

Florida State Winnie Gators, Inc.
General Business Meeting
Alligator Park, Punta Gorda, Florida
October 20, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Jerry Miller at 1:30pm. All stood for the invocation by Shirley Halstead and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jerry welcomed all in attendance and gave a BIG thank you for all the cards, letters and help during his recent surgery. He announced a new club within the FSWG called the "Zipper Club" for those who have had heart surgery. He was able to add more members and gave them each a small pin with a picture of a heart. Jerry also mentioned that he really DID NOT wish to add more members to this club.

Jerry introduced his team of officers. Ted & Janis Fumia, 1st VP, Cliff & Ree Spiller, 2nd VP, Christine and Bob Ross, Secretary, Walter & Belinda Feldgoise, Treasurer and Nancy Miller, Director.

Attending the meeting were 8 Chapters with a total of 42 coaches. Thirty five of these coaches arrived early.

Jerry also welcomed our guest Butch & Becky Moore, WIT Eastern Area Reps. New Members, George & Dianne Freirichs, Ed & Carolyn Thomas, Richard & Barbara Ercolani, Jim & Marg Carney, Thom & Connie Coste, James & Kathy Olson, Michael & Gail Schroeder and Walter & Joan Lanagan. We have several First Timers this weekend, Walter & Joan Lanagan, George & Dianne Freirichs, Tom & Janet Koenig, Wes & Sally Sims and Ed & Carolyn Thomas. Jerry also welcomed Cliff & Bridgett Gilmore, Past Presidents of IALCP.

Tom & Janet Koenig had the longest drive.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Dan Tuzzolo and seconded by Jim Copenhaver to waive the reading of the May minutes. Copies of the minutes are located on the Winnie Gators web site. www.winniegators.org. You may also request a copy.

We received a thank you letter from Suncoast Hospice Foundation for our gift in memory of Helen "Joyce" Wood who passed away in October.

We also received thank you letters from two children that won gifts at the GNR Youth Camp. These letters are written just as the children wrote them.

Thank you for the cooler. I can use it for school. I love Dr. Pepper its my favorite. Great prize the cooler is not to big and not to small its perfect. I am ten years old and my name is Josie Formanek. Hope you will donate a prize again next year. Thanks Josie

Dear Mr. Muller from Cape Coral Florida, I wanted to say thank you for the sleeping Bag. It fits me perfectly! I enjoy the youth activities a lot. I will be using the Bag when I go to the Boundry Waters with my Family this summer. I can't wait! I hope things are going well for you in Florida. When I first red the name of your town I thought it was Cape Canaveral were they launch the rockets in to space. I hope to see you next year at the rally. Sincerely, Wes

Treasurer's Report

Walter gave our Financial Presentation. This report runs from May 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012. We started the period with \$15,248.51. We ended the period with \$8,911.36. Noteworthy expenses were two completed events one being the May campout with 41 rigs in attendance and GNR with 75 Florida coaches in attendance. We also paid a \$200.00 entertainment deposit for the March 2013 rally. Other expenses included catering, decorations, pig roast and the GNR Youth Program.

As always the treasurer's report is filed for audit.

President's Report

Jerry announced that several dealerships have been taken over by Camping World. Jerry & Nancy Miller along with Ted & Janis Fumia visited four of them regarding their participation in our March Rally. This fine group also visited Lazy Days, LaMesa and a Sunnybrook dealer. Jerry also announced that LaMesa is opening a new location in Ft. Myers close to Camping World in November of this year. If you have friends that have a Sunnybrook trailer please invite them to one of our campouts.

Officer and Committee Reports

Jerry mentioned that Seaside Winnies had some changes within their chapter. Emil & Bernie Gaudet sold their coach due to health reasons. (They will be missed) Bob and Joan Sensus will take over as Presidents until their elections in January.

Vendor Queen Corinne Wightman has sent out information about our March Rally to those that were in attendance last year. If you have any suggestions for vendors please let Corinne know or you may direct them to our web site www.winniegators.org. They may also contact Corinne.

Corinne has been our Vendor Queen for the last 4 or 5 years and she is looking for someone to take her place. If you are interested please let her know. You will be able to work with her this March so you can get your feet wet instead of just getting dumped in. PLEASE VOLUNTEER!!!!

Old Business

GNR Review: Thanks to everyone who volunteered for anything and everything!!! As you know Jerry was in the hospital and Nancy had to be there with him. This left the duties of Jerry and Nancy to several other members. Helpers were Tom Zopff, Corinne Wightman, Christine Ross, Bob Ross, David Nobert, Bud Swift, Joe Sholtes and his Bartenders, all the food servers and decorators. We all know there were more helpers in the background. With 77 coaches in attendance I believe that someone from each coach helped in some way, shape or form. So here is a BIG THANK YOU FROM JERRY AND NANCY!!!

Our state club and 10 chapters received the Chapter of Excellence awards. CONGRATULATIONS!!!

We had 77 Florida coaches in attendance with 22 of them being First Timers. Hope everyone had a great time and will return next year. The theme is "Winnie Wild West"

Craft Winners: Barbara Trad, 1st in Cross Stitch, Carol Mazuk 2nd in Hand Knitting, Kitty Lambert 1st in Needlework, Linda Levine 2nd in Needlework, David Nobert 2nd in Woodwork Intarsia, Congratulations to all these winners.

Our 2013 March Rally plans are underway. Our theme this year is "Kartoon Karavan". Please save your Sunday Comic pages from the newspaper. South Florida will be collecting them at the January Outing.

Our entertainment is set. Friday night we have a DJ named Rob Vollmar. If you attended the Lazy Days Winnie Tailgate party you know that he is a GREAT DJ!! For Saturday night we have Entertainment Revue. You will not want to miss them. What a great show they put on!!!

Mid-Florida is working on the Goody Bags. If you have any items or ideas please contact Tom Zopff.

Wonderful News!!! We WILL NOT be following the State Fair this year!!! YEAH!! This should make getting the field ready for the parkers much easier.

While Jerry, Nancy, Ted and Janis were out visiting the dealers they made the comment that we keep our rally attendees very busy. We have decided to have "Dealer Day" on Wednesday with no other activities scheduled. The dealers plan to have food, games and prizes. This should be a lot of FUN!!!!

Gayle Putman and Lee MacDonald entered their rally pins designs. Both of these entries are just wonderful. A suggestion was made that we place one entry on the pin and the other on the t-shirt. Both ladies accepted this offer graciously and the decision was made to place Lee's on the pin and the directory and Gayle's on the T-shirt and the rally program. You will find them attached to this email.

It is with sadness that we inform you that due to the cost of food and other expenses we have reluctantly raised the price of our rally by \$15.00 per coach. This is still a very good price with all the activities, seminars, door prizes, vendors, food and games we have scheduled. Where else can you go for \$175.00 and get all that. We are encouraging you to arrive on Tuesday so you can attend our Dealer Days. Extra days are only \$25.00 per night. We promise a FUN TIME will be had by all.

New Business

Nancy Miller, Director and her committee read off the slate of officers for 2013. Ted & Janis Fumia, Presidents, Robert (Bob) Ross 1st VP, Cliff & Ree Spiller, 2nd VP, Christine Ross, Secretary, Walter & Belinda Feldgoise, Treasurer, Director Jerry Miller. Nominations will be taken from the floor in January. If you or someone you know would be interested in running for any of these positions please let Nancy know to you may nominate them from the floor in January.

Please if you make any officer changes let Phil Halstead our Web Master, Jerry Miller our President, Christine Ross our Secretary and Ruth Harms at the WIT Office know of these changes.

Our January Outing at the Central Florida Fairgrounds will be held January 18-30, 2013. We may have a possible Potluck dinner on Friday night with a catered breakfast and dinner on Saturday. We may also need to increase the price by \$5.00 per coach to help cover the cost of the tables and chairs. Our theme is "A Luau". Nancy is recruiting some hula dancers so if you are interested please let her know. Get out those grass skirts and any other Hawaiian clothing you may have and join us. We will have great food, fun games and a trinket or treasure auction. More information will follow later. It will be a GREAT time.

We will be mailing out to all WIT members (not already in the State Club or Chapter) information about our State Club. This mailing will include information about GNR attendance, our website, March rally information and chapter listings and locations. We are hoping this will recruit new members.

Butch and Becky will also pass out a brochure about our State Club when they attend the Daytona, Tampa and Orlando shows.

Announcements

Copies are available for guidelines that should be used to place publications in the WIT magazine.

Notify Phil Halstead of any and all chapter schedules, articles, and officer changes, pictures of officers and campout pictures. Many other members enjoy reading about other chapter outings.

Make sure Ruth Harms at the WIT Office receives all officer rosters. These are due in January.

Remember to remind your chapter members that State Dues are due the 1st of January. Send these to Christine Ross, FSWG Secretary. Also please ask each member to review their information in the FSWG Directory to see if any corrections need to be made. Registration forms are on the Winnie Gators Web Site.

Rally registration forms and information are now available on the web site.

Butch & Becky recently sent out an email regarding coach care and general Chapter information. We have copies if you need one.

Presidents we are asking each of you to have your members fill out an emergency contact information form. These forms are to be kept in your coach. You may request information such as emergency phone #'s, allergies and medication taken. Members may fill out the form with as much information as they feel comfortable sharing.

On a sad note Joyce Wood passed away recently. A donation was made to Suncoast Hospice Foundation in her memory. If you know of members who are sick or in the hospital please let us know. A card can boost the spirits of someone who is on the road to recovery.

We had several Birthdays and Anniversaries this month. Congratulations to all.

Future Meetings

January 18-20, 2013, Blueberry Hill RV Resort, Bushnell, Orlando, Florida
March 21-24, 2013 State Rally, Central Florida Fairgrounds, Orlando, Florida
May 10-12, 2013 Paradise Oaks RV Resort, Bushnell, Florida
October 18-20, 2013 Blueberry Hill RV Resort, Bushnell, Florida

For the Good of the Club

Pilot now has (at some of their stations) gas lanes for RV's. Also mentioned was that if you use their loyalty card (which you can get from Good Sam Club) you can fill your RV up without having to restart the pump. In other words it should not cut off at \$75.00

Phil Halstead suggested that you save all your medical history to a Flash Drive. That way you can just hand it to the hospital so they can get all your information right away.

Shirley Halstead asked that we continue to save pop tops. These pop tops are used to help Dogs for the Deaf.

If you are ever in Mason City, Iowa and need a campground please stay at Margaret MacNider Park RV Park. They were so kind and helpful to Jerry and Nancy during their recent long stay.

A motion was made to adjourn by Dan Tuzzolo and 2nd by Jim Copenhaver. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted

Christine Ross
Secretary
FSWG



Lee MacDonald



Gayle Putman