



**Newsletter Volume XXXIII  
Issue 6**

**Campout May 27th-30th/2011**

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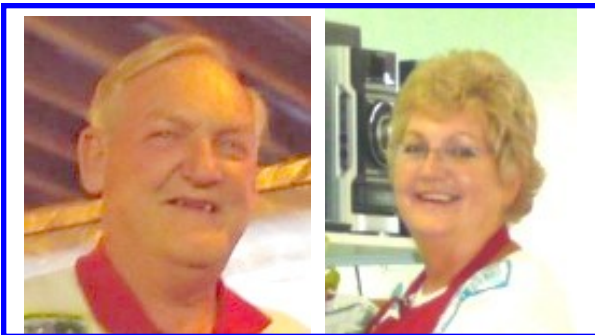
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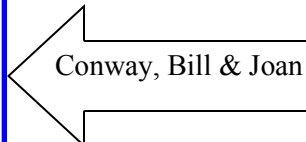
## May Campout Frog Creek, Palmetto.



What a great Memorial Day weekend we had at Frog Creek RV Resort in Palmetto, Fl., located just off of I-275. Some of our members had already left for their summer destinations but we still had 17 rigs and 1 drive-in attending our season ending campout. What a great little campground Frog Creek is. They provided us excellent friendly service. Our host and hostess for the weekend was Harold and Caroline Johnson assisted by Bill and Joan Conway and John and Joan Russano



Russano, John & Joan



Conway, Bill & Joan



Our long weekend began on Thursday for several who came in early. Coming in early is most relaxing; the only organized activity is going out to dinner. Anna Maria Oyster Bar in Ellington was chosen as everyone's favorite spot. After dinner it was back to Frog Creek for card games of one's choice.



Ceres Henning- Mary Murray

Friday began for some of us with an early round of golf at a local golf course while others either slept in or just sat around relaxing. After lunch several braved the hot weather to practice their Holey Board skills. This lasted just so long because the 90 plus degree weather and the high humidity got the best of them so it was back to the recreation house and the comfort of air conditioning. Caroline had done a nice job of decorating the hall in patriotic Red – White and Blue in honor of Memorial Day. Activity of choice took us up to Happy Hour followed by a dinner consisting of rolls, salad, chicken a la king and dessert. Prior to dinner our Chaplin, Harold Johnson gave a wonderful invocation giving special thought and tribute to all service men and women who have served and are serving our country. Special thought was given to those who gave their life so that we may have the freedom and liberty we enjoy today. This tribute was one of many that was to follow this Memorial Day weekend. After dinner it was game time. Caroline got us all into a game called Court Whist. Scores ranged from the low mid eighties to a high of 141. Congratulations to Mary Murray and Ceres Henning for winning top place. Even though some of us had never played Court Whist, we all had fun and enjoyed ourselves.

Saturday began with a nice breakfast of coffee, sausage gravy/eggs and juice. The Conways and Russanos took over the food preparation and kitchen duties because Caroline had her hands full taking care of Harold. As you know, Harold fell and fractured his arm plus he is still recovering from the stroke he suffered. After breakfast it was time for our Business Meeting. Bill Conway's agenda contained many important items so



Colin & Joanne Greseth  
Honorary members

please read your minutes so you can stay tuned with all that's going on in your chapter. During the meeting Bill read a letter recieved from Joanne Greseth. We were all saddened to hear that they have decided to resign from active membership status. In part she said, "Colin and I hate the idea of giving up our membership in Trail Blazing Sams because we love each and everyone of you, but we don't want to take up a space on your roster when we don't know when or if we will ever be truly active again. We have been so blessed to have been part of Trail Blazing Sams and cherish all our memories". Their letter was presented to our membership by our President with the recommendation that Colin and Joanne be made Honorary members. Everyone expressed how sad it was to have them resign but supported them becoming Honorary members. With this designation they will receive all emails, newsletters and be welcomed to come to our campouts whenever they can.

RV Tech and Tips discussion took place after lunch to share valuable information about maintenance, trouble shooting and problem solving. In addition several members discussed some of their favorite spots they have visited. Be it North, South, East or West this country has some truly fantastic places to visit. Bill Conway, a Certified RV Technician discussed a few areas we all should pay particular attention to such as; (1) refrigerator coil icing or freezing ( solution: place a small portable fan in the refrigerator near the coils). (2) flushing the black tank ( for those with a built in system make sure you don't over fill your tank while flushing – stay with it during the flushing process). For those that don't have a flush system, purchase an inexpensive back flush device. This session was attended by just about everybody and was very informative.

#### Robin and Mary Murray's new Motor Home

As many of you know Robin and Mary got a Phaeton by Allegro and invited everyone to an Open House to visit . What a thing of beauty. Allegro builds some fantastic vehicles and the Murray's new coach is no exception. Thank you Robin and Mary and good luck with your new machine.

#### **FEATURED ON OUR COVER** **In front of their new motorhome**

##### **The Murrays**

**Joined TBS in December 2001**

**Mary's Hobbies: fishing, crochet, golf. Volunteer work.**

**Mary is also ASD- State Secretary**

**Robin's hobbies: fishing , volunteer work  
Robin is ASD- State Wagonmaster**



The much anticipated hour of 3:00 arrived and with it the excitement of Bean Bag Baseball pitting the men against the revenge anxious women's team. The men's team was missing its clean-up hitter Mike Lima who in our last match smashed a grand slam home run to help bring victory to the men. Umpire/scorekeeper John Henning brought the Captains together, explained the ground rules and the game was on. Quickly the men jumped out to a 4 run lead. After 3 innings it looked like the men were off and running to another victory but wait, the ladies put on their hitting shoes, banged out 22 hits of which 9 were home runs and scored a total of 18 runs. The men tried valiantly to catch up but came up short by only scoring 16 runs. Congratulations ladies on your hard earned victory. At one point the men thought they were going to win by forfeit because the ladies got the umpire upset. Fortunately things quieted down and all ended on a good note. Leading the ladies in hitting were Joan Russano and Linda Kuiken with 4 hits each.



“Man is most nearly himself  
when he

achieves the seriousness of a  
child at play.”  
Heraclitus

Someone made a comment about getting enough to eat, it seemed like that was all we did but little did we know, the best was yet to come. The theme for dinner was International with many dishes to choose from. I want to tell those of you that were not there just how great it was but in order to do so I had to sample every dish, I did just that. I don't know anything about which dishes were International but the food was just fantastic. I for one think pot lucks are great but then again I don't have to do any of the cooking. After dinner



Mary & Robin Murray-Bill Carter-Sandy & Ron Mercer-Ken & Linda Kuiken-Jill & John Perry Mike Lima-Jeannette Ormsby

Caroline kept us busy with three (3) different games; **1;** Red, White and Blue **2;** Duck Hunt and **3;** Balloon Bust. Briefly in the first game you and your partner had to name people, places or things that began with Red, White or Blue. In the second game you had to find 15 little ducks Caroline had hidden throughout the room. The third game consisted of two teams of 14 players each. You had to blow up a balloon then sit on it attempting to break it, the balloon that is. The balloons all broke but after 14 people jumping up and down, the chair finally gave away too. Everyone started pointing fingers but it was my observation that all fourteen players should share the blame. The winning team got a medal. Hurrah!!!



“Individuals play the game, but  
teams win championship.”



We're on the web.  
[www.tbsams.webs.com](http://www.tbsams.webs.com)

Sunday morning came and several of us were off to church while others enjoyed a pot luck breakfast. While those of us that went to church might have had our spirits refreshed but our bellies were very much in need of nourishment .So after church we were off to a local restaurant. Later in the morning Larry Buback conducted a seminar on navigating our new web site. Apparently this was a very popular session because it was well attended. New features are being added to our Web site and in order to access the member's only section you have to enter a secret password. This password can be obtained from Larry Buback, Jeannette Ormsby or Bill Conway.

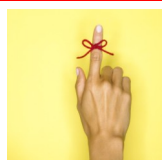


During Social Hour later in the day special honors were given to our veterans and several of us who served gave a brief and sometimes very emotional dissertation on their experience while serving. It was very difficult for some to reflect on their military experience but at the same time it was very rewarding for all of us to share in those memories. War is hell and some of our members will carry their combat military experience with them the rest of their life.



#### **On the road again**

15 Trail Blazing members have or soon will be taking highways to far away destinations while others will be staying closer to home this summer. We wish them a safe journey and look forward to seeing everyone back in September. A very simple prayer we use each day as we start another leg of our journey is, "Please Lord let us keep the others safe and let the others keep us safe" God bless you all....



#### **Next Campout**

September 23rd-25th

'Hosts: Limas  
Paradise Oaks  
4628 Cr, 475

Bushnell, Fl 33513-4407 (352) 793-1823

#### **Health and Welfare**

Our immediate concerns were for Frank Ciamaglia. Our campout ended on Monday and Frank entered the hospital on Tuesday for lung surgery. During the surgical procedure they discovered one of his lungs had to be removed. That was Tuesday, can you believe Frank went home Friday. Unbelievable was the word used to express his rapid recovery. He still has a long road ahead too but at least he's home surrounded by his loving wife and children. Please read the updates that are sent to you from time to time . Harold Johnson continues to recover from both his broken arm and his stroke. We understand the cast is coming off in the next few days and



he most likely will undergo some therapy. Its been a rough road for Harold and also for Caroline.

So please keep them all in your prayers



#### **July**

17th- Joan Buback  
17th -Jeannette Ormsby  
19th- Joan Conway  
23rd- Bill Carter

#### **August**

9th—John Perry



#### **July**

11th—Russanos  
29th—Ciampaglias

#### **August**

9th—Kuikens  
13th- DuBoses  
26th- Hennings

**"Do not follow where the path may lead, Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."**

Ralph Waldo Emerson





**A few candid pictures  
and  
others  
not so candid**

