

**OUR HOSTS: BILL & JOAN
CONWAY, MAY CAMPOUT,
FROG CREEK CAMPGROUND
PALMETTO, FL
MAY 25-28, 2012**



For our Memorial weekend, we had a total of 15 member rigs.



The majority of our members arrived as early birds on **Thursday**, and we spent the afternoon visiting with one another and then 18 of us enjoyed dinner at Anna Marie Oyster Bar in Ellenton. After returning from dinner, some braved the rain showers and played cards.

Friday the staff at Frog Creek had the Tiki Hut open for lunch, and we all enjoyed the hamburgers, hot dogs, and a new item to the menu, a chicken wrap, which was really tasty. Holely board was the choice game of the afternoon followed by Happy Hour. Dinner that evening was grilled shish kabobs provided by the hosts and various dishes that everyone else brought. As usual, we had an abundance of food and stuffed ourselves.



Friday evening Caroline Johnson taught many of us how to play Hand & Foot. This is one of the games played at the SAMBOREES which many of us did not know how to play. I, personally, really enjoyed learning how to play this game.

Saturday morning breakfast was on your own and then we had our business meeting at 9:30 (minutes are posted on the web). Everyone seemed to enjoy not having to rush with breakfast before our meeting.

After our meeting we caravanned (somewhat-due to traffic) to the Cortez Coast Guard Station where we were met by Paulette Parents (Frank Cosentino's sister) and several others. We were also fortunate to have Yvonne Wiseley join us for this outing as she said this was something she and Dea both were looking forward to. Yvonne is having a very tough time with the loss of Dea, so please keep her in your prayers.

Once we arrived, Paulette gave us a short briefing and we were then taken to one of the boats the Coast Guards use. After a tour of the boat and various questions about missions they perform, we were then given a tour of the administrative offices, the exercise room, the communication room, the kitchen facilities, the lounge and TV room, the sleeping quarters, and the room where they repair the engines and boats. This was

TRAIL BLAZING SAMS NEWSLETTER VOLUME XXXIV ISSUE 6

a very informative tour and many people did not realize that although this is a small facility, it plays an important role in the Bradenton area.



After we got back from the Coast Guard Station, we had happy hour and then dinner. Everyone brought their meat to grill and Bill and Robin were our Grill Masters. Those with last names A through J brought a dish to share and we still had an abundance of food. After dinner we played 10 hands of card bingo and pictured below are our winners: Juliet Dudinsky, Jeannette Ormsby, Mike Abrams, Ken Kuiken, Rita Turner, Mary Murray, Ron Mercer, Nancy Carter and John Henning.



Sunday morning we all slept in and had brunch at 10:00 which consisted of sausage and pancakes and various casseroles, sweets, and fruit. The 10:00 brunch was a big hit with most everyone especially since it poured down rain earlier and made for great sleeping.

The afternoon brought the long awaited Bean Bag Baseball Tournament with the ladies versus the men. The men started the

first inning with 4 runs and the women didn't get any runs until the third inning when they got 3. The lead off man, Frank Cosentino, hit a home run in the top of the fifth making their score 5 to 3. In the bottom of the sixth, the women scored two points now tying the game 5 to 5. The score remained tied and went into an extra inning when the men were able to score two runs winning the game 7 to 5. It was a great game and the women "graciously" admitted defeat!!



Ladies Team: Linda Kuiken, Marry Murray, Mary Cosentino, Jeannette Ormsby, Joan Conway, Liz Abrams, Sandy Mercer, Juliet Dudinsky, and Cotton Deal.



Men's Winning Team: Mike Lima, Frank Cosentino, Bill Carter, Ken Kuiken, Ron Mercer, Richard Ormsby, Serge Frechette, Robin Murray, and Myron Magedanz.

During our "Memorial Tribute" Bill asked all the veterans to come up front, shook their

hands, and thanked them all for their service. Our Veterans: Bill Conway, Ray Turner, Serge Frechette, Myron Magendanz, Bill Carter, Mike Abrams, Robin Murray, Richard Ormsby, and John Henning.



Thanks to all for helping to keep our Nation free!

Next on the Memorial Tribute was two readings honoring the American Flag and a hand out on American Flag Etiquette. Mike Abrams read a very emotional tribute that was called "My Friend" which was on a large plaque Bill and I found during a trip to the Eglin Air Force Museum up by Destin, FL. It is rather lengthy, but definitely very moving. If anyone would care for a copy, I would be happy to email it to you as it is too long to place in our newsletter.



After dinner we had a lot of laughs (I was brought to tears) playing a game with balloons. We had four teams with team captains consisting of Mary Murray, Robin Murray, Liz Abrams and Mike Abrams.

TRAIL BLAZING SAMS NEWSLETTER VOLUME XXXIV ISSUE 6

The teams had to blow up their balloon, place it between their knees, “run” to the end of the room, drop it in a bucket, pick it back up and place between their knees and run back to their team and place the balloon between the knees of the next team mate without touching the balloon. We even had Harold Johnson playing and he was on the winning team!! Enjoy the pictures and let your imagination fill in any blanks!



Monday morning came all too soon and it was time to say good bye to everyone for the summer. We had a great weekend and look forward to our next get together in September. Robin and Mary Murray will be our hosts for the September 28 – 30, 2012 campout at the Hideaway in Ruskin, FL. Have a safe summer wherever your travels may take you.

TRAIL BLAZING SAMS OFFICERS

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

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

**SECRETARY: Lorraine Zecher
(917) 975-5857**

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