

GOOD LIFE NEWS

Jacksonville Rally

A Great Way to Begin the Year

The Florida Unit of the WBCCI kicked off 2012 with a rally in Jacksonville, FL that started on January 12, 2012 for four nights. Thirteen rigs joined in the fun with 26 in attendance. The Rally was opened with a happy hour followed by carpooling to dinner at Singleton's Seafood Shack, a local favorite. There was lots of catching up and delicious seafood.

The next day started off with a waffle breakfast complete with bacon, coffee, and fruit. On your own time was enjoyed with folks taking in local attractions. The activities included trips to the nearby Navy Base, shopping, farmers market, and walking the beach.

Friday night everyone was put to work preparing beef stew in Dutch ovens cooked over hot coals. Dorothy Gilbert and Patsy Barr got out a lot of panned up aggression by using the Vidalia onion chopper. Those ladies chopped up 15 pounds of potatoes, 4 pounds of carrots, and 3



pounds of onions in record time using the "as seen on TV" chopper. There were others who peeled, cut and cleaned the vegeta-



bles along with a crew of men who mastered the grill. Between cooking, stirring, seasoning, and baking pies everyone was kept busy. Pat McGee was our master baker and made an award winning cherry pie that was the

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From Our President

Well, here we are at the end of February and spring is a-coming! Of course, here in Florida, we never really have winter, it goes right from Fall to Spring!

Our next rally is the Bluegrass Rally at Fort Christmas. If you missed Cracker Christmas, here's another chance to pull pork and enjoy some great bluegrass music. Remember, you can't get in after Friday night, so come early!

April is bearing down on us, and in April we have TWO rallies for you. First is the Florida Keys Rally hosted by Frank and Joan Carson. So far, there are 10 rigs headed for the Keys. Anyone else interested? Come on along!

Just 2 weeks later we have the WBCCI Region 3 Rally at Ocean Lakes Campground in Myrtle Beach, SC. Myrtle Beach is a great location for a rally. A campground with full hookups right on the ocean! Beautiful beaches, outstanding restaurants and entertainment all over the area. Doris and I have camped or stayed in Myrtle Beach many times over the years.

I am encouraging everyone to try to make the Region 3 Rally. The Florida Unit is one of the largest in Region 3 and we should be well represented. If we can get a half dozen or so going, I will try to put together a little caravan for us. If you're interested, sign up and then let me know if you'd like to caravan. It's not too far to Myrtle Beach, but we could have a little fun traveling together!

-Phil Drugge

A Big Welcome To Our Newest Members!

Re-joining the Florida Unit as
Affiliate Members:

Bud & Judy Rice
518 Midlane Place
Melbourne, FL 32834
(781) 775-2810
jriceyrving@yahoo.com
WBCCI #1187

We hope to see all our new
members at a rally soon.



DIGITAL TV SIGNAL STRENGTH

Have you added a [Winegard Wingman™](#) to you Airstream's TV antenna to help pull in the HD digital signals? If so, you have made your antenna somewhat directional. It needs to be pointed at the strongest signal before you do the channel scan.



I discovered this handy device called a [SureLock™](#) from King Controls. You disconnect your TV from the antenna output in the Airstream and connect this device. Then, you rotate the antenna until you get the greatest number of LEDs to light. At that setting, you are pointed at the strongest signal. Reconnect your TV and do the channel scan.



I tried it at our Jacksonville rally and it performed very well. You can find them on-line or at your favorite RV supply store for around \$40.00.



-Randy Godfrey

WBCCI Florida Unit

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JACKSONVILLE RALLY (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

hit of the night.



Phil Drugge, Dave Wenger, and Ron Allen rode by the RV Park on the Navy base and spotted several Airstream campers. Being typical Airstreamers they stopped and introduced themselves to each owner and invited them to join us for a meal. Joe and Nancy Conrad from Seattle took them up on the invitation and we all got to meet them and learn of their travels. Betty Wenger even got a commitment from Nancy to help with donuts at the Florida State Rally in Sarasota in February. What a wonderful team effort!

Saturday's egg sandwich breakfast was expertly cooked by Brad and Robert McGloin. Fourteen year old Robert is a natural when it comes to cracking and flipping eggs. We all enjoyed the fruits of his labor.

Saturday night was spent around a camp fire at a local farm. Fun was had by all even with the cold weather. Bob Gilbert aka "Spider Man" impressed us all by climbing a rope tied to a tree limb. That limb was at least 40 feet off the ground. "Atta Boy" Bob. All participants en-



joyed a hayride and S'mores. The first group to take the hayride saw a little of life on a farm with a special adventure. A set of twin baby goats were left in the woods by their mother and after calling out for help were found and rescued by the farm owner during the hayride. Our own Lucille Clarke became a hero to one of the babies. Lucille saw that the baby goat was cold and scared from being left in

the woods. She immediately wrapped the goat in a blanket, held it securely and whispered words of comfort until it was delivered safely back to the barn. The second baby goat was also treated royally on the ride home with lots of attention. Both babies were safe and sound sleeping in the care of their mother shortly after their return.



Sunday started with a group of 16 campers carpooling to [Grinders Café](#) a popular breakfast spot. After breakfast, Dave Wenger, Don Clarke, Phil Drugge, and Ron Allen spent the morning taking apart a motor home that was having problems. What's a rally without having a chance to pull out some tools. Chris set about making one of her famous campfires. She then convinced Dale Edwards that splitting the firewood into smaller pieces would be fun and allow the wood to burn better. With the fire going, folks dropped by to visit and



brought snacks throughout the day. Larry Scovotto grilled some chicken wings that tasted mighty fine. All this was followed by a great potluck meal. In typical Airstream style we ate all day and into the night. And, what would we do without our newsletter editor recording all of the fun. Randy did a fantastic job taking pictures.

Old friends were reunited and new friendships were made. A fun time was had by all.

-Ron & Chris Allen-

MELBOURNE LUNCHEON PHOTO ALBUM

Photos by Howard & Susan LaRose

Our entertainment for the luncheon. Vic and Susan really caused a stir at the Golden Coral.

Our Next Event in 2012

BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL RALLY; MARCH 14 – 19; FORT CHRISTMAS HISTORICAL PARK

Come join us in Christmas, Florida for the Bluegrass Festival Rally. This event is similar to our Cracker Christmas event, except the crowds are smaller and there is somewhat less work to do. During the weekend, professional Bluegrass bands will be playing continuously during the festival.

The rally fee for is \$10.00 per person. Frank will collect from you at the rally. Parking is free with rally electric and water. The meals included in your rally fee are: Wednesday evening, hoagie supper; Thursday morning, pancakes; Friday evening, barbecue pot luck, (everyone bring a side dish to feed 6 to 8); Saturday morning, pancakes and sausage; Saturday afternoon, lunch; Sunday morning pancakes and sausage; and Sunday afternoon, lunch. That's seven meals included in the fee.

If you haven't registered already, Call Frank Carson immediately (321) 704-2568 so he can put you on the attendees list. This rally is by reservation only. The Unit must buy provisions for the meals ahead of the rally.

Attention Weekenders: If you can only come for the weekend, there is no rally fee. You may come anytime on Friday, but you must be parked onsite by 9:00 a.m. Saturday.

Attention First Timers: For those of you that have never been to this rally, it is completely laid back with professional Bluegrass bands playing continually both Saturday and Sunday. This is a volunteer rally, with not too much work. Make us proud. Show your support for the Orange County Parks, Fort Christmas and especially our Unit!

FLORIDA STATE RALLY REVIEW

This year's Florida State Rally (FSR) probably had the lowest attendance ever. There were only slightly over 300 rigs present. I remember my first FSR and we were in the lot next to the road coming in. This year that area was empty and there were many empty sites all over. And, while that is the bad news, it may be the beginning of a lot of good news too.

The Director for this year, Mary Potter, tried hard as a first time rally chairperson, but, she faced a big learning curve with little help. So I say, thank you for doing what you could Mary. We all appreciate it.

A lot of positive things did happen this year to make me and many others think that the FSR may be headed back in the right direction. The vendors were pretty much the same: Camping World, Airstream, Fantastic Fan, Zip Dee, etc. The ice cream was the same and so was the Bingo except for the additional Saturday afternoon session. The Food Bank barrels looked about the same. Only 4 men played golf as opposed to 8 last year. Most everyone made at least one visit to [Troyer's Dutch Heritage](#) or [Yoder's](#). The Sahib Shrine Club hosted the Chairmans' dinner, and the hot dog dinner for the rally workers on Sunday night was pretty good—I had two! (As compared to 2 years ago when they ran out and I didn't get any.)

At the Board of Directors meeting, our own Florida Unit past president Vic Smith was elected as Rally Director for 2013. Vic immediately took the reins

and went on a course of building the FSR back to its former glory.

First, he appointed another Florida Unit member to assist him; Larry Scovotto will be the Assistant Rally Director. These two men have a lot of enthusiasm and energy and we should see some real changes. Vic and Larry have added a tag line to the Florida State Rally, it's "Rally With A Purpose" and they have already announced the theme for next year, "Supporting Our Armed Forces" and the colors are, red, white, and blue!

Vic has received many suggestions for activities for next year and I tell you folks, you better mark your calendar now, because this may be the best Florida State Rally ever!

The dates for the 2013 Florida State Rally are February 13 – 18, 2013 (Wednesday – Monday). There will be a new interactive website for the Rally launched shortly, so watch for the announcement.

-Phil Drugge

THE FLORIDA UNIT AT THE FLORIDA STATE RALLY

It may have been an "off year" for the FSR, but the Florida Unit was well represented. We had 30 regular members present and 14 affiliate members for a total of 44. Last year we had 51 members on hand, but this year some members in the hospital, or had other obligations.

Those of us who attended carried the ball! We went to [Troyer's Dutch Heritage](#) on Wednesday night. Then we had our Unit luncheon on Thursday. This year, instead of pizza, we had

some delicious sub sandwiches from Walmart (who would have thought). A big thank you to Dave and Betty Wenger who coordinated this event (and picked up six feet of subs from Walmart)!

We had some awesome Happy Hours hosted by Larry and Linda Scovotto, Phil and Doris Drugge, and Ron and Chris Allen.

Doris and I were invited to the Region 3 Presidents breakfast at the [Troyer's Dutch Heritage](#) and it was a very tasty affair. Especially the sausages!

We all need to give our support to Vic Smith and Larry Scoot, 2013 Rally Director and Assistant. It looks like big things are happening. The Florida Unit rules! Mark your calendar for next year. 2013 may be the best FSR EVER!

-Phil Drugge

"THE KEYS TO THE TROPICS" RALLY; MARCH 30 – APRIL 7, 2012

There is still room and time to join the rally at the fabulous Florida Keys. The low rate of \$30.00 per day including tax is the lowest it has ever been at Sunshine Key. Stay the whole week or just for part of the week. Extended stays beyond the week will be at the same price. The Conch Train is a must. We have the reduced price of \$20.00 pp for a private tour of Key West. Things to do on your own are the dolphin encounter and Flaglers work camp that built the 7 mile bridge. The campground has 30 and 50 amp electric with water and sewer. Join us on March 30 for 7 nights at Florida's southern playground. See coupon in back of the newsletter.

REGION 3 RALLY — APRIL 22 – 29, 2012

Come camp by the beautiful Atlantic Ocean where you will have five point hookups, free Wi-Fi and a heated, indoor pool. During the rally there will be seminars, professional entertainment, and a cook-out, campfire, and entertainment by our members. We will have a flea market, craft show, and an open house for vintage and non-vintage Airstreams. There will be several breakfasts, one lunch, and one banquet.

The campground has not published their 2012 prices. It should be approximately \$45.00 plus tax per night. There will be a \$2.00 per night discount.

Look for the registration coupon on page 56 of the February 2012 *Blue Beret*.

SPRINGTIME ON THE GULF OF MEXICO RALLY — MAY 10 - 14, 2012

The cut-off date for reservations at our joint rally with the Florida Springs Unit is March 15, 2012. Space available after that date. If you haven't made your reservations yet, come join the Florida and Florida Springs Units of the WBCCI at the Cedar Key Sunset Isle RV Park & Motel in Cedar Key, Florida www.cedarkeyrv.com. Call 352-543-5375 or 800-810-1103 to make reservations.

The Sunset Isle RV Park & Motel of Cedar Key, Florida offers the finest and friendliest RV park, campground you'll find in the Cedar Key vicinity. Right on Cedar Key Bay, off the Gulf of Mexico. Fish from a dock right by your campsite or just relax and enjoy the fabulous sunsets.

No need to tow a vehicle, rent a golf carts for your travel-to-town pleasure for shopping, dining, taking some of the fine boat tours around the keys, birding, photographing, or just relaxing, maybe even renting a kayak and exploring on your own.

Your parking fee of \$20.00 per night, includes full hookup, and 30 or 50 amp service. There are no refunds for cancellation, but full credit will be given for future stay.

The rally fee of \$17.00 per person includes: Friday: continental breakfast, potluck dinner and a movie; Saturday: continental breakfast and bar-b-q dinner; Sunday: breakfast.

There will be a Florida Unit Meeting on Saturday to provide guidance to our delegate to International.

Look for the registration coupon at the end of this newsletter.

SOME FINAL NOTES FROM PHIL — BOARD MEMBERS HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY

As I sit here to write this, I am a disappointed president of the Florida Unit. I had hoped that this year we could move ahead as a Unit and become vibrant and fun-filled unit. So far, it has not been so—well, we have had some fun.

In January, I scheduled an Executive Board meeting at the Jacksonville Rally. Unfortunately there were not enough officers present to have a quorum. Those officers that were there, Phil Drugge, Ron Allen, Chris Allen, and Larry Scovotto discussed various matters, but could not vote on anything. Among the matters discussed were changes to the Unit Bylaws that would have made Unit management more efficient. So we tabled the ideas until the Florida State Rally. Again only 4 officers were present (the same four) and no quorum (6) could be had. We have 11 members on the Executive Board and that means that less than half were at the rally.

Now, I know that my next statement is going to make me a very unpopular person, but I think if you accept an office in any organization, then you have an obligation to be at the various functions of the organization, especially the scheduled business meetings. If you can't attend the meetings and Unit functions, then I think you should resign and allow another person who can attend to take your place. That's my personal opinion and I'm sticking to it. Our year is one fourth over and we have been unable to conduct any business.

I will schedule a Unit meeting to be held at Fort Christmas in March. I hope that we can obtain a quorum and conduct some necessary business.

Hope to see you there.

-Phil Drugge



SUNSHINE LIST

Don Clarke sent a note to let us know that a new health issue has surfaced and will limit him for a while. He had a heart catheterization to locate a possible problem—no results yet.

Pat McGee is at home recovering from a heart attack! He says he is on the mend, but it will be awhile before he can get out on the road again.

Keep Don and Pat in your prayers, and everyone travel safe and stay healthy in the days ahead.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT EDITION OF GOOD LIFE NEWS IS 4/25/2012

Please send your editor any articles you have for publication in the May 2012 edition of our newsletter by April 25, 2012. All news and items of interest to members of our Unit are welcome.

Items can be accepted in any format by email at: rgodfrey@cfl.rr.com, or by mail at the following address:
 Randy Godfrey, Newsletter Editor
 2148 Auburn Lakes Dr
 Viera, FL 32955-6764



2012 Calendar

January 9 – 13

Mid Winter IBT; Hattiesburg, MS

January 12 – 16

Unit Rally; Jacksonville, FL

January 28

Unit Luncheon; Palm Bay, FL

February 12 – 19

Florida State Rally; Sarasota, FL

March 14 – 19

Bluegrass Festival Rally; Ft. Christmas, FL

March 30 – April 7

Unit Rally; Big Pine Key, FL

April 24 – 28

Unit Caravan/Region 3 Rally; Myrtle Beach, SC

May 10 – 14

Unit Rally; Cedar Key, FL

May 12

Unit Luncheon & Meeting; Cedar Key, FL

June 25 – July 24

International Rally; Sedalia, MO

October 25 – 29

Unit Rally; Port Orange, FL

October 27

Unit Luncheon, Annual Meeting; Port Orange, FL

November 26 – December 3

Cracker Christmas Rally; Ft. Christmas, FL

November 29

Unit Dinner, Meeting & Installation of Officers for 2013; Ft. Christmas, FL

The "Keys to the Tropics" Rally

March 30 – April 7, 2012

Sunshine Key RV Resort and Marina; 38801 Overseas Highway; Big Pine Key, FL 33043-3518
(305) 872-2217

Directions: From Highway 1, South on Hwy. 1 to Mile Marker 39, Sunshine Key is on the right after the 7 Mile Bridge. GPS Info. (Latitude, Longitude): 24.665, -81.26167

Name(s) _____

Address _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Email _____

WBCCI # ____ Unit # ____

Airstream w/2 people: \$30.00/night x # of nights (1 – 8): \$ _____

Key West Conch Train Tickets: No. ____ @ \$20.00/person: \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Place a check-mark (✓) in the days you are planning to attend:

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

Make checks payable to: **WBCCI Florida Unit** and mail with this coupon and a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Frank Carson, Treasurer
82 Midlane Place
Melbourne FL 32934

Springtime on the Gulf of Mexico Rally

May 10 – 14, 2012

Cedar Key Sunset Isle RV Park & Motel

www.cedarkeyrv.com

11850 SR 24

Cedar Key, FL 32625

352-543-5375 or 1-800-810-1103

Rally Fee: Number persons: _____ x \$17.00 per person = Total \$ _____

WBCCI #: _____ Unit: _____

Name: _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Address: _____

State/Prov: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Place a check-mark (✓) in the day you will be arriving and departing:

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday

Call the RV park and make your site reservations. Cutoff date for reservations is March 15, 2012.

Make checks for the rally fee only, payable to: **WBCCI Florida Unit** and mail to:

Frank Carson, Treasurer
82 Midlane Place
Melbourne, FL 32934

Additional Information: [wbcci3451@me.com](mailto:wbcc3451@me.com) or (386) 405-0160