



GOOD LIFE NEWS



VOLUME 8 ISSUE 13

FLORIDA UNIT 027

DECEMBER 2008

The President's Message

This will be my last President's Message as my term of office comes to an end this month. Tom Moore will take over the presidency on Dec 4th. I am sure he will receive the same level of support as I have had during my term. I wish to thank all the members of our unit who have been so helpful to me. Frank and Joan Carson who were always near to give direction to me, Pat Finn who has taken over the newsletter and is doing a great job, Vic Smith and Randy Godfrey who have been so willing to aid me in leadership, and many others. To all of you my sincere thanks.

Thanks to many of you who came to the Election Luncheon held at the Golden Coral on International Drive in Orlando. We accomplished the election of new officers and many of our club volunteered to help out at our upcoming rallies next year. Randy told us of rallies that are being planned for 2009. The first one is an exciting weekend rally to be held in Jacksonville at Hanna Park. See the flyer that is a part of this newsletter. I hope we can have a real nice turnout at this rally. Our thanks to Ron and Chris Allen who have spent many hours already getting this event organized.

We had 27 Airstreams come for Cracker Christmas, as well as 5 additional members who drove in, volunteered their services and enjoyed the fellowship. We especially appreciated all of our new members who came to see what this rally was all about. A special thank you for the cake for Phil Drugge and table decorations by Linda Rude. I look forward to more working members coming to rallies just for the weekend activities. After a catered barbequed turkey dinner and a lively business meeting, Region 3 President, Julian Clements, and his First Mate, Lynne, presided over the installation of our newly elected officers. They also sure did roll up their sleeves and go to work each day. Region 3 certainly has a great leader! To those interested in numbers, our Unit provided 543 man-hours to the park and helped sell raffle tickets and receive donations amounting to over \$2,000. A big chunk of that (over \$400) was from our own Whit's carved cane!

I wish to thank you, club members, for the lovely plaque as outgoing president. The year has passed by and the job seemed too big for me at the beginning of the term. However with the help of my first mate, Betty, and your support and patience, I have crossed the finish line all in one piece. Please give the new President and his First Lady, as well as the other unit officers, the same help you have given me. I think there are many good, fun times ahead for our Unit and I am happy to be a part of it. See you at the January rally in Jacksonville!

Dave Wenger



Installation Festivities at the Fort!
Incoming President Tom Moore
Outgoing President Dave Wenger
& his first mate, Betty.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Betty Bales
330 Navajo Ave.
Ormond Beach, Florida 32174
Telephone # (386)673-8250
Email: bbales3@bellsouth.net
WBCCI # 3736

Fred E. and Emma Ruth Carey
2826 Wild Horse Rd.
Orlando, Florida 32822
Telephone # (407) 281-9193
Email:
WBCCI # 2697

Marvin and Dianne Rosenberg
1305 Beacon
New Smyrna Beach, Florida 32169
Telephone # (386) 425-2031
Email: airstreamerccd@yahoo.com
WBCCI # 7474

NEW AFFILIATE MEMBERS!

Roman & Emilie Zepeda
2763 January Ct.
Falls Church, VA 22043
Telephone # (703) 560-8754
Email: romanandemilie@aol.com
Cell # (571) 225-5566
WBCCI # 1506

CHEER CORNER:

Our dear member, **Anita Norwood**, has been unable to "rally" with us for a while. Joan called Anita's daughter, Barbara who reports Anita is doing well and is living with her in Maryland. Anita sends her love to all her friends. **Anita – with think of you often with fond memories of your nursing expertise at many Airstream rallies. We miss you!**

Be sure: **Joe & Ellen McMillan** would appreciate a card or call as they take care of Ellen's sister in Ohio.

c/o Margaret McDargh,
63 Longview Heights,
Athens, Ohio 45701; 740-593-7138

Bev Trask: Joan & Frank visited Bev & Earl 12/12 and found Bev sitting up and planning on getting out of the hospital in a few days! Bev will

return to the hosp. in a few weeks for the final operation. Your prayers are really needed for this one. Cards and good wishes can be sent to:
2755 Curlew Road # 64
Palm Harbor, Florida 34684
Or Telephone # (727) 781-8368

Congratulations:

Art Kramer celebrated his 92nd birthday and he and Louise celebrated their 67th anniversary.

THANK YOU MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS FOR THE VOLUNTEERING EFFORT AT FORT CHRISTMAS!

Again, a successful volunteer project completed! Thank you for decorating the park, pulling pork, dusting houses, parking, selling raffle tickets and manning the houses. Lots of goodies at the campfire plus a wonderful smoked turkey dinner, pulled pork and fried chicken dinners; and didn't the tables look lovely? Thank you decorators! Fantastic door prizes (thanks, Joan). Thank you, Julian and Lynne Clements who came as guests (to do installation) but left as seasoned volunteers and looking forward to coming back next year! Grand time had by all.

UPCOMING RALLIES!

JANUARY RALLY – JACKSONVILLE:

(See attached flier) Complete the coupon and prepare check as follows: \$25.43 for the first day, plus \$10.00 per person. Checks should be made out to WBCCI Florida Unit and mailed to Frank Carson at 29129 Johnston Rd 546, Dade City, FL 33523. The rest of the days will be paid directly to Hanna Park. Don't miss out on this brand new rally! **January 3rd is the deadline!**

FLORIDA STATE - SARASOTA:

Be sure to get your coupon from the Blue Beret and get it in early. Frank can use all the help he can get...there may even be some early parking passes left for works. Please, please....send it in right away. Frank reports he has hit many snags and is slowly clearing them up. Now is the time to support your State Rally and what Frank is trying to do to make it even better. He states: "I need your help and your attendance. We have a lot

signed up, but we need more. Show your support for the rally and show the strength of your Unit." (Our own Randy is the Registrar!)

(Also at FL State) STRONG VOLUNTEERS

NEEDED: One of our Unit's responsibility is to have two couples help with the tables and chairs in Sarasota. YOU will receive an early pass for your efforts.

Frank

St. Augustine Easter Rally

"Probably the best rally in the country for both price and activities. I am holding 15 sites for our Unit members. This is one of the reasons our Unit has grown. We are now the largest Unit in Florida and this did not happen by accident. We all worked at it and must continue to work at it. Join Joan, Ed, Marion and me for a great, if not the greatest, rally."

Frank

MEMBERSHIP: We have 66 members and 9 Affiliates paid and a few more that have promised! We are now officially the largest unit in Florida! (What fun Unit #027 will have at Sarasota – sitting together wearing our new shirts! LETS HAVE A GOOD SHOWING, FLORIDA MEMBERS.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A NEW MEMBER:

Henry and Lorrain "Bitsy" Beel (nickname of Bitsy)

30802 Prestwick Ave. Sorrento, FL 32776

352-383-0166 chbeel@embarqmail.com

(Mt. Plymouth is the same community as Sorrento, & located about 5 miles from Mt. Dora between Mt. Dora & Sanford, off of Hwy 46.)

We have an '84, 31' Airstream motorhome (the old classic aluminum kind). We have been quite inactive in the Central FL Unit for 8-9 years, first with our trailer & then the motorhome, which we flew up to Ohio, purchased & drove it home around 6 years ago. We were not truly active because Henry is not retired and has been a globe-trotter with his work.

Married 44 years. Originally from Arkansas, now live in rural northwest Orlando via Dallas & Pittsburgh. (Go Cowboys, Go Steelers!) Have 2 children, 6 grands, 1 Golden Retriever. Bitsy was a HS teacher and librarian in a past life. Henry

retired with Westinghouse Power Generation 3 years ago, & then immediately went back to work for Mitsubishi Power Systems in northern Orlando area - soon to retire permanently :) Looking forward to Airstreaming more in retirement !

What a nice surprise to have gotten an invitation to join your unit and then hear from someone within the unit.

(This is just one of the interesting couples and singles you COULD meet at Sarasota!)

From the desk of your Incoming President

I wish to thank all the members of the largest Unit in Florida for placing your trust in me. I will not let you down.

Here is one thing I would like to put forward to you. Membership retention. We have some great members but maybe somewhat shy about coming out. We need the Mentor program to keep in touch with all our members. I want to thank Dave and Randy for accelerating the rally program. It seems that we are coming to our members, now is the time for our members to come to us. Having a large Unit does not mean much if we do not get the ideas from our members. This Unit is for all of us, so input will be greatly appreciated.

Things to remember: The Jacksonville Rally is just around the corner. We are going to Jacksonville because we have members there. Please do not let us down. The dates are January 15 – 18. You can come for one day or four days, it is up to you. Reservations can be sent to your Treasurer, Frank Carson, 29129 Johnston Rd 546, Dade City FL 33523. Checks should be made out to WBCCI Florida Unit in the amount of \$25.45, that covers one night's parking and include a \$10.00 rally fee for each person attending. See the rally flyer in this newsletter.

Do not forget the Florida State Rally. This is the second largest rally in the WBCCI and with the Director coming from our Unit, I would like to see you support him and the rally. There will be a free luncheon for our members at this rally. More later.

See you down the road.

Tom