

GOOD LIFE NEWS

Keys to the Tropics Rally

Many Great Memories for All Who Attended

What a great time Elsie, Dan and I had on our latest Airstream Rally in the Keys! We look forward to going again in the future. Thanks to all who put this trip together, and to all those who attended; collectively we had a great time and thanks to all for being apart of our adventure.

When Elsie and I arrived at Sunshine Key RV Resort my brother Dan had already checked us in, setup his 54 Cruiser, and was ready to go.



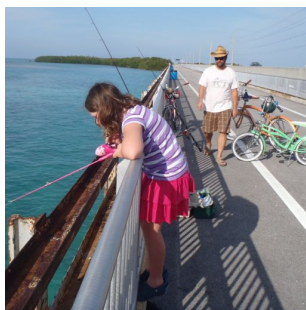
There were a few others there and the rest arrived the following day. At our first happy hour we discussed the Conch Tour and many things the area had to offer.



Photo by Frank Carson

Each shared things they were planning with names and contact numbers. I had a big list of things I was planning for Elsie, Dan and I including: Snorkeling, Fishing, Museums, Kayaking and lots of swimming in the resort pool as well as the daily happy hours with the group.

The first thing we did on our list was to fish from the pier located just off the resort grounds. We rode our bikes down the pier and



fished as the sunset. The fish ate well that day—I didn't think it possible for a fish to suck a shrimp from the shell and leave the shell on the hook without getting caught. We didn't catch enough to keep, but we all had fun.

We did the Conch Train Tour with the group, and

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From Our President

Hello everyone. As you read this, I sincerely hope that 1st, you are healthy and 2nd, that you are dusting off that Airstream and getting ready to Live More, See More, and Do More in the great and beautiful USA and Canada.

Since I last wrote to you a lot has happened in our Unit. We've had two Unit rallies: Bluegrass at Fort Christmas, and Keys to the Tropics at Sunshine Key. Doris and I attended both the Bluegrass and the Keys rallies and enjoyed them both very much. The Keys rally takes some getting to. It was a long drive from The Villages, but we're glad we went. The weather cooperated wonderfully and I think everyone had a real nice time.

There was a large live oak (I think) right between two of our sites and we enjoyed some great Happy Hours, relaxing and chatting in the shade. Those Happy Hours lasted for 3 and 4 hours, so folks must have been enjoying themselves.

Our visit to Key West was enjoyable and the Conch Train ride took us past many interesting spots. We wandered around the "old town" and had lunch at a sidewalk cafe. Conch Fritters are pretty good, but not as good as New England Clam Cakes! Another day took us to the Dolphin Research Center—again, an enjoyable time.

One of the best parts of the rally occurred when Doris and I went down to the little beach next

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A Big Welcome To Our Newest Members!

Joining the Florida Unit as Full Members:

Curtis & Rachel Hargett
 411 Midlane Pl
 Melbourne, FL 32934
rachel.hargett@att.net
 WBCCI #3597

Strait & Dottie Hollis
 18345 Oak Dr
 Eustis, FL 32736
 (352) 589-6609
hollishouse@comcast.net
 WBCCI #TBA



Joining the Florida Unit as Affiliate Members:

Frank Laughlin & Judy Moore
 29129 Johnston Rd, 431
 Dade City, FL 33523
 (302) 545-2260 (Frank)
 (302) 547-1472 (Judy)
judy.moore@hotmail.com
frank.laughlin@att.net
 WBCCI #6482

Norm & Lois Showers
 c/o Jen Wagner
 7 Crestview
 Milton, PA 17847
lshowers@verizon.net
 WBCCI #3380

Curtis and Rachel Hargett, transferred into our Unit from Member At Large (MAL) status. Next time you meet a MAL on the road, encourage them to join our Unit—it will save them money and increases our numbers. We hope to see all our new members at a rally soon.

WBCCI Florida Unit

President

Phil Drugge #4941
 (352) 751-4597
pedrugge@comcast.net

Recording Secretary

Position Open

Treasurer

Frank Carson #23343
 (321) 704-2568
fc23343@aol.com

First Vice President

J. Ron Allen #3433
 (904) 221-5086
ronchrisallen@bellsouth.net

Second Vice President

Larry Scovotto #3451
 (386) 441-4323
wbcci3451@mac.com

1-Year Trustee

Chris Allen #3433
 (904) 221-5086
ronchrisallen@bellsouth.net

1-Year Trustee

Victor Smith #6782
 (321) 984-7676
heartofglory1@aol.com

2-Year Trustee

Daniel Maciejczyk #1279
 (571) 309-1008
oldtruckfarm@prodigy.net

2-Year Trustee

Tom Maciejczyk #2453
 (727) 345-5851
tmaciejczyk@yahoo.com

Corresponding Secretary

Joan Carson #23343
 (321) 704-2568
fc23343@aol.com

Membership Chairperson

Joan Carson #23343
 (321) 704-2568
fc23343@aol.com

Legislative Chairperson

Frank Carson #23343
 (321) 704-2568
fc23343@aol.com

Immediate Past President

Willard Pickrel #6242
 (352) 637-3867
seahawk@tampabay.rr.com

Newsletter Editor

Randy Godfrey #7591
 (321) 432-1934
rgodfrey1@cfl.rr.com

Webmaster

Victor Smith #6782
 (321) 984-7676
heartofglory1@aol.com

http://www.airstream-adventures.com/FU/Florida_Unit.html

KEYS TO THE TROPICS RALLY (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

enjoyed the sites Key West has to offer. The tour ends at Mallory Square where we continued our tour with a visit to the Ship Wreck Museum. We had lunch at 2



Photo by Frank Carson

Friends Restaurant near the Square—good food and smoothies—we meandered to the other end of Duval St. checking out the shops, looking for sunglasses, ice cream, and maybe a beer or two for Dan



and I. We went to the Butterfly Nature Conservatory and to the Most Southern End of the Continental US. We caught the bus back to the parking garage and home to the Airstreams, happy hour, and pool.

We went fishing on a small local fishing charter boat from the campground. Our guide, “Jersey Bob” took us to a local fishing hole between a pair of bridges. He supplied all the gear and bait. It was a short trip but we caught fish! We all had a great time and got to experience another facet of the many things to do in the Keys.

Our big ticket adventure item was snorkeling. Finally the offshore weather had cleared enough to make our ½ day trip 8 miles offshore to Looe Key to snorkel. We arrived at the outfitters and 9:00 a.m. and got directly on the dive boat. It was about a 30-minute ride out to Looe Key which is rated the best reef in the US and 8th in the world for diving or snorkeling. Once there and anchored we immediately got wet and swam our way around the reef looking at the fish, coral and marine life. This was Elsie’s first time snorkeling offshore and she did great—fearless! We saw two Sharks, a few big Barracudas, and she was swimming after them to get pictures!



Well, that’s my short review. We did a lot of things and had a great time. Each day we would get together at about 4:00 p.m. for happy hour and share the day’s adventures with the rest of the group.

There was always food and drinks and lots of stories of great times had by all. The day following our



Photo by Frank Carson

fishing trip I took the filets of the fish we caught and made fish nuggets to share with the group at happy hour. They were good and went fast! Nothing beats good food and good company; especially the company you find in our Airstream Unit. Thanks to all for the many memories made here at our Keys Rally. Elsie, Dan and I look forward to the Keys again next year and hope this will become one of our regular rally destination for a while.

—Tom Maciejczyk, photos by Tom, Dan, and Elsie Maciejczyk



FROM OUR PRESIDENT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

to the campsites and I went and dunked myself in the ocean. I haven't been in for quite while and it was kind of nice to get salt water in my nose!

Frank and Joan did a fine job setting up the rally and the price was great. We got the off-season rate of \$30.00 a day. The high season rate is near \$100.00. Frank has scheduled a rally for next year around the same time. I urge you to come on down. God willing, we'll be there.

The Region 3 Rally has come and gone and as much as we wanted to go to Myrtle Beach, health issues kept us home. We've been there quite a few times in the past and really enjoy it. I was looking forward to another dunk in the ocean! Our 1st VP Ron Allen took over my President's duties at the rally and I thank him for that.

I recently sent out a lot of information on the issues that will be discussed and voted on at the International Rally. I urge you to read over the material and if you have any questions, to call or send them to me. I'll do my best to answer them. After you have read this material, **I need you to let me know how you want me to vote on the issues.** I want to have a sense of how our Unit feels so that I can go the International and make good choices for all of us.

We need a Recording Secretary for our Unit. Unfortunately, Luann Carra had to resign due to conflicts with her work. We are already missing you Luann, and we wish you well. The Unit

Recording Secretary takes notes at the Unit and Executive Board meetings. It's not really a difficult job, just an important one that needs doing. If you think you can help out with this, please call or email.

Recently, Ron and Chris Allen went to visit Dave and Betty Wenger. Dave has the "Hopper" at his place in Maitland, and the group made a good inventory of the contents. For those of you who don't know, the "Hopper" is an enclosed utility trailer, made by Airstream, that holds our inventory of rally supplies. This includes, cooking utensils of all descriptions, coffee pots, plasticware, flags, etc. The complete inventory will be on our website soon if you want to look at it. It's our stuff! We didn't have an inventory and we needed one. Thanks guys!

Now I'm willing to bet that some of us may have some Unit stuff at home. If you do, please let Larry Scovotto or one of our Trustees know about it so it can be included on the list. I have asked Larry, as 2nd VP, to work with the trustees in maintaining the inventory. This responsibility will be handed on to the next 2nd VP and trustees as new ones come on board each year.

And finally, a note about me. As most of you know I have been plagued with cancer now for some five years or so. Seems like every year a new bit pops up and this year is no exception. During a routine PET scan, a small mass was discovered in my lower back near my right kidney, my only kidney, so I had to have

a biopsy. Today [5/4/12] we went to the oncologist for results. As the mass is near my kidney, it is related in some way to the kidney's, renal cells, and we must be careful. Conventional chemotherapy is considered to be ineffective for this, surgery is also out. I may have radiation, but that still has to be discussed among the doctors. I will be taking a pill, for the rest of my life or until they come up with something better that prevents the mass from growing. That works for me. The side effects aren't too bad, and if they are, there are other pills that do the same thing that might work out better.

We are still planning to go to the International Rally in June/July and then God willing, do some traveling out west. For the moment though, I am lying low, waiting to see how the pills affect me—they had to special order them, and I probably won't get them for a week. (That's because I'm the President)

Now, all of you with no real serious health issues today, dust off the trailer and get out of Dodge! Take that trip, go see the relatives (they can't be that bad), use that Airstream for what it was made for! In the words of Dinah Shore, "SEE THE USA"

And, it is not too late to sign up for the International Rally in Sedalia MO. Come join us and the Allen's for a great rally.

God Bless You all.

-Phil Druggie

Our Next Event in 2012

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 has passed, but space may still be available. 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. Call 352-543-5375 or 800-810-1103 to make reservations. Please call Larry Scovotto at (386) 405-0160 if you are planning to attend at this late date, so he can include you in the plans.

Your parking fee of \$20.00 per night, includes full hookup, and 30 or 50 amp service. 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. Hope to see you there.

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

For one reason or another, Doris and I had never been to the Bluegrass Rally at Fort Christmas until this year. We finally made it, albeit a day or so late, but in time for "pork pulling!" It's a lot quieter than Cracker Christmas as there are less vendors and the activities are geared toward enjoying Bluegrass music.

Most of us had some time to spend as docents at the various exhibits and Doris and I took our familiar spot at the schoolhouse. Where would you expect a retired teacher to go? The weather on Saturday and Sunday was great and I spent a lot of time in a rocking chair between the two rooms on the breezeway. There was a nice breeze blowing, and I could hear the music playing about 100 yards away—it was really relaxing. Many of the visitors commented on the nice breeze and how pleasant it was on the porch.

The rally attendees were: Ron & Chris Allen, Gary & Lynn Brink, Don & Joy Father, Dale Edwards, Willard Pickrel, George & Pam Millis, Dave & Betty Wenger, Frank & Joan Carson, Phil &

Doris Drugge, Ed & Marion Krajewski, Charles & Jackie Whittington, and Don Benham.

We were a little short on people because of illness, but Charles and Frank did the pancake breakfasts for everyone on Saturday and Sunday. Betty and Dave took care of the other breakfasts. We had a Wednesday supper, Friday pot luck, Saturday pot luck. We had 10 meals at a fee of \$10.00 per person and we broke even which ain't bad. Most of the buildings were staffed by docents from our membership.

Ron Allen ended up driving Don Benham and his trailer home, because Don came down with pneumonia. (Chris drove their's home.) When he dropped him off, the neighbors called 911 and had him taken to the hospital. Like the trooper he is, he stayed and worked and never said anything, just coughed a lot.

Thanks to Frank and Joan Carson, our rally hosts, for another good rally. Doris and I may have to go back next year.

-Phil Drugge and Frank Carson-

REGION 3 RALLY; APRIL 24 - 26; MYRTLE BEACH, SC

The Region 3 Rally at Ocean Lakes Campground has come and gone. Chris and I found the campground to be very nice: concrete pads with full hook up, WIFI, and located right on the ocean. There were two pools, one heated where some of the ladies of Region 3 took advantage of the morning aerobics class. There was also a huge recreation room with a stage and more than enough room for all our folks. All 19 Units of the Region were represented with 141 motorhomes and trailers attending. The area offered all types of en-

tertainment, mini-golf, theaters with live shows, and helicopter rides to mention just a few.

The Florida Unit was represented by Dave & Betty Wenger, Ron & Chris Allen, and affiliate members Gary & Lynn Brinks. Chris and I were asked to host a seminar for First Timers. Instead of having a formal setting in the recreation room we invited all to our trailer and had an early morning happy hour. We gave each participant a copy of the First Timer article that Phil Drugge wrote. After

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 REGION 3 RALLY; APRIL 24 – 26; MYRTLE BEACH, SC (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

talking longer than I'm sure they wanted me too, we simply let the First Timers ask any questions. Dave, Betty, Gary, and Lynn were wonderful working with the "newbies." We had planned for 30 minutes and broke up after 2 hours.

In true Airstream style there were plenty of meals provided: pancake breakfast, oatmeal & ice cream breakfast, a boxed lunch, pot luck with grilling, Dutch Oven desserts, and a catered banquet with ribs, chicken, and fish on the last evening. Of course there was lots of ice cream bars distributed after each evening event.

Entertainment included Leon Jacobs who generated high energy music with gospel roots and Dennis Smith, a masterful entertainer who provided wonderful music and hilarious story telling. He also introduced us to his 8-year old granddaughter who added tremendously to the show with her stage presence and beautiful voice. Saturday morning had us all eager to find the best buys at the Region 3 Flea Market held right in the park.

Business abounds with the Region 3 Seminar and meeting where all members were invited and encouraged to add their input. Many topics were discussed including the Constitution and Bylaw Changes. The *Readers Digest* version of the Business Meeting was that the Region 3 Board suggested to the members that they all return to their units and discuss what they want their delegates to do. Either vote YES or NO on the Constitution and Bylaw revisions at the International Rally. Or, give the delegate the ability to vote his or her conscience at International. The latter was strongly recommended because normally a more concise clarification is presented to the delegates at International. The Board did caution that should you choose for the Delegate to vote his or her conscience make sure their thought on the issues are similar to yours. The meeting was followed by the Region 3 Board Members voting for the Region 3 Officers for 2013.

-J. Ron Allen

 THE NEW AND IMPROVED FLORIDA STATE RALLY COMING IN 2013

From the Director of the 2013 Florida State Rally

The Florida State Rally for 2013 will be bigger and better than ever! The rally theme is A Salute To Our Armed Forces; the colors are red, white and blue.

We are making major changes. The rally will start on Wednesday Feb 13, 2013 and end on Monday Feb 18, 2013, Presidents Day. The date change will provide the weekend attendees with a complete rally experience. BatesRV will be there with the 1st Annual Sarasota RV Super Show. Airstream, Inc will present. There will be seminars, a Trade Show, and much, much more.

Visit our new Florida State Rally Website at www.floridastaterally.org to see all the great things we are doing to expand and improve the rally. You can now register on-line for your convenience!

We look forward to seeing you at the NEW FLORIDA STATE RALLY.

-Vic Smith

 THE KEYS TO THE TROPICS RALLY FOR 2013

Frank Carson reports that The Keys Rally is on for next year. Mark your calendars for April 4 – 11, 2013. Same location, same price, and reservations are a must.

The daily fee will be \$30.00 per night. Easter early next year, so seven nights were reserved beginning on April 4. Preliminary plans are to charge a \$5.00 per person rally fee, then have a hot dog supper on the first night, with potato salad, etc.

Watch for more details and how to make your reservations in a coming newsletter.

 THANK YOU'S TO THE FLORIDA UNIT

We received two letters, one from the Orange County Parks and Recreation thanking the Unit for volunteering at the Cracker Christmas, one from the All Faiths Food Bank for our donation at the Florida State Rally, and a Holiday greeting card thanking us for helping out the Fallin' Pines Critter Rescue Inc. Space prohibits publishing them in this newsletter, but they are viewable on our website.

Our volunteer work is just part of what makes the Florida Unit a great unit to belong to. You are all encouraged to participate in our activities that bring enjoyment to our membership and aid to the communities in which we live.

-Vic Smith for Josie Smith, Florida Unit Historian-

 MEMBERSHIP NOTES
Donald Clarke

I wanted to say thank you to everyone that sent me their kind words and thoughts and prayers while I was under going the latest event in my life. I am doing well, and I am on the mend, and looking forward to attending some of the Unit's functions in the future. Thank you all for all the work that you do for the unit. As always, I send my very best regards to all the members and their families.

-Don-

Lil and Pat McGee

I want to let you know what is going on at the McGee's home. January 30 I started with a heart attack, so that had me in the hospital for 4 days. Then doctors, doctors, and more doctors. Then it was Lil's turn with a stroke, so that was three more days in the hospital. I think she is doing great for having a big stroke, but she thinks she should be all over and back to the way it was it was before this. So now it is my turn next for a defibrillator. That is all the news for now.

-Lil and Pat-

 SOME FINAL NOTES FROM PHIL

This newsletter is an important one because it is the last time we have to talk before I have to represent you at International. I hope that you have read my lengthy email on the issues and perhaps even read some of the additional information. Please call me if you need more information.

Last year in DuQuoin, the revised Constitution for the WBCCI came up. Because it was late in getting out to the membership, action on this was postponed until this year. Last year we also voted on the Denco Amendment to the Constitution. This is now being ratified by the units. Our Unit voted to approve the amendment last November and (there was some confusion) the result of the vote has now been sent to WBCCI.

This year a vote will be taken on the revised Constitution. This is proposed Amendment One to our current Constitution. There is also an Amendment Two, that if passed would change the wording of our Constitution to allow Life Members to replace their aging Airstream motor homes with a

Thor branded product. As a member of the Florida Unit and the WBCCI, you should read the new Constitution and proposed Amendment Two, and decide how you want me to vote.

There seems to be a lot of opposition to the new Constitution, and I tend to agree. There is also a lot of opposition to Amendment Two. In 2007, 87% of the WBCCI voted NO on this, and here it is again. I am not trying to make up your mind for you, but just letting you know about where I stand. It is up to you to decide for yourself.

Because of my health issues, I had to cancel the Unit Meeting scheduled for May 12th at the Cedar Key Rally. I asked our newsletter editor to put a ballot and voting instructions in this newsletter [see last page] so that I can hear your voice. I will count the votes and vote according to the wishes of the Unit. The results of the voting will be published in the next newsletter. If you have any questions about this matter, please contact me. I look forward to hearing your voice and/or your vote.

-Phil Drugge-



SUNSHINE LIST

Sue Mount has had surgery and is doing well.

Phil Drugge has been having health problems and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Marilyn Blasdell has been suffering with an inner ear problem. She fell and broke her wrist. She hopes to attend the May Rally.

Don Benham is recovering from pneumonia.

Phyllis Azeredo was in the hospital because of a slight stroke. She fell while in the hospital and hurt her back. She is recovering from back surgery.

Tex Ritter had cataract surgery.

Joan Carson continues to do well with her new knee but is now dealing with dental problems.

Keep our members on the "disabled list" in your prayers, and everyone travel safe and stay healthy in the days ahead.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT EDITION OF GOOD LIFE NEWS IS 6/25/2012

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

Your newsletter editor will be on the road, traveling to join the WBCCI Alaska Caravan, so items can only be sent by email to: rgodfrey@cfl.rr.com.

Email in most any form is acceptable: text files (.txt, .rtf), Word documents (.doc, .docx), Pages documents (.pages), photos (.jpg). Send photos at large or medium size so I can scale them to fit in the newsletter as needed.



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

ISSUES TO BE VOTED ON BY THE DELEGATES AT INTERNATIONAL

Please mark this ballot and return **no later than June 1, 2012** by US Mail to:

Phil Drugge
1102 Davenport Dr
The Villages, FL 32162

You may also email your votes on these issues to Phil at pedrugge@comcast.net. If emailing your response, please include your full name, WBCCI Number, and identify your vote on each issue by number. Email responses must also be received by June 1, 2012.

Call Phil at ((352) 751-4597 if you have any questions.

I. Should our WBCCI Constitution be amended to replace it in its entirety with the revised Constitution as proposed by Amendment 1?

_____ YES _____ NO _____ Abstain*

II. Should our WBCCI Constitution, Page 2, Article VI, Section 2, be amended by Amendment 2 to include the following text: "Regular Members who are Life Members may, upon request, retain their membership as Regular Members if they replace their Airstream manufactured recreational vehicle with a Class A motor home manufactured by a division of Thor Industries, Inc., the parent company of Airstream, Inc."

_____ YES _____ NO _____ Abstain*

III. The WBCCI Florida Unit delegate to the Delegates Meeting at the 2012 International Rally in Sedalia, MO may "Vote His Conscience" on any other amendments or issues that are brought to the floor of the meeting.

_____ YES _____ NO _____ Abstain*

_____ Name (please print) _____ WBCCI Number

_____ Signature

* Note: According to Robert's Rules of Order, a vote to Abstain means that you have no opinion and agree to accept the majority opinion on the issue.