

## 2013 SPRING SAMBOREE OKEECHOBEE KOA RESORT OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA APRIL 17-21, 2013



We had a total of 14 member rigs and 1 guest rig for the SAMBOREE. The above picture shows all those that received Worker Bars and Stars – Carters, Conways, Deal/Dudinsky, Frechettes, Johnson, Limas, Murrays, Ormsbys, Perrys, Potters, Russanos, Zechers, VonDeylens, and Pages.

The SAMBOREES are always packed full of events and this one was no exception. Tuesday is early bird and the only planned activity that day is SAMGO. We found out that our State Director, Joe Weston, was giving free water and popcorn to all that attended SAMGO that evening. This was a great boost for our water sales since we gave out 158 bottles. Joe stated he wanted to see early birds get something special for coming a day early and he wanted TBS and Skyway Sams to benefit with the money going to their charities. We were very thankful for this boost and reminded people that we would be selling water throughout the SAMBOREE.



Giving out the free water – Chuck & Jean Potter, Sue Page, and Nancy & Bill Carter

**GAMES** – Everyone comes to the SAMBOREE to compete for the coveted pieces of plastic that the winners and second place teams receive. The games began on Wednesday with Hoseshoes having a total of 10 teams; Card Games were held on Wednesday and Friday with a total of 162 participants; Bean Bag Baseball was held on Thursday with 24 teams competing; Holey Board was held on with a total of 64 teams; and Bocci Ball was held Saturday morning with 36 teams playing.

**Wednesday** morning, as well as Thursday, Friday, and Saturday begins at 7:25 with Start your Day - Walk with Liz Abrams. This was followed by coffee and sausage biscuits and then signups for the various games were manned. We had hoseshoes that started at 1:30 and the card games started at 2:00. Just an example of the first of several overlapping events that occur at the SAMBOREES. This is one of the reasons we stress the importance of participation in going to the SAMBOREES because we volunteer in advance to host events as well as sell water, and since we don't know the schedule we have to divide up the various tasks. Two of our TBS members won first and second place in Euchre but we didn't have any winners in Hoseshoes.

# TRAIL BLAZING SAMS NEWSLETTER



Mike Lima announcing rules for Horseshoes



Winners at Card Games, Euchre, Juliet Dudinsky 1<sup>st</sup> place and Joanne Lima 2<sup>nd</sup> place

Opening ceremonies began at 6:30 p.m with invocation provided by Sharon Bundy, the Pledge of Allegiance by Bill Hammel, Wagon Master, and presentation of chapter flags.



State Directors, Joe & Debbie Weston, welcomed everyone and dealers and vendors were introduced. The evening entertainment was a group called *Prime Country Duo* and they were very entertaining. All three nights of entertainment were very good and it was the consensus of attendees that it was nice to have the return of good entertainment.



**Thursday** – The events started at 8:00 with a First Timers Meeting; Bean Bag Baseball at 9:00; hot dog lunch began at 11:30; Cupcake Sale was from 11:00 – 1:00; Funnel Cake Sale was 1:00 – 4:00; State Committee meeting was at 1:30 and SAMGO started at 7:00. TBS had two teams to participate in Bean Bag Baseball and one of the teams won first place!





# TRAILBLAZING SAMS NEWSLETTER

With some amazing “hits” and “homeruns” during the various games they played to get into the finals, our winning team consisted of Robin & Mary Murray, Richard & Jeannette Ormsby, Mike Lima, Juliet Dudinsky, and Cotton Deal.



Preparing for the Flea Market, Lorraine Zecher, Annette VonDeylen, Joan Russano, Jeannette Ormsby

**Friday** - After a breakfast of sausage gravy & biscuits and another First Timers meeting, Holey Board began at 9:00. TBS had several teams entered and the team of Robin Murray and Cotton Deal made it to third place, but alas they did not receive the coveted plastic piece.



Other events today were the Blood Mobile beginning at 10:00, Cupcake Sale at 11:00, Ice

Cream Social at 12:00, Card Games at 1:00, Funnel Cake Sale at 1:00, and Flea Market at 2:00. Well as you can see with all these events occurring simultaneously, we had the worst Flea Market proceeds that we have ever had. We did not have as many people selling or buying at the Flea Market, thus our proceeds were only \$57.21 (after the deduction of \$9.00 for the tables). Hopefully we don't have quite so many events occurring at the same time as the Flea Market at future SAMBOREES.

The evening entertainment was a group called *Sunday Drive*. This is a very talented and entertaining group of five that we have previously seen and they did a tremendous job once again.

**Saturday** - Again the day was filled with events beginning with the Golf Tournament at 8:00, Bocci Ball at 9:00, Cupcake Sale at 12:00, Madd Hatters Contest at 1:00 and our Business Meeting at 3:30 followed by a cookout. Our group participating in the Golf Tournament, John & Jill Perry, Cotton Deal, and Bill Carter came in second place. Unfortunately we did not have any photos of them due to Bocci Ball going on at the same time and our photographers were occupied. One of TBS' Bocci Ball team made it to third place but that only gets honorable mention in the Newsletter! The first place winning team was part of the State Staff.



Wayne & Joan McGee & Judy & Larry Brighton

The state staff are always very busy and many times unable to participate in the games, so it was nice that they were finally able to win some of the coveted plastic

It was a rush for everyone to get from Bocci Ball to the Madd Hatters Contest but it was well worth the effort. What a tremendous turnout there was this year and the hats were the most creative I believe I have seen. Everyone admired the judges and were glad they did not have their job because picking winners was a daunting task this year. There were 10 Chapters competing and I don't know how many individuals that competed. The hall was full of participants and it was fantastic to see so many competing. TBS had 12 hats to enter the miscellaneous category of "Run for the Roses". I'm sorry to report, but this is the best picture I have of our group.



Our Business Meeting began at 3:30 and the minutes have been posted on the web so be sure to read what was discussed. After the meeting we had our cookout but the rain sent many back to their rig to eat.

The evening entertainment was a gentleman by the name of *Sean Phillips* that played guitar and sang along with prerecorded music. He played a variety of "oldies" music that people sang along with and some danced.

**Sunday** – It is always amazing how quickly the time goes while we are at the SAMBOREES, but it was time to say good bye to everyone. I attended the worship service Sharon Bundy had and was mesmerized with her Mothers' Day topic. WOW what a fun time we had this week although we put in a lot of hours working. I know all the Staff are happy to have the next six months off before they see us all again in November. We wish them all a safe summer and a BIG thanks for a wonderful SAMBOREE.



Last night in our uniform and everyone still smiling!

Our next campout will be hosted by Bill and Nancy Carter from May 24-27 and will be held at **Bay Bayou RV Resort**, 8492 Manatee Bay Dr., Tampa, FL 33635, 888-692-2968.

## **TRAIL BLAZING SAMS OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT: William Conway (813) 938-5691**

**VICE-PRESIDENT: John Russano (352) 799-0021**

**SECRETARY: Mary Murray (941) 962-2244**

**TREASURER: Joan Russano (352) 799-0021**