournament at this meeting.
- It was announced that Shirley Halstead is home from the hospital and is doing better.
- Jarvis and Joyce were celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Joe and Marlene, their 50<sup>th</sup> and Ted and Janis Fumia had each had a birthday recently.
- Nancy reminded everyone to check the display table where WG registration forms, GNR DVD order forms, rally registration info and forms, deadlines for WIT Magazine publication and info on the April 2011 cruise were available.
- Everyone was saddened to learn of Marge Shaughnessy's death; Nancy read a beautiful tribute which was written by Rick and Becky Bunn (President of So FL Winnie Gators) in her memory. We were reminded of a service to be held at the Elks Club in Winter Haven the following weekend. A copy of the tribute is attached to these minutes.

Being no further business, Diane Cipolla moved that the meeting be adjourned; the motion was seconded by Bill Schlip. Motion passed unanimously. Nancy adjourned the meeting at 11:05 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Griffin  
Secretary

### In Memorandum

Just a little over twenty-four hours after adjourning our October meeting and going our separate ways, we received the devastating news that Marge Shaughnessy, a founding member of South Florida Winnie-Gators, a charter member of the Winnebago-Itasca Travelers, and a beloved friend to all, was killed instantly in a head-on car collision. There are no words to adequately describe the anguish, the shock, and the unbelievable sadness that was felt when receiving news of Marge's death. Marge, who was an excellent driver at 84 years of age, lost her life because she became the next innocent victim of a reckless driver.

Marge was an extraordinary woman in every sense of the word. She was a loving wife to George for 62 years, a devoted mother of three successful daughters, proud grandmother of two grandchildren, and the faithful care-giver of her elderly brother, Johnnie. In her 84 years of living, she represented a truly remarkable woman who gave so much of herself to her close-knit family and countless friends.

Marge touched us all with her sense of quick-wit, ceaseless energy, and zest for living. She never met a stranger and went out of her way to make people feel comfortable in her presence. Marge was a woman of strong commitment and gave her all to any project she was given. She was a true leader and kept us on our toes to make certain the job was done right! Marge loved her association with the Elks and her beloved "Winnie-Gators", but her devotion to family always came first. How can we forget how passionate she was about her grandson Lane's career at Colgate as their punter and place kicker? How fortunate it was that she, George, and Mo became world-wide travelers these past few years - just cruisin' the seas and enjoying life to its fullest.

It's hard to imagine a campout without our dear friend Marge - hearing her voice, seeing her sweet smile, watching her scurry to make sure no job was left undone, and sharing her kindness with each and everyone. We cannot bring Marge back, but we will always feel her gentle spirit among us as we carry on our Winnie - Gator traditions. Although we can never understand why or how these things happen, let us find comfort in knowing that she is resting in peace with our heavenly Father. We are so thankful to have had Marge in our lives, and the wonderful times we shared together will remain in our hearts forever.

Lovingly compiled by Becky & Rick