



The Winnie Gate

A Newsletter for Members of the Florida State Winnie Gators

September 2013

Website: www.winniegators.org

Email address winniegators@gmail.com



From the President's Corner



We hope that all of you are enjoying another beautiful summer, wherever you may be! We just returned from the GNR in Forest City Iowa and are glad that we were able to attend this year. This was a trip that we have wanted to make for a long time and it was an interesting experience to say the least. Florida took a little different approach this year. We spent much more time relaxing and enjoying the activities and less time working! We decorated less than in the past but still had a full house at our Hog Roast and Row party. The Hog roast was amazing; everyone had a great meal and enjoyed live music and great company while we ate. Our row party featured all kinds of snacks, fresh made club sandwiches and free beer and wine for all. Florida had the 3rd largest attendance this year with 84 coaches of

which 40+ were first timers! We signed up several new members for the State and several chapters signed up new members as well. Jay and the Americans put on a great concert but unfortunately John Michael Montgomery was only able to get 2 songs out before we were deluged by rain and wind.

We would like to give a special thanks to Bill and Elaine Schilp for spearheading our Covered Wagon Float for the annual Puckerbrush parade. With the help of a few volunteers the float came together very nicely and was a fun project. Many thanks to Bud and Sue Swift for all of their help...Bud made sure all of the shade tents were up in the AM and down in the PM and we sure all enjoyed the shade! Also our special thanks to Nancy and Jerry Miller for all of the planning, running of errands, covering for us while we were handling our many service issues and especially for Nancy's help to keep me on track so that I didn't drop the ball on anything important!

We would also like to say that the folks at Winnebago Industries, AL Steen, Gina Keeper, Rebecca, Tom Pilgrim, Steve Evenson and Randy Potts were AMAZING and went way out of their way to help so many of us with service issues even though we didn't have appointments. They really made us feel special and their teams were so knowledgeable and willing to do whatever was necessary to help us get our service issues resolved quickly and efficiently.

We look forward to seeing all of you at our October outing in Bushnell! We have a great agenda filled with good food, games and yet another opportunity to build some new and renew some old relationships.

Wishing you all the best,
Ted & Janis Fumia

Florida State Winnie Gators Officers

President— Ted & Janis Fumia
tfumia@aol.com
813-263-7219

2nd VP— Cliff & Ree Spiller
reclif@gmail.com
352-422-0310

Treasurer-Walter & Belinda Feldgoise
wfeldgoise@gmail.com
239-354-1150
239-821-2582

1st VP-Robert (Bob) Ross
rossross@gmail.com
863-414-1001

Secretary— Christine Ross
rossross@gmail.com
863-273-1587

Director-Jerry Miller
jerry.miller828@gmail.com
239-574-2511

Our New Charity is Caring Voice Coalition

Founded in 2003, Caring Voice Coalition was formalized to meet the unmet needs among the orphan disease population. Sensing these unmet needs for people with rare, chronic or life-threatening illnesses, co-founder Pam Harris says Caring Voice Coalition evolved organically into the national 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable organization it is today. “We recognized that the needs of a very select niche of people were not being fully met,” Pam says. “We started Caring Voice as a way to assist and help improve the lives of people with orphan and ultra-orphan diseases.” Caring Voice Coalition possesses a unique and holistic approach to improving the lives of patients with chronic illnesses. From comprehensive outreach programs to services aimed at financial, emotional and educational support, Caring Voice Coalition has empowered and supported patients and their families, as well as the friends who care for them. In addition to financial assistance, Caring Voice Coalition provides insurance education and counseling, and patient support programs for insured or underinsured patients. “The biologic medications our patients require are expensive,” Pam says. “We’re not only here to help our patients financially, but to equip them with knowledge and education about their health insurance benefits and offer a steady support system to help guide them through their illness.” The progression made through the years by Caring Voice Coalition, Pam says, is to be credited to the organization’s passionate, dedicated staff and board of directors. “We’ve evolved to where we are today because of the quality and knowledge of our team,” Pam says. “When we look for employees, we look for team partners who have a passion for the work we do, a commitment to life-long learning, and a dedication to go above and beyond every single day for our patients. That’s what makes Caring Voice as solid as it is. We are where we are today because of our people and their commitment to the CVC mission.”



For more information go to
CaringVoice.org



PAY YOUR WINNIE GATORS DUES!

\$15 per coach

Dues are due January 1st

The application form is on the website, fill out the form and mail to Christine Ross with your check.

Thank you

WIT CLUB NEWS CHANGE

The new address to send any chapter news to is:

www.witclubnews@winnebagoind.com

Don't forget! Send your officer change information, camping schedules, articles, announcements, etc.

Important information about our October Meeting

Nominations for the FSWG Club Officers will be on the agenda. Your current officers have served now for several years and could use a rest. Please Help!!!!

Rally Pin designs will be voted on. So if you are crafty please have a sample of your design ready to present. These will be voted on at the General Business Meeting.

We will also be signing up for new jobs for the 2015 March State Rally. We would like to have a least on representative from each chapter attend the October meeting to sign up for one of the many jobs.

We will also be looking for a new Vendor Queen. Corrine has done this job for 5 years and needs a break. Please Help!!!!

HEADING SOUTH FROM UP NORTH?

The Maryland/Delaware WIT State Rally will be held October 4—6 near Ocean City, MD. at Ft. Whaley Campground, Whaleyville, MD. Joe & Sandy Haba, Presidents, always attend our Florida Rally so why not join them for some fun and great food? Check the WIT Club News website for details, or email Joe and Sandy, sjhaba@gmail.com, or call 301-467-4455. They promise you will have a great time!!!



Up Coming Dates to Remember

October 18-20, 2013 Blueberry Hill RV Resort, Bushnell, FL (Halloween Theme)

2014 Dates to Remember

January 17-19, 2014 Blueberry Hill RV Resort, Bushnell, FL

March 20-23, 2014 Florida State Rally, Central Florida Fairgrounds, Orlando, FL "Wild, Wild West"

May 8-11, 2014 Alligator Park, Punta Gorda, FL

FUN TIMES AT GNR



Float Building Crew!!!



Branding Iron Dinner



Elaine, Vergie, Pete, Barbara and Lee



Candy Bagging Crew



The Gathering!!!!



Wine and Cheese



Hog Roast Line



Pat & Butch Crosby



Jerry Miller (Glad you made it this year!!!)