



The Winnie Gate



A Newsletter for Members of the Florida State Winnie Gators
September 2009

From the President's Corner

Summer is drawing to a close and I hope you all enjoyed yourselves what ever activities you were able to do! Jerry and I spent three weeks at Forest City for GNR and we had a BLAST! Our Florida "family" who journeyed there – it was GREAT to have you all there and we hope you had as much fun as we did! Plans are underway for GNR 2010 "Hollywood Legends, Dead or Alive". July 18 – 23, 2010. Save the dates; you don't want to miss it!

After GNR we traveled west with seven club friends in a caravan to Mt. Rush-

more; two left there but the five of us continued on and what a GREAT trip! We visited so many National Parks and enjoyed the breathtaking scenery in this beautiful country! Now it's time to return to our Florida activities. I hope many of you will attend the October State Meeting at Torrey Oaks RV Park. The park has a lot to offer so think about spending a few extra days if you can. Don't forget your Halloween costumes for the parade and judging! We'll have fun activities such as golf, crafts, music for dancing, good food and great fellowship! We hope you can

join us, it'll be great to see everyone again!

SAFE TRAVELS!

Nancy



Nancy with Bob and Kathy Olson



LOTS OF PEACE AND LOVE!

WOW – what a **GREAT TIME!** Florida brought in 122 coaches, plus some more that came in after the official count! We came in 3rd, and only missed 2nd place by 4 coaches! Our first task was to gather the supplies to build a float for the Puckerbrush Parade. THANKS to all our volunteers and engineers we were proud to have the finished product assembled! The parade was Saturday July 18th and I can tell you it was a thrill to see the smiling faces along the parade route as we passed by! We were colorful to say the least and many of our members rode on the float or walked along side throwing candy to the crowd!

During Pre-GNR Week we served coffee and orange juice each day. Monday, July 13th we had dinner at Branding Iron with 81 Floridians! The rest of the week Happy Hour was on tap each day at 4 pm – always with a big crowd, food and beverages! The Puckerbrush Parade was Saturday, July 18th and we were lucky the wind cooperated so we could keep the float intact. That evening our Florida Fling Party was held at Dick's Country Inn in nearby Hayfield.



KUDOS to Dick Formanek and his staff for doing a SUPER job dishing out the Maid Rites! Special guests joining us were Bob and Kathy Olson. Bob is President & CEO of Winnebago, and they blended right in with the crowd of over 100 people all dressed in hippie gear! What a GREAT turnout and it made for a wonderful evening!

Sunday opening ceremonies began at 7pm and I was PROUD to carry the Florida flag! We must have had 50 Florida people walking with us in the parade all dressed in their hippie gear and some carrying our hippie bus! We were quite a sight!

Monday morning we were scheduled for Beanbag Baseball. THANKS to Tom Zopff who organized our team! We won the first round and were we PROUD! Next round we got beat but we

sure had the most fun of the two teams! Monday at 4:00pm we hosted a First Timers Party and most of the 48 Florida First Timers joined us for the bash! We served wine, beer and snacks and encouraged newcomers to join our club and chapters! Tuesday at 3:00pm the Row Parties began! What a MOB SCENE we had in our row!

We served over 300 people Maid Rites, baked beans,

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coleslaw, fruit, cheese, and snacks! We ran out of plates and had several members donate more plates! We had a HUGE crowd as the traveling bands approached our site! Our "Raffle Babe" Damaris Travers and "Raffle Babe In Training" Linda Tuzzolo stole the show with their hippie outfits and antics! We were all literally dancing in the streets! We have pictures we are holding for ransom! Guests who stopped by were WIT General Manager Doug Formanek and his wife Pat, Eastern Area Reps Dick & Mikki Dodge, Bob & Kathy Olson. Our "Babes" danced with "Melvina" from one of the bands; she/he was dressed in a purple dress and was the hit of the band! The bands finally moved along the boulevard as the sun was beginning to set!

All too soon the week came to an end. Before we said our good-byes, we were already talking about plans for GNR 2010! We wished everyone safe travels until we would meet again in Florida. Once again, I SO appreciate all the volunteers who pitched in to help with all the projects. YOU know who you are and I THANK YOU!

See www.winniegators.org and www.witclub.com for some great pictures!

October Business Meeting News!

We will be voting on the Pin and Shirt design for the March Rally! Bring your artwork! The theme is "Welcome to 'Bago 'Bago Island."



Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will be presenting a slate of officers for 2010. If you are interested in information about being an officer, contact Linda Tuzzolo at dltuzzolo@verizon.net or 863-984-9349. Voting will take place at the January, 2010 meeting.

Dues for 2010

Winnie Gator dues for 2010 are \$15 and are due on January 1; there will be forms available if you would like to pay a little early. See Kathryn Griffin, Secretary.

2010 Campouts—Mark Your Calendars

January 15-17 — Lee Civic Center, North Fort Myers
 March 11-14 — "Welcome to 'Bago 'Bago Island", Florida State Rally, Orlando FL
 May 14-16 — Southern Palms Resort, Eustis FL
 July 18-23 — GNR, Forest City IA

October State Meeting

Torrey Oaks Golf and RV Resort
 248 Bostick Road
 Bowling Green FL

[From intersection of US Hwy 17 and Rt 62, go north 1/2 mile on Hwy 17; left turn onto Bostick Rd; Torrey Oaks 1/2 mile on the right]

October 16 – 18, 2009

All activities will be in the clubhouse

Thursday, October 15th – early arrivals

4:00pm Happy Hour – bring your own beverages and snacks
 5:00pm Dinner on your own
 7:00pm Games of your choice at the clubhouse

Friday, October 16th

8:00am Breakfast on your own
 10:00am Executive Committee Meeting
 11:00am Craft Project for those interested, make a pumpkin decoration!
 12:00pm Lunch on your own
 2:00pm Board of Directors Meeting – State and Chapter Officers representatives
 4:00pm Happy Hour – bring your own beverages, A - M bring snacks. 50/50 Drawing
 6:00pm Catered Dinner
 7:00pm Ice Cream Social & General Business Meeting



Saturday, October 17th

8:00am Catered Breakfast
 9:00am Golf Tournament at Torrey Oaks Golf Course, approx. \$25 includes cart
 10:00am Shuffleboard Contest, Golf Putting Contest
 4:00pm Happy Hour – bring your own beverages, N – Z bring snacks. Halloween Costume Parade and judging – prizes awarded!
 6:00pm Catered Dinner
 7:00pm "Mystery D.J." spins 50's & 60's music for dancing and listening pleasure



Sunday, October 18th

8:30am Continental Breakfast – donuts and bagels, bring your coffee cups!

Registration due by October 1, 2009

Florida State Winnie Gators Officers

President	Nancy Miller nmiller1213@yahoo.com 239-574-2511 239-565-3115	2nd VP	Cliff and Ree Spiller reclif@gmail.com 352-422-0310	Treasurer	Jerry Miller jmiller828@yahoo.com 239-574-2511 239-218-0503
1st VP	Joe and Ann Loudenslager frespirit14@aol.com 727-787-3960 727-744-8020	Secretary	Kathryn Griffin nannygrif@embarqmail.com 239-561-9345 239-986-9196	Director	Linda and Dan Tuzzolo DLTuzzolo@verizon.net 863-984-9349 863-712-8741

FLORIDA STATE WINNIE GATORS, INC. - STATE CAMPOUT
 October 16 - 18, 2009

Registration Due by October 1, 2009

Name _____ Spouse/Companion _____ WIT # _____

Address _____ Email Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Cell Phone _____

Arrival Date _____

Are you a current State Club Officer? Yes _____ No _____

Local Club/Chapter affiliation: _____

Handicap Parking? _____ Yes _____ No

GOLF TOURNAMENT INFORMATION: *Torrey Oaks Golf Club adjacent to the RV park. Cost approx. \$25, 9 Hole Tournament, price includes golf fees, cart rental, and prizes will be awarded!*

Registration Fees:

	<u>Rate</u>		
<i>1 Coach 2 People</i>	<i>\$125</i>		\$
<i>1 Coach 1 Person</i>	<i>\$95</i>		\$
<i>Additional Guests</i>	<i>\$40</i>	<i># Guests x \$40</i>	\$
<i>Additional Days Parking</i>	<i>\$30</i>	<i># Nights x \$30</i>	\$
<i>Golf Tournament How Many Players?</i>	<i>Circle Number 1, 2, 3,</i>	Money will be collected at Torrey Oaks	—

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$

Please make check payable to **FLORIDA STATE WINNIE GATORS, INC.** Mail check with this form to:



Florida State Winnie Gators
 C/O Kathryn Griffin
 10009 Horse Creek Rd.
 Fort Myers, FL, 33913

