



Trail Blazing Sams 1977-2016

January & February Newsletter 2016

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**January Campout was held at Winter Quarters
January 22nd-23rd (Early Bird 21st)**

Winter Rally was held at Tallahassee

**February 3rd to February 7th
(Early Bird 2nd February)**

January's campout was held January 22. 23. 24, at Winters Quarters, Lutz, Fl., a campground often visited by our chapter. This month the hostess was none other than our Florida State Treasurer Linda Voyton. As a resident of Winter Quarters she was able to obtain accommodation for a maximum of 12 rigs. We actually ended up with 9 rigs, 5 drive-ins and 2 guest families. A few of our members were left out because they did not respond in time indicating they wanted to go the campout. Everybody knows that during the snowbird season available sites are very limited. Linda did a great job organizing the weekend for us. In spite of the miserable wet cold weather we had a fun weekend.



Linda Voyton

we're on the web
www.tbsams.weebly.com

Several of us arrived Thursday for early-bird. After settling in we all went to dinner at Linda's favorite restaurant (**Ukelele Brand's**) and then back to Winter Quarters to play our games of choice. We were all surprised and disappointed to learn that someone broke into the Club House and stole their large screen television. They never did catch the thief and as a result management decided to lock the clubhouse at 9:00 PM. Its really unfortunate that the selfish act of one would cause so many others to suffer. Shame on whoever the guilty party was.

Friday it rained all day thereby washing out any outdoor games. The winds were reported to reach gale force of 40 MPH thereby forcing a couple of our members who were coming across the Skyway Bridge to cancel. Certainly its better to be safe than sorry. Winter Quarters treated us to a very nice welcoming party of wine and snacks. Every time we go to this campground they provide us with a cocktail party. Later in the day we all went to **Chili's** for dinner, Molten Chocolate Cake (specially for Jeannette) and all of the other good stuff. The evening ended once again with card



Some of the group enjoying Chili's

L. to R. Dennis LaPerle/ Linda Voyton/ Richard & Jeannette Ormsby/ Cotton Deal, Juliet Dudinsky. Rita & Ray Turner/ John & Joan Russano/Joanne & Mike Lima/ Ruth & Bill Hemphill/ Al & Lynne Morneault

Happiness

is sharing good food with good friends

Saturday our day started early with a biscuit, sausage and gravy breakfast put on by the residents of Winter Quarters. A great breakfast for \$3.00 which many of our members enjoyed. Our usual Saturday Business Meeting was moved up to 1:00 due to the club house being used for other reasons. There was a neighborhood yard sale but unfortunately mother nature once again did not cooperate so the project was practically washed out.

Saturday afternoon after Happy Hour we all went to a nice little Italian restaurant called Pizza Villa for our evening dinner. For many of us it was the favorite of the three restaurants that we visited that is if you like Italian food.

It was decided by our members to discontinue providing coffee and therefore getting rid of the coffee pots. Last report was that they would be donated, so everybody brought their own coffee and Linda provided us with assorted delicious donuts. We talked about the upcoming Rally in Tallassee. We would only have a few members in attendance. Some felt it was much too far while others were afraid the weather was going to be too cold. As it turned out including the 3 of our members on State Staff we were going to have 12 rigs in attendance.

Weekend was already over and it was time to say good-bye till the next campout.

Editor

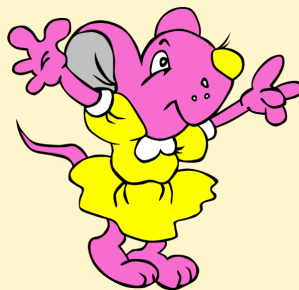
**Richard & Jeannette
Ormsby**

At the Business Meeting Steve and Livia Popovich had met our 3 meeting requirement and requested to become members. They were sworn in by our Assistant State Director Mike and Liz Abrams. Everybody warmly welcomed into our Chapter. For a complete report as to what went on in the meeting, please go to our website www.tbsams.weebly.com. Joanne, Jeannette and Mike make sure all the pictures are posted along with the current roster, Hosting Schedule and other interesting information. If you don't visit our web page you are going to miss out.



Popovich,
Steve & Livia
being sworn in
by Assistant
State Director
Mike & Liz
Abrams

Happy Birthday



February 23rd-Harold Johnson

February 23rd-Livia Popovich

February 27th-John Henning, Jr

March 6th-Gladys Vollick

March 8th-Mike Abrams

March 9th-Caroline Johnson

March 14th-Lynne Morneault

March 29th -Albert Morneault

Happy Anniversary



February 19th- Turners

February 21th- Greseths

February 29th- Murrays

UPCOMING EVENTS

March Campout
18th-20th
Early Bird—17th
Winter Quarters,
21632 State Road 54
Lutz, Fl.,
Hosts:
Johnson
Harold & Caroline

May Campout
(Memorial Day Weekend)
27th- 30th
Early Bird—26th
Hide-A-Way RV Resort
2206 Chaney Dr,
Ruskin, Fl., 33570
(800) 607-2532
Hosts:
Murray
Robin & Mary

Spring Rally **KOA Okeechobee**

4276 US Highway 441 S, Okeechobee, FL 34974

April 6 - April 10, 2016

Early bird April 5th

Theme-MADD HATTERS

Contest: Madd Hatters

Mad Hatter is a hat decorating event using the categories listed below. Any interested participants MUST sign up prior to Saturday's event. You must check-in at registration table on arrival at the event. Participants not signed up prior to the event will not be allowed to enter the competition.

2016 Themes

Beauty School Dropout

Man's Favorite Sport

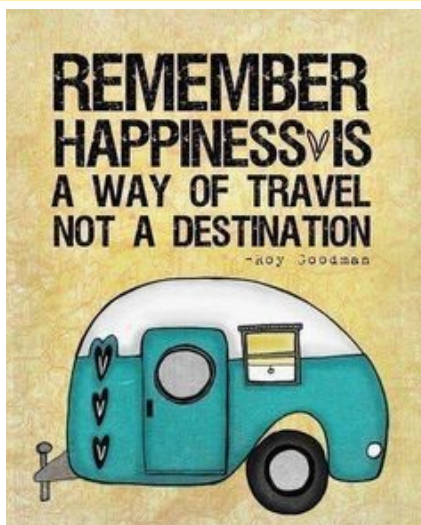
Patriotic

Miscellaneous

Good Sam Events

Expect Good Sam events to be better than ever in 2016 bringing members together in fun and entertaining ways! Good Sam Events offer lots of fun, camaraderie and entertainment for all Good Sam Members—not to mention special rates.

If you are planning to go to a Good Sam Rally just follow the next link to find one . Events@GoodSamClub.com.



*The world is a book, and those who do not
travel read only a page*

"Saint Augustine"

Rally In Tally

February 3rd to February 7th (Early Bird February 2nd)

On to the Rally in Tally. Those that did not go missed out on a really good time. The fairground was very large with spacious sites. Water and electric was very adequate and all activities except for Bocce Ball was held inside in heated buildings. The weather was a bit on the chilly side but it was a very short walk to the buildings where all activities were held in. A nice perk for being Chapter of the Year is having preferred parking.

We started our trip north early Monday morning. Five of us had previously planned meet at Keaton Beach, Fl. We arrived early afternoon and were pleasantly surprised to find our sites backed right up to the water. What a nice campground it was and the lady who owned it couldn't be more accommodating. After a long drive it was very relaxing to sit by the bay and enjoy the warmth and activities of the Gulf. We all had a refreshment or two while we waited for Ken and Linda Kuiken to arrive (had problems with the jacks) and then the ladies put on a very nice candle light pot luck dinner.

"FOOD BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER ON MANY DIFFERENT LEVELS. IT'S NOURISHMENT OF THE SOUL AND BODY; IT'S TRULY LOVE."

GIADA DE LAURENTIIS



Left side: Chuck & Jean Potter/Linda Kuiken/
Jeannette & Richard Ormsby/
Right side: Cotton Deal, Juliet Dudinsky/ Ken
Kuiken/Ray & Rita Turner

to

Tuesday we all caravanned to Tallassee for the Rally. After connecting and registering three of us headed to Walmart to get the water for our sales. At Sambo (and other games) our water team went into action selling water. This activity lasted throughout the week, several members jumped in to help. In spite of the cooler weather our Chapter netted a little over \$100.00 According to our State Director there were over 260 rigs at this Rally. It was disappointing that some of the larger Chapters from our area did not show up however several northern Chapters and out of state visitors and guests made this a successful rally. It was announced that a contract has been signed to return to Tallassee in 2017 & 2018.





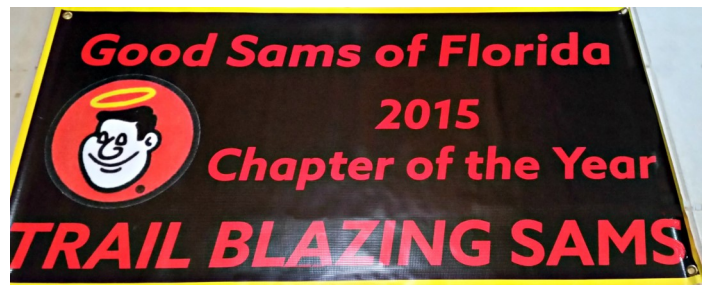
L- R: Chuck Potter, Rita Turner
Dennis LaPerle, Rita Turner, John
Russano, Juliet Dudinsky

On **Wednesday** the Rally got underway with registration for card games, Holly Board, Beanbag Baseball and Bocce Ball. Unfortunately the Chapter, Sandpipers, who for years ran Holly Board and Beanbag Baseball resigned and is no longer taking care of those games. The State has tried to get another Chapter to take them over but so far nobody has come forward, consequently since their sign ups and sign-in for Bocce Ball is done at the same time and same location, we volunteered doing everything. We have given the State notice that we will not do that again. It's just too much for us especially with everything else we do. The card games in the afternoon went smoothly with helpers under the direction of Juliet Dudinsky.

The opening ceremony was held

later in the day. After the parade of Chapters our State Director called TBS up to the front and presented us with a special Chapter of the Year Banner. He also announced that our Chapter has been nominated to be considered for National Chapter of the Year. A very nice honor for us.

This was followed by entertainment
"Jeff Davis and Tired Creek"



After breakfast **Thursday** it was time for "Bean Bag Baseball." Several of our members pitched in to be umpires since the State could only come up with one or two volunteers. After the games and lunch it was time for the balance of the indoor games. The evening found our water team making their way among the Sambo players selling water.

From the back: Bill Conway, Steve Popovich, Joan Russano, Rita Turner (looks like those 3 are planning a strategy) Chuck Potter, Mary Murray, Linda Kuiken, Juliet Dudinsky (Is she praying for her team to win)



Friday started with a breakfast provided by Go See Um Sams and then it was on to Holly Board competition. Once again our members stepped up to help with this game as well. After lunch a very small (two tables) flea sale was held. Our Chapter voted not to participate in this event. The Chapter Business Meeting was held in the afternoon. Very brief but make sure you read the Minutes when posted. We chose to go to a restaurant instead of the cook-out we usually have. That was a chance for a break. The evening program started with the introduction of the State Staff and Out of State Dignitaries. We would be remiss if we didn't pay tribute to the State Staff as well as our State Director, Joe and Debbie Weston. What a great job they do and they once again shield us from any difficulty they encountered. After the Program was completed it was time for our entertainment. The entertainment was very good and kept most everyone in the hall. One thing about being Chapter of the Year we get to sit right down in front making it very difficult to leave even if you wanted to. We don't get to use all those great chair covers that Linda Kuiken made. The entertainment that night was **"Maria Rose and Danny Elswick"**

Saturday's "Bocce Ball" game was moved up to 10:00 AM because of the 34 degree early morning chill. Once it got under way several of the teams that lost shed no tears when they were seen heading back inside for the warmth. But we finished and in spite of the weather we had 22 teams that participated.

In the afternoon it was Rig Site Decoration Judging and Happy Good Sam/Camping World Top Decorating Contest. TBS won 2nd place.



After dinner it was time for the Evening Program. The entertainment was **"Alvarado Road Show"**. Our President John Russano was invited to join them on the stage. Guess he didn't know what he was there for. We had a lot of laughs.



GAME WINNERS FROM OUR CHAPTER

Euchre	Dennis LaPerle
Cribbage	Richard Ormsby, Dennis LaPerle, /Juliet Dudinsky
Holey Board	Richard and Jeannette Ormsby
Rig Decorating	Jeannette Ormsby for TBS

Jeannette placed second in the Rig Decorating Contest resulting in \$35.00 being given to our treasury.

Important Future Events

Make sure you mark your calendar for the **upcoming March Campout** which will be held once again at Winter Quarters on March 18-19th with early bird on the 17th. It's scheduled for a week earlier because the following week is Easter. Your Host/Hostess will be Caroline and Harold Johnson.

The Okeechobee Rally will be held April 6th – 9th with early bird on the 5th. Always a popular event, it will be a sellout so if you are planning on going, get your application in now.

Following the Rally several of our members will be leaving to go to the Locks in Alva, Fl. This will be time to rest, relax, play games and watch the many boats that navigate the canal as they make their way from the east coast to the west. For those who like to fish this is a great place to wet a line.



We're on the web: www.tbsams.weebly.com

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