



TRAIL BLAZING SAMS

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**Volume XXXIII
Issue 2**

**January Campout
21-23rd
Chrystal Isles RV**

Our Hosts

Our Host and Hostess, John and Joan Russano provided us with an absolutely fun weekend with some great food. What a contrast, one night we went south of the border and were treated to a variety of Mexican favorite dishes and then the following evening the theme was Italian and we sampled some of Joan's favorite Italian dishes.



John & Joan Russano

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Our January campout with 19 member rigs, 1 drive in (Harold & Caroline Johnson) and 2 guests (Bob & Reba Ward) was held at Crystal Isles RV Resort, an Encore Super Park located in Crystal River, Florida. Our host and hostess worked very hard to make our stay enjoyable.

Starting this month each host /hostess will rate each campground based on a rating system which will be discussed later in the newsletter.

Several members came in on Thursday and enjoyed going out to dinner at a local restaurant. The rest of us came in Friday just in time to participate in Holey Board and another favorite Crystal Isles activity, "Demise of the No-See-Ums". For those of us that were in the Marine Corps, we had an upper hand in the contest. Parris Island had some similar little creatures called Sand Fleas. There were several participants and the ones with the most bite marks were declared the winners. Jeannette and Jill tied and spent the rest of the day scratching. (still are) We had to stay outside because the clubhouse was being used by the residents and we were not allowed inside until after 6:30 PM .While we were enjoying an extended So-

cial Hour, Joan and her helpers were busy in the kitchen preparing our Mexican evening meal



Judy Magedanz, * Joan Russano, Lorraine Zecher, * John Russano, Jean Roy, Linda Kuiken

• Hosts

Game "Guess Who"

We played a game of "Guess Who"? A celebrity's name, human, animal or mammal was pinned on your back and you had to guess who you were. You were allowed to ask any person two questions. Asking enough people gave you the clues to discover who you were. A fun game which was not easy.

After the meeting it was lunch time and then fun and games. Several participated in Holey Board while others played Bocce Ball. Based on our performance at the Samboree's, we surely need as much practice as we can get. One nice thing, it was cold enough so the no-see-ums stayed under cover or wherever they go to hide. After a few hours of friendly competition it was time for our Saturday Social Hour. While the evening's meal was being prepared by Joan and her helpers, the rest of us participated in "couples get me out of this" game. I could not do it, I can't even describe the game. A few were able to free themselves but mostly only after being shown how to do it. Thank God the dinner bell rang so you might say we were saved by the bell. The Italian dinner Joan served us was really good. We ate and ate. Far more than anybody needed but it was so good, we just couldn't help ourselves. Many desserts were presented and quickly devoured. A great meal and we all gave Joan and John a standing ovation.

*It's not true that nice guys finish last.
Nice guys are winners before the game
even starts.
Addison Walker*

It was dinner time and our Host's Mexican Meal was ready. I must be honest, I did not know for sure what I was eating but it was sooo... good.



Many of us went back for second's and third's and then even took some home with us.



Saturday

Our Business Meeting was delayed until after 10:00 am because the campground puts on a breakfast for the residents every Saturday morning. We were invited to join in for a reasonable fee of \$3.00. Many item to select from. The breakfast was well worth the price.

Our President Bill Conway started the meeting and the first order of business was to introduce our State Director Bob and Reba Ward. Bob spoke to us on a couple of different issues, his comments were well received by the membership. Additional information about the meeting is in your minutes which you all should have received by now. Please read them.



Caroline Johnson & Pat Coman
"I'll get you out of this, trust me"



Lynn & Serge Frechette
"Be patient Lynn I have this
under control"
"Yeah yeah Serge"

Tropical Palm Downs

A night at the races. The spectators lined the paddock as the fillies and mares paraded by. The betting windows opened, bets were placed and the stewardess rang the bell and they were off. It was hard to pick a favorite but #5 ridden by Lynne Morneault was in the money more than any other horse. Some claimed interference but the instant replay could not show an instance. The grand finale was the Steeple Jack. The race turned out to be a thriller with several horses tied coming to the gate. Charlie Horse on # 6 looked like a sure winner but he stumbled and # 4 snuck by for the win.

Linda Voyton – Mike Lima
Taking your bets
(and Money)



Charlie Voyton, Lynne Morneault, Serge Frechette, Lorraine Zecher, Jill Perry, Jean Roy

Horses for the races



Campground Rating

It had been suggested by our previous Vice-President, John Perry that each host/hostess rate the campground we just visited. Starting with this month's newsletter the composite rating will be published, Samborees are excluded. The procedure is simple and it covers four specific areas: (1) Administrative (the effectiveness of the campground office staff). (2) Accommodations (sites and site services). (3) Facilities (recreation hall, kitchen). (4) Rates (competitiveness level). Each category is to be given a rate from 1-10.

For Crystal Isles Joan and John Russano gave them an overall rating of 5.5.

Happy Birthday

Feb.4th - Evelyn Ciampaglia

Feb.23rd - Harold Johnson

Feb.27th - John Henning Jr.

Happy Anniversary

Feb. 14th—Bubacks

Feb. 21st—Greseths

Feb.29th—Murrays

Health and Welfare Corner

It was great to see **Harold and Caroline Johnson** at the campout. Harold's recovery is progressing and each month seems to be doing better.

Rob Murray has had eye surgery. From the description given me it sounded pretty serious but we understand he is doing much better and should be fully recovered soon.

Richard Ormsby has had cataract surgery in his left eye and is scheduled to have the right eye done on February 10th. Recovery takes awhile but in the meantime driving is a challenge.

Colin Greseth is doing well with speech therapy. Several positive comments have been made by members who have recently seen him.

Larry Buback is having back problem. They diagnosed a degenerative disk. Therapy for him.

John Russano seems to be on the way to recovery from the shoulder operation.

We wish all continued progress with your recovery and hope to see everyone at the next campout.

WINTER SAMBOREE

In just a few days several of our members will be heading to Palatka for the Winter Samboree which will be held at Rodeheaver Boys Ranch. Early bird is February 8th and the Samboree will be from the 9th-. Several remember the difficult time they had the last time they were there. **Rest assured** that conditions are entirely different this time around. Grass is in place and electrical and water has been upgraded.

I hope we have a good turnout and everyone has fun.

CLOSER TO HOME

March 25th-28th at
Paradise Oaks
4628 CR 475
Bushnell Fl., 33513
(352) 793-1823



Our newest members, Chuck and Jean Potter will be our hosts at this very popular campground. Great facilities, spacious sites and a new 9 hole golf course. Chuck and Jean will be finalizing the package and will be in touch with us soon.

We're on the Web
www.tbsams.webs.com

Just for laughs

The vicar is buying a parrot. "Now, you're sure it doesn't scream, yell or swear?" he inquired.

"Oh, absolutely. It's a religious parrot" the storekeeper assures him. "Do you see these strings on his legs? When you pull the right one he recites the Lord's Prayer, and when you pull the left, he recites the 23rd Psalm."

Brilliant, wonderful! grins the Vicar. "But what happens if I pull both stings?"

"I fall off my perch you tweet" screeches the parrot.



Please, release me



- 1- Potters " Now , let me think;,,
- 2- Ormsbys " Stop laughing Jeannette"...
- 3- Perrys "Get your leg up Jill"
- 4- Perrys " Do I have to crawl John?"
- 5- John Russano" Let me help you guys"
- 6- Roys " Come on Get down Bob"
- 7- Murrays " I'm telling you I know how to do it"



Do you recognize any of this distinguished looking group.
Several members of Trail Blazing Sams on a cruise in January