

GOOD LIFE NEWS



VOLUME 8 ISSUE 5

FLORIDA UNIT 027

DECEMBER 2007

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Betty and I are looking forward to leading the unit this year, and we appreciate your confidence in us. Since the members of our unit are so helpful and supportive of one another, this should be a great year of our working and traveling together. We will appreciate your help.

Our Ft. Christmas rally was a great success. Several of our attendees were at the rally for the first time, and some were attending their very first Airstream rally. We want to welcome the new folks into the activities of the unit.

At our short business meeting, we learned the bylaws of WBCCI decree that Airstream owners who are not WBCCI members may not attend a buddy rally. Though the wisdom of the rule was questioned, our bylaws have to agree with WBCCI's.

Tom Tisdell and Jackie presided over the installation of our new officers. We thank them for their services and for their associate membership in our unit. We also want to thank those who make up the executive committee. Your assistance in leading the Florida Unit will be much appreciated by Betty and me.

Ft. Christmas was celebrating their 30th year of running the craft show. In appreciation of the unit's support and help over the last number of years, each volunteer was given a special "goody bag" which contained an apron (for pork pulling, no doubt), a coffee mug, and a souvenir pin. These were much appreciated by the folks.

Our thanks goes out to **Larry Scovotto** who has procured the sponsorship of **JD Sanders RV Center** in Alachua, Florida. The dealer will provide T shirts, with the two new emblems Larry designed, to all of our unit members without cost. Our gratitude to the dealer for his generosity and support. With our new apparel, the Florida Unit members will be recognized as being from the same unit.

Next on the list of activities for the unit is the **Daytona Rally**. It will be held Jan. 9 to the 13th, 2008. **Tom Moore** is hosting the rally. He had a busy and fun filled schedule last year which Betty and I enjoyed. There won't be any races while we are parked in the campground adjacent to the Daytona Raceway so we won't be disturbed by the roar of the engines. Use the registration form in this issue. There isn't much time till the rally.

Betty and I want to wish you a wonderful Christmas holiday season and a very Happy New Year!

Dave Wenger, President



2007 Cracker Christmas Rally Review

by Vic Smith

For those who don't know about the Cracker Christmas Rally, every year the Florida Unit volunteers to help the Orange County Parks and Recreation employees at Fort Christmas get ready for the annual Cracker Christmas Festival.

We set tents, sweep, clean and decorate the period houses and the fort, direct the parking of the vendor vehicles, pull pork for the barbeque, sell sodas, docent the many late 1800s Florida homes, help serve food for the volunteers, and anything else the rangers need including playing Santa Claus.

It is great fun, and we have been told over and over by the employees that without our help, they would not be able to run this activity. It is extremely rewarding. This year, over 22,000 people attended the festival.

The rally fee ranges from \$15 to \$20 per person for six nights of parking using rally electric and water. For that small price one gets 5 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners, 6 nights of parking, and all the work and fun you can stand. We do it again in March on a smaller scale for the Bluegrass Festival at Fort Christmas.

Included in the fee is the opportunity to visit a local point of interest. This year we went to the Warbird Museum at the Tico Airport in Titusville. It features vintage airplanes, some restored to flying condition.

The 2007 Cracker Christmas was a resounding success as usual. We had 22 Airstreams with 40 folks attending, and a total of 428.5 volunteer hours. A big thank you to all the volunteers for a job exceedingly well done.

On Thursday there was the Installation Dinner, a delicious meal prepared by Wood's Barbeque, and delivered by **Wray and Pat Finn**. It was followed by a business meeting at which we discussed amending our bylaws to allow non-member Airstream owners to attend a buddy rally in hopes of recruiting them into membership. A committee was formed to see about amending the WBCCI bylaws to make it possible.

A motion from **Frank Carson** was introduced to allow the dates for the International be set by the incoming president so they would not include the 4th of July. His motion was amended so that the 2nd vice president would have the option because venues are selected three years in advance. It will be forwarded in the proper manner.

Saturday and Sunday were gorgeous. Over 150 vendors sold their wares, demonstrators demonstrated their period talents, reenactors reenacted their special events, and we sold sodas, tended the houses in "late 1800's" garb, And **Vic Smith** played a convincing Santa.

See the photos in the **GALLERY** on our website at: www.airstream-adventures.com/FU/Florida_Unit.html.



Josie & Vic Smith

Folks, it doesn't get any better than this. It is Fun, Fellowship **and** Adventure all rolled into one event

Daytona Rally Next

It will be time to take a break for yourself after the holiday hustle and bustle. **Tom and Ann Moore** have planned an enjoyable set of activities for you while you recover from this season's rush.

The rally fee of \$25 per person includes 2 continental breakfasts, a special Omelet Breakfast at the campground, dinner at Moores' home, and the Marine Discovery Boat Tour.

On the schedule are the Museum of Arts and Sciences, the Halifax Historical Museum, the Living Legends Museum, the New Smyrna Museum of History, and the New Smyrna Black Heritage Museum, some with admission fees.

Also there is the Daytona Flea Market, the Daytona Experience Tour, and the Lighthouse Tour.

A registration form and the directions to the campground are included in the newsletter. Don't delay in sending in your form; the rally will be here before you realize it.



Your rally hosts,
1ST VP and
Mate,
Ann
and Tom
Moore

Many Thanks

The editor would like to take this opportunity to thank **Vic Smith** for his collage contributions and his prompt president's letters. His quick delivery in answer to my requests made my job much easier.

Now **Dave Wenger** is following in the same path. His cooperation is much appreciated.

Given Identity

The **JD Sanders RV Center** in Alachua, FL is giving us T-shirts with new Florida Unit emblems, designed by **Larry Scovotto**, on them. They will let others know that the folks that are wearing them belong to each other and will identify us as a unit.



This is what folks will see facing us.



This is what folks will see when we turn around.

Vic Smith needs your sizes ASAP. The shirts come in sizes Small, Medium, Large, XLarge and XXLarge. Either e-mail him or send him a letter with your choices. His address is:

Victor L. Smith
1186 Port Malabar Blvd NE
Palm Bay, FL 32905-5143

Or call him at: 321-984-7676

These T-shirts are free to our members. We want to thank JD Sanders for his willingness to sponsor the Florida Unit and for his generosity in providing the T-shirts.

We also want to thank Larry Scovotto for soliciting the sponsorship and for his wanting to contribute to the benefit of our Unit.

Planning Ahead

It is not too soon to get your registration in for the St. Augustine Easter Rally. The dates are early this year, right after the Bluegrass Festival.

Early parking is on Monday, March 17, and we leave on Monday, March 24.

Joe McMillan is the registrar. He already has a goodly number of folks who don't want to be left out. Use the registration form in the Blue Beret.

Nice to Hear

As a new member of WBCCI and of the Florida Unit #027, I was overwhelmed by the support shown to me by everyone (at the Ft. Christmas Rally).

From the rally parkers to the president of the unit (past and present) everyone made sure I was included in all the activities.

The Park in itself was wonderful and with so much to be done from pulling pork to attending the Cracker homes, great craft show and artisans demonstrating their talents, it really was a lot of fun.

But most important of all were the people I met and became friends with. Thank you all and I hope to see everyone again soon!

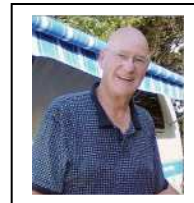


Nancy Scime WBCCI #2514

Welcome to New Members

At the Ft. Christmas rally, besides **Nancy Scime** (she'may), **Tom Tisdell** inducted **Robert and Linda Rude** and **Dick Henderson** into the Unit. **Don and Joy Fathauer** joined as affiliate members.

They have already become active members by volunteering along with the rest of the members to help with Cracker Christmas. We are happy to have them a part of us.



Dick Henderson was also the winner of the Trask table.



Bob & Linda Rude



Don & Joy Fathauer.



Marion & Ed Krajewski became full members after being affiliates for a long time.

We welcome our newest full members to our Unit.

Tom and Iris Mintz
6043 NW 216th St
Starke, FL 32091
904-964-5019
Cell: 904-263-0371
claybuster20@yahoo.com

Vic Smith's Collage of Cracker Christmas



Top Row: Tom Tidel installing Betty Wenger, Earl Leggett, and Joe McMillan as trustees while Ellen McMillan and Jackie Tidel look on.

Tom shaking hands with Dave Wenger as the new president of the Unit.

Tom congratulating Randy & Pat Godfrey as 2nd vice president and mate.

Row Two: Nancy Scime listening to Vicki and Joe of the park.

Happy hour.

Whittlin' Whit Blasdell and Ron Archambo at the fort.

Row Three: Helen Leggett and Marilyn Blasdell docenting at one of the houses.

The headquarters and gift shop.

Pork pulling in the shelter.

Row Four: Santa Claus (Vic Smith)

Jackie Tidel with her Christmas, Florida post mark on her Christmas card.

More pork pulling.

Row Five: Ellen McMillan, Nancy Scime, and Josie Smith in costume.

Jackie and Charles Whittington in front of the house where they were hosts.

More pork pulling!

It doesn't take much for us to have a good time.
If you weren't there, you missed a great experience!



Jackie & Tom Tidel

HAVE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

About Our Members

We were saddened to learn that **Ralph and Betty Mariano** have sold their Airstream. They were faithful affiliates for many years, Ralph helping Earl Leggett with parking, especially the Easter Rally.

Bob and Lane Carpenter have a new address.
3700 S Westport Ave #4023
Souix Falls, SD 57106-6360

The correct e-mail address for **Ron and Alice Archambo** is: ronal_16590@pocketmail.com Don't miss the underscore between ronal and 16590.

Mark Your Calendar

The **Florida State Rally** will be held Feb. 20-25, 2008. The theme is Hawaiian Huki Like.

Rally fees are \$155.00 for two. The weekend price break is \$85.00 for two for those who still work.

The **Region 3 Rally** will be held in Raleigh, NC April 22-26, 2008. For two adults the fee is \$145.00. The weekend fee is \$20.00 per person.

Look for the registration forms in the Blue Beret.

More Folks at Ft. Christmas



Wray Finn & Pat,
recording secretary



Helen & Earl Leggett
Earl is a trustee and
head parker.



Earl & Bev Trask



Patty & Ron
Neunsinger



Jackie & Charles
Whittington



Willard & Jeanne
Pickrell



Alice & Ron Archambo



Ron & Chris Allen



Randy & Pat Godfrey
2nd VP & Mate



Dick Henderson &
Sally Larson



Tom Cotter



Marilyn & Whit

Daytona Rally

January 9-13

Sponsored by the WBCCI Florida Unit 027

Hosted by Tom and Ann Moore

Rally Schedule

- Wednesday: 4:00 pm Happy Hour. Bring drinks only. No food since it is too close to dinner
5:30 pm Dinner on your own. There will be recommendations by Tom and Ann.
- Thursday: 08:00 am – Continental Breakfast
10:00 am - Museum of Arts and Sciences.
<http://www.moas.org/>
Entry Fee: \$10.95/Seniors
12:00 Lunch
1:00 pm – Halifax Historical Museum
<http://halifaxhistorical.org/index.cfm>
Entry Fee: Donation Only
2:30 pm - Living Legends Museum
<http://www.livinglegendsofautoracing.com/>
Entry Fee: Free
5:30 pm – Dinner at Tom and Ann Moore's home
- Friday: 8:00 am – Omelet Breakfast at the campground. Included in Rally Fee
Drive to New Smyrna
10:00 am – Marine Discovery Boat Tour
<http://www.marinediscoverycenter.org/ecotours.htm>
Included in Rally Fee
12:00 Lunch
1:30 pm – New Smyrna Museum of History
<http://www.nsbhistory.org/>
Entry Fee: Free
3:00 pm – New Smyrna Black Heritage Museum
<http://www.museumusa.org/museums/info/1622737>
Entry Fee: Free
Dinner on your own.
- Saturday: 08:00 am - Continental Breakfast
09:30 am - Daytona Flea Market
1:00 pm – Daytona Experience tour.
<http://www.daytonausa.com/>
Entry Fee: \$19.00+tax
3:30 pm – Lighthouse tour
<http://www.ponceinlet.org/planningyourvisit.html>
Entry Fee: \$5.00
Dinner on your own
- Sunday: check out by 11:00 am

The schedule may get shifted around as a result of inclement weather.

Daytona Rally

January 9-13

Sponsored by the WBCCI Florida Unit 027

Hosted by Tom and Ann Moore

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Prov _____ Zip/Postal _____

WBCCI# _____ e-mail address _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

e-mail: _____

Rally Fee:

Site Fee: _____ \$ 100.00

Rally Fee: \$25.00/person: _____ persons \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Make checks payable to: Victor L Smith Registrar
mail to: Victor L Smith 1186 Port Malabar Blvd NE, Palm Bay FL 32905-5143

Rally fee includes Continental Breakfast on Thursday and Saturday, Omelet Breakfast Friday and the Marine Discovery Boat Tour. The remainder of the activities will be pay as you go or are free (see Rally Schedule).

DIRECTIONS TO THE RALLY SITE.

From I-95:

Exit 261 to US 92 (Speedway Blvd) East.

East on US 92 (Speedway Blvd) 2 miles. **Keep to the right lane after passing the main entrance to the Speedway.**

Turn right on Midway Ave. Go 800 feet

then turn Left on Richard Petty Blvd. Go 600 feet

then turn right on Coral Sea Ave. Go 700 feet to entrance to campground on right.

Blasdell