

GOOD LIFE NEWS

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 2

FLORIDA UNIT 027

FEBRUARY 2007

The President's Letter

I am writing this just after the tornado outbreak in central Florida. I have tried to touch base with folks that were in the areas that were affected. As near as I can tell, our folks fared OK. Our hearts and thoughts go out to those who have suffered loss.

On a lighter note, it's February, and that means the annual Florida State Rally in Sarasota. To quote Frank Carson, "Where can you go in the state of Florida, at the height of the season, at one of the most popular resort cities, for \$135.00 for almost a week including parking, entertainment, food, games, seminars, and a chance to be with your friends and your new friends?" He is absolutely right. It is second in size only to the International with 400-500 Airstreams attending. I encourage everyone to attend. The weekend 3 day price is \$80.00. You can spend that much on a meal for 3 at the Outback and not have nearly as much fun. Join us there!

I just received a letter from the Region 3 president, TomTisdell, reminding us that every 5 years we have to review our Constitution and Bylaws and submit them to the IBT for review and approval. I will be looking for a couple of volunteers to go over those documents so that they are in agreement with those of WBCCI and make recommendations for change. So, if you see me coming at you, don't run away. I may not be looking for you to volunteer.....but then again.

Our next big Florida Unit sponsored rally is the St. Augustine Easter Rally. For the last 10 years or so, Frank and Joan Carson have been the driving force behind that rally, doing all the planning and preparations. Frank is looking for three or four people (it will take that many to replace Frank and Joan) who may take over the rally. Frank has built up a fantastic rapport with the St. Augustine merchants and planners for the Easter Parade. He has been knighted by the St. Augustine Royal Family. That rapport will make the job of the new rally planners a much easier task. The proceeds from the Easter Rally allow the Florida Unit to provide rallies that are much more affordable for our members. If you are a good organizer and would like to make a highly valuable contribution to the unit, contact either Frank or me.

We have a new website. Our current website is ably administered by Frank Carson and will remain an integral part of the new one. Frank keeps us informed of the latest information affecting the Unit via e-mail. The new site provides links to Frank's website, The Good Life News newsletter, the Region 3 newsletter, a current list of unit officers, the current year's rally schedule with a link to rally applications that can be sent to your printer, past rally pictures, and links to the websites for the WBCCI, Region 3, the Vintage Airstream Club, and Airstreamforums.com. The URL is:

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

I am the webmaster for the site. Please send me pictures you take at rallies with captions if you would like to see them on the new website. All comments and suggestions are welcomed.

Vic Smith, President, Florida Unit

Daytona Reviewed

Tom and Ann Moore were knowledgeable hosts of the Daytona Rally and planned many different activities to keep us busy during the 6 days we spent in their territory. Those of you who didn't attend missed a fine time.

The weather started out cold but improved the rest of the days. This time there was no 24 hour race at the track to disturb our slumbers.

Moore's are movers and shakers in the Daytona area. Tom has lived there all his life so he is familiar with the people who are involved in operating some of the venues we visited.

There was a small museum downtown in a restored bank building that told the story of Daytona's history. The Museum of Arts and Sciences was full of interesting artifacts. One display was from the Smithsonian which featured a gold plated trash can and mail box, a jeweled mousetrap, and a gold Monopoly set.

Some visited the Daytona Race Track with a conducted tour of the facility. Others took in the lighthouse and the marine museum nearby.

The cruise on the Halifax was like other boat trips, relaxing with no hype. A spokesman pointed out features of interest involving the city. We also spotted Moore's riverside house where we were to be entertained for dinner later that evening.

Tom and Ann live in the home Tom's grandfather built on the river in 1913. They have modernized it some with an addition and revamped kitchen, but its older elegance has not been changed. The dinner was excellent, and the Moore's hospitality very gracious.

Sunday brought about a boat ride at De Leon Springs State Park when we learned about the flora and fauna. Only one manatee was in the

springs water because the river water was warm enough.

We finished our excursion at the park with brunch on the griddles set in the midst of our tables. That's always a highlight of the rally.

Larry and Marie Moser need to be thanked for serving the continental breakfasts each morning, and Pat Finn too, though not present, for buying the goodies. Tex Ritter gave to us all the ruby red grapefruit we could manage.

Tom furnished a tent under which we had our breakfasts and happy hours each day. It was a nice addition to our comfort.

Those who attended the rally from our unit were: Dave & Betty Wenger, Tom & Ann Moore, Henry Lappen & Kitty Haggerty, Ron & Chris Allen (first Florida Unit rally), Charles & Jackie Whittington, Larry & Marie Moser, Earl & Helen Legget, Joe & Ellen McMillan, Frank & Joan Carson, and Tex and Betty Ritter.

Three couples read about the rally and decided to join the occasion. They were: Dreg & Cindi Halpin and Howard & Braith Eldridge of the DC Unit, and Robert & Amy Olson of the Piedmont, SC Unit. We welcomed their attendance.

Many thanks go to Ann and Tom Moore for their planning and hospitality. Those who were at the rally had a grand time.

In Re the Blue Grass Festival

The correct dates for the festival are March 14 to 19, 2007. The rally fee is \$6.00 per person, and reservations may be mailed to Frank Carson now or he will accept your money at the Sarasota Rally. Friday, Saturday and Sunday are free for members who can only make the weekend but please notify Frank.

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Excerpts from IBT Report

After the IBT meeting that was held at Perry, GA 1-19-07, Gene Post wrote for "Pirate Patter", the Florida Treasure Coast newsletter, an extensive summary of the actions that took place. With the permission of that editor, a condensed version is being printed here.

Committee reports:

The Family & Youth Chairman reported the kids love the new youth/teen website.

The Common Cents program has reached \$15,000 and now will go to the selected family.

The 1st vice president reported that the contract with Bozeman, MT for 2008 has been signed.

The International Relations Chairman reported the Cape Town to Cairo caravan for 25 units is full with a standby list started.

The Membership Chairman reported the membership is down 5% to 6699.

The Electric Communications Study Committee reported there is now capability for each unit to have a web page on WBCCI.NET. A program will be ready by June for training.

Actions voted on and passed:

The 2nd vice president was authorized to sign a contract for the 2009 International to be held in Madison, WI.

At the International, "all animals" will be permitted in the general parking area. It also directed the rally committee to provide an animal area on grass for those who desire to park there. Because the next two rallies will be parked on black top or concrete paving, it could be harmful to the dogs.

A completely re-written Bylaws Appendix 6 that details content of unit constitutions and bylaws was approved.

(Our B & C as mentioned in Vic's letter will need renovation in 2007.)

Consolidation of more than two units is permitted.

A motion was passed directing a committee be established to present a motion at the next Delegates Meeting (June 27, 2007) to amend the Constitution so that people purchasing Class A motor homes manufactured by Four Winds Inc. (including Mandalay division) be permitted membership in the club. All such members' motor homes would be required to have an "Airstream Edition" decal or similar form of identification applied by an authorized dealer or at the manufacturer's facility.

There were 23 committee reports and 19 motions submitted from which 8 were withdrawn for various technical reasons.

On the Subject of Changes

One of the toughest things a membership chairman or a newsletter editor has to do is keep addresses and phone numbers up to date. With the advent of cell phones and e-mail addresses plus summer and winter addresses, it becomes an enormous task.

We need your help. When there is a change in any of the above information, please let us know via e-mail or snail mail asap. We don't want you to miss out on any information we have to pass on to you.

Thanks for the Information

Change Larry and Linda Scovotto's e-mail address to: [wbcci3451@mac.com](mailto:wbccci3451@mac.com).

Change Larry and Marie Moser's e-mail address to: Imoser@cfl.rr.com.

GOOD LIFE NEWS

To All Florida Unit Members

On behalf of the Florida State Board of Governors, I welcome you to the Florida State Rally in Sarasota, the largest state rally in the country, and second in size only to the International.

For those that have been there before, you pretty much know about the rally except for the fact that each year it gets better. Those of you that have never been there, you are in for a treat. Not only will you be going to one of the best state rallies in the country, you will be treated to a free luncheon for our members by your Florida Unit. Hopefully it will be held at a time you will be there.

Where may you go in the state of Florida, at the height of the season, at one of the most popular resort cities, for \$135.00 for almost a week including parking, entertainment, food, games, seminars, and a chance to be with old friends and make new ones? Our unit will make you feel welcome. Remember, there is a weekend rate, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, of \$80.00 based on two people per unit for those that work or have children.

We look forward to seeing you at Sarasota.

Frank Carson, President
Florida State Board of Governors

In Re Florida State Rally

Unit president, Vic Smith, needs two to decorate the food barrel at the rally. Please volunteer. He needs your help. Let him know you are willing.

As has been done before, you may want to donate money instead of food to the Sarasota Food Bank. They can buy food cheaper than we can, so cash will go further.

Check the bulletin board for the unit get together and sign up. A discussion of the WBCCI amendments will be held at the time.

Pot Pourri

From Betty Mariano: "We have had a very stressful time since we came south. Last year we lost our place due to flooding. Since we own the land in this park we had to demolish the unit. Insurance wish we had to put on a new unit. The stress of the past 3 years and the politics involved got Ralph worn down. He has been very sick with the worst case of Shingles for over 5 weeks now. Hopefully he is getting past the worst of it."

Ralph has our best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery.

Via Frank Carson: "Dometic is still in the initial stages of this recall. Any actions we take must be approved through and in conjunction with The National Highway Safety Admin. When the recall corrections have been approved, Dometic will let the customers know promptly."

Bill and Nancy of nareke@earthlink.net are looking for a preowned 26 to 29' Airstream trailer, tow capacity of 7800#. You may contact them via e-mail or 616-893-1578.

Websites you might like to check out:

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

<http://hometown.aol.com/fc23343/myhomepage/personal.html>

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