



WINNIE-GATE

A Newsletter for Members of
FLORIDA WINNIE-GATORS

www.winniegators.org

September, 2007



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From the President's Corner

Hope everyone had a great summer. GNR was a blast and everyone had so much fun. If you weren't there, you missed a great time. Check out the pictures on our website. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the October Campout. We have a fun weekend planned and Sun n Fun is such a great place. RV World of Nokomis will be setting up a display and we are going to have a wine consultant educate us about different wines. I've also arranged for dinner on Thursday night at a great Amish Restaurant. Hope you all can make it and have a safe trip back to Florida.

Linda & Dan

GNR Pre-Rally Highlights:

This year Florida hosted a Pre-Rally Welcome Center at the head of the Florida Row from Sunday through Saturday. Dan Tuzzolo served coffee and orange juice every morning and also handed out doggie treats.

Monday evening 50 Winnie-Gators headed to the Branding Iron Restaurant for a prime rib dinner and on Thursday morning 25 Winnie-Gators enjoyed breakfast together at the Lodge.

Several Winnie-Gators attended Happy Hour's on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon.

GNR Rally Highlights:

On Monday, July 16, Florida hosted a First Timers Social for our fellow Floridians attending GNR for the 1st time. Jury Krajak and Ed Jouret won the 50/50 raffle and Gloria Gaffrey won a T-Shirt. Several people joined the Florida State Winnie-Gators and local chapters during the rally.

Following tradition, Tuesday's Row Party was a huge success with at least 250 people attending. We had the honor of having the President of Winnebago Industries Bob Olson and his wife Cathy attend our row party along with Doug Formanek the new General Manager of WIT and his wife Pat. They are all a great bunch of people and we look forward to seeing them again. The menu included Louise Maener's specialty burgers, baked beans, coleslaw, chips, pickles, beer, wine and soft drinks.

The 50/50 raffle held during the row party was won by Ohio State President, Jerry Kottyan. Three T-shirts and 2 mosquito nets were also given away. Congratulations to Dick and Joan Nallick, President of the Miracle Strip Winnies who won the GPS system raffle. If you don't already know, the Miracle Strip Winnies is our newest chapter and is based in the Panama City area.

Certificates for the 2008 Fiesta del Sol, Florida Winnie-Gators State Rally were won by Robert & Elaine Mervis from Solon, Ohio and Bob Schoening and Edna Heins from the South Florida Winnies. See you at the Rally in March, 2008!

And the Winner is . . . Congratulations goes to the following Florida Winnie-Gators for their entries at



GNR:

Lee MacDonald, 2nd Place - Afghans
Carolyn Jouret, 1st Place - Jewelry
Pat Crosby, 3rd Place - Jewelry

Jennie Pikula, 3rd Place - Photography
Millie Fraker, 1st Place - Swedish Weaving
Sharon Zopff, 3rd Place - Swedish Weaving
Eugene Vanaman, 1st Place Woodworking

Suncoast Winnie Gators and Treasure Coast Winnie Gators received honorable mention for their newsletters, and the Florida State Winnie-Gators web page earned 3rd place for our website.

Last, but not least the following Florida chapters received Chapter of Excellence awards:

Buccaneer Winnies
Caloosa Winnies of SW Fla.
Du-Bol Winnies
Florida Sunshine Winnies
Funtime Travelers

Mid-Florida Winnies
Ocala Sunbirds
Panhandle Winnies
Seaside Winnies
South Florida Winnies

Spacecoast Winnies
Suncoast Winnies
Treasure Coast Winnies

Our October Campout is scheduled for October 19-21, 2007 at Sun N Fun RV Resort, Sarasota, Florida.

From Junction I-75 (Exit 210) and Hwy 780 (Fruitville Road): Go 1 mile east on 780. Enter on Left

The Following is the Agenda:

Thursday - Early Bird Special:

4:30 pm - Dinner at Troyer's Dutch Heritage Restaurant. Reservation is for 5:00 pm. We will meet at the clubhouse at 4:30 to car pool. Dinner will be full buffet with choice of 4 meats, salad bar, dessert, beverage, tax & gratuity for \$17.70. You will pay the restaurant directly. This restaurant has traditional Amish Style Cooking. They also have a bakery and gift shop. Please check the appropriate box on the registration form to reserve your space.

7:00 pm Executive Board Meeting or immediately after we return from dinner

Friday:

2:30 pm - Board Meeting with all chapter presidents or representatives
4:00 pm - Happy Hour, Snacks Optional, 50/50 Raffle

6:00 pm - Catered Dinner

7:30 pm - Bingo provided by Spacecoast Winnies

Saturday:

8:30 am - Catered Breakfast

10:00 am - General Membership Meeting

3:00 pm - Wine Tasting given by Wine Consultant, Shannon Moody. Wine, fruit, cheese & crackers will be provided. 50/50 Raffle

6:00 pm - Catered Dinner

After dinner games and cards in the Clubhouse.

Sunday:

8:00 - 9:00 am - Continental Breakfast

The cost for this campout is \$122 per coach for 2 people. For one person the rate is \$95. For each additional person the cost is \$30. Extra nights camping fee is \$30 for each night. Please complete the attached registration form

and mail to Gene Vanaman. Your check should be made payable to FLORIDA WINNIE-GATORS. Registration must be received by October 1, 2007.

Future Campouts:

January 18-20, 2008

Central Florida Fairgrounds, Orlando, Florida

March 6-9, 2008

Winnie-Gators State Rally, Fiesta del Sol - Central Florida Fairgrounds,

Orlando, Florida

In Memory - Everett (EV) Hall

*Our heartfelt sympathies go to the family and friends of Everett (EV) Hall, Seaside Winnies,
who passed away on July 25, 2007*