

"The Roadrunner Express"



Volume 1 Issue 8

December 2017



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Rich & Sharon Beck

2nd Vice Presidents

Charlie & Karen Autry

Secretary

David & Barbara Wilkie

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Carolyn Thomas

CHAPTER ESTABLISHED DECEMBER 5, 1970

Life is meant for good friends, and great adventures!

CALOOSA WINNIES OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
OAK HAVEN RV PARK, ARCADIA, FL
DECEMBER 7—10, 2017

The Caloosa Winnies returned to Oak Haven RV Park for the 11th year to celebrate the Christmas season! The clubhouse was decorated for the occasion by the residents and we added our red table covers to complete the décor! Co-hosts for the outing were John & Jean Weicherding, Frank & Diane Cipolla, Bud & Susan Swift, with Charlie & Karen Autry also assisting. 9 of the 28 coaches arrived a day early to help with decorating and the usual set up for the weekend. That evening we all went to dinner to enjoy each others company!

The weather was unusually hot for December, but Bud Swift & Charlie Autry were ready to greet the members arriving on Thursday and assisting them with parking. The clubhouse was crowded at 4:00pm Happy Hour with exchanges of greetings as we enjoyed being together to officially begin the weekend. Dinner was prepared by the hosts, Turkey dinner was the menu and the members contributed side dishes that overwhelmed the buffet counter! THANKS to all the great cooks—the Caloosas are the BEST cooks!



A nice surprise for this editor, the Wagon Queen happened right after dinner! It was my birthday week and the group surprised me with a birthday cake! AND they sang Happy Birthday!! THANKS to Frank & Diane Cipolla for thinking of it! Also THANKS to the members who gave me presents!!! It was such a nice surprise and so appreciated!



The traditional Ice Cream Social began about 6:30pm with some of the park residents joining us for making sundaes! They allow us to take over their clubhouse and we include them each year for ice cream and joining in our Bingo games.

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Bud Swift in the left picture did the Bingo calling again for the group, Jerry Miller & Carolyn Thomas manned the table selling cards and assembling prize monies. The winners were: Belinda Feldgoise, Jim & Sally Rayburn each won a game, Orte Gil, two residents won a game and Richard Johnson won one game AND the



last coverall jackpot! THANKS to Bud, Jerry & Carolyn for being the Bingo committee and it was a fun night for all of us!

OH, THE JOYS OF CHRISTMAS, AND CELEBRATING WITH FRIENDS



Friday morning bright and early our cooks were in the kitchen getting ready to make pancakes for the group. In the left photo are L to R: Charlie Autry, Diane Cipolla, Bud Swift and Russ Bosch flipping pancakes while Jorge & Orte Gil are patiently waiting! Pancakes, sausage, fruit all were on the menu and everyone was served by 9:15am.



Friday at 10:00am was craft time and Carolyn Thomas brought all the supplies for the ladies—and Greg Joop (yes a guy!) to make clothes dryer balls! Most of us had not heard of these new little gizmos but we trusted Carolyn to convince us this was a helpful project! We all had to wind wool yarn into balls, 2 per skein of yard. Of course, lots of fun conversation happened along with the task.



After the balls were formed, they went to the laundry room to be washed and dried. When finished, the dryer balls were very compact and ready to be tried out! This editor can attest to the fact they really WORK helping to keep clothes from tangling, thus promoting faster drying! A good test was washing and drying the Caloosa aprons with their many strings—AND they did not get tangled together! THANKS Carolyn for doing this project for us!!

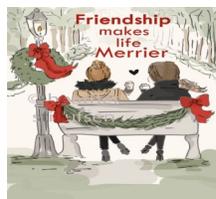


After lunch a general information meeting was held at the clubhouse to discuss items such as the ByLaw changes needed for the chapter to amend some of the sections to more effectively work for our current chapter needs. The future campouts were on the agenda because some of the dates and places have been reserved way in advance due to campground availability. The upcoming February Reunion Rally we are hosting—more details were communicated so the members know how we will proceed. It was a good meeting and intended to save time at our official general meeting on Saturday.

Happy Hour commenced early at 3:30pm to allow us to leave in time for our dinner reservation. A 50/50 was held and the winners were: 3rd place Jean Weicherding, 2nd place Nancy Miller, 1st place Bud Swift! CONGRATULATIONS to the winners!!



Carpools were formed and we were off to a wonderful evening with dinner at LaFiorentina Restaurant. The atmosphere and excellent food made for a nice party, and especially with such GREAT friends!



Saturday morning breakfast was potluck with the counter again filled with great dishes!! The general meeting was held beginning at 10:00am with President Ed Thomas presiding. The highlight of the meeting was the election and installation of the new officers for 2018. Nancy Miller read the slate of officers, and hearing no nominations from the floor the nominations were closed and voting was completed and Jerry Miller handled the installation ceremony.



WELCOME to the new officers for 2018! John & Jean Weicherding, President; Rich & Sharon Beck, 1st VP, Charlie & Karen Aтры, 2nd VP, David & Barbara Wilkie, Secretary, Carolyn Thomas, Treasurer. Congratulations to the new officers! THANK YOU for volunteering!



L to R: Jean & John, Sharon & Rich, Karen & Charlie, Barbara & Dave, Carolyn.

Gifts were presented to Ed & Carolyn Thomas for their service these past 2 years as President. Bud & Sue Swift have been 2nd VP's for 7 years and were also presented with a gift for our appreciation for a job well done! Applause was heard for both couples.

Updates on future dates were announced, and chapter jackets are to be ordered for those who wish to have them. Pictures of couples will be taken for a directory to be posted on our website in the future, with members only access with passwords. The meeting was adjourned about 11:00am.

On the agenda for the afternoon was suppose to be a shuffleboard team game. However, the weather took a turn from our sunny, warm temperatures and replaced it with a cool and windy rain! Indoor games were announced. Several folks spent the afternoon playing nickels, dominoes and other games.

Happy hour found us all back assembled in the clubhouse followed by a Ham dinner served by the hosts. Wonderful dishes prepared by the members were spread out on the counter and everything was delicious! Some guests came to meet with us—Mike & Cathy Stephens—we welcomed them for dinner and the evening auction. Small world—Mike worked with Rich Beck for several years so they had a nice reunion!



The dinner line with Cathy & Mike (on the left) leading the group.



Bud Swift, Bruce Kanoza, Dave Wilkie

It was soon time for our annual charity auction. All members were given numbered "auction signs" to use when making their bids for items. Most packages were wrapped, therefore, members did not know what they were bidding on but understood the money raised all went to the charity, Joshua House. This charity takes care of abused children taken in with only the clothes on their back and they are provided for because of the generous contributions made by donors. Diane Cipolla made some comments to explain the operation of Joshua House as she has been involved with them and helping for many years. Our merry elves were ready to begin the fun! Who could resist their smiling faces and hysterical commentary! Jerry Miller kept a tab for each couple which made it simple for them to pay their "bill" and get credit for the contributions to Joshua House.



The packages began to be auctioned off and the elves were in rare form! Their skills in convincing folks to bid was just so much fun! There were many comments made throughout the evening that had us laughing so hard that someone said their face hurt from laughing!!



Some of those comments heard were: "I'm just practicing for the package I REALLY want", "Now we have upside down reindeer", "You may never see this again", "I just ran out of money", "It's a NICK-ELS game#@*&" "Is it a cork or twist off", "Why are you bidding against yourself?", "All I heard was 500", "Is that REALLY something we need?", "No Diane, it's now 80", "Hey, we're at \$40 and we haven't started bidding yet!" "I'll wear this when I walk the dog" and "I don't want any balls that cost that much!"



Jerry Miller announced the total amount raised from this auction was **\$4,613.00!** In addition, Frank & Diane Cipolla will be matching our contribution. The total amount Joshua House will receive is **\$9226.00** which will go a long way to help the work done for the children. The generosity of the Caloosas is so incredible and we appreciate you all contributing to help Joshua House! AND—we got some cool gifts and had a lot of LAUGHS!!! THANKS to the elves—you all are invited next year to to resume your roles!!! Needless to say it was fun filled evening enjoyed by ALL!!!



Karen opens her "nickels" package!



Sharon shows off her doggie apron!



Orte got the beautiful carved bowl!



Sally & Jim opened their package!



Barbara got a STAR!!



Jean got a collage!

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 9 Fay Hubbard
- 16 Herb Varner
- 18 Nick Sanborn
- 19 David Riling
- 20 Walter Feldgoise
- 23 Mary Heitman
- 24 Carol Mastro
- 25 Sally Sims
- 31 Ron Kunze



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 12 Jim & Marge Carney
- 22 Gerald & Karen Brashaw

FUTURE MEETINGS

- 2018**
- December 30—Jan. 2 Lazy Days New Years Party, NOT Caloosa event. Contact Lazy Days
 - January 2—5 Lazy Days Rally Park, Seffner FL (Caloosa event, agenda available in December, sites are reserved)
 - Feb. 26—March 1 Florida Chapters Reunion Rally, Lazy Days Park sponsored by Caloosa Winnies
 - March 11—18 Caloosa member cruise, Allure of the Seas, (contact us for info)
 - April 12—15 Riverside RV Resort, Arcadia, FL
 - May 3—6 Alligator Park, Punta Gorda FL
 - No meetings in June—October
 - November 12-18 Jolly Roger RV Resort, Marathon, FL week long event
 - December 6—9 Oak Haven RV Park, Arcadia, FL (Christmas Party & Charity Auction)



- 2019**
- January 7—10 Sarasota Fairgrounds, Sarasota, FL
 - February 18—22 Reunion Rally at Lazy Days RV Resort , Seffner FL
 - March 11—14 Lazy Days RV Resort, Seffner FL
 - April 22—May 5 3 City Caravan, details to be announced

DUES ARE DUE!!!! All dues for 2018 must be paid by January 31st to keep your membership in good standing! Dues can be sent to Nancy Miller, 2134 Everest Pkwy. Cape Coral, FL 33904. You'll be glad you did!

January 2—5, 2018
 Get ready for the "50's Party!" Dig out those poodle skirts, saddle shoes, charm bracelets, jeans and t-shirts! There are still sites available so don't be left out!!! Check the agenda on the website at: www.caloosawinnies.org

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Enjoy this wonderful Christmas season with your family and friends! We wish you all much happiness, health and wealth in 2019! This is a time for joy and celebration. We are all blessed with our good Caloosa friends. Let 's all hope for peace in the coming year.

SAVE THE DATES!!!

February 26 to March 1, 2018

The Caloosa Winnies will sponsor an all Florida Chapters Rally at Lazy Days RV Park! The dates are set and all chapters will be invited to participate in the fun! Plans are in the works for entertainment, food, seminars, so all chapters and our friends from out of state will have a place to meet in place of the state sponsored event. Details will be forthcoming—we know the Caloosas will be great hosts!

*Caloosas need to sign up—no fees due until 2018! Sites are filling fast so get yourself on the list! **There are LESS than 10 spaces left!** See next page for reservation form!*

FLORIDA CHAPTERS REUNION RALLY

SPONSORED BY CALOOSA WINNIES



February 26—March 1, 2018
Lazy Days RV Resort
Seffner, Florida

RESERVATION FORM

DO NOT CALL LAZY DAYS FOR RESERVATIONS

Name _____ Co-Pilot _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Pilot Cell # _____ Co-Pilot Cell# _____

Pilot Email _____

Co-Pilot Email _____

Handicap Parking Needed Yes _____ No _____ WIT Number _____

RV Length _____ Chapter Affiliation (if any) _____

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Rally fees include: 3 nights camping, concrete pad full hookup site, 30/50 amp, Lazy Days amenities, free lunch & breakfast coupons for Front Porch Café, one catered dinner, one catered breakfast, Row Party, potluck dinner, live entertainment, dancing, Ice Cream Social, seminars, games, dealer displays, optional tours to be announced.

FEE: 1 coach, 2 people : \$225.00 by February 5, 2018
AFTER FEBRUARY 5, 2018, FEE: \$250.00
(Singles deduct \$20.00) (Extra person age 6 & up: \$20.00)

EARLY ARRIVAL DAY: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018 ADD \$53.75

Reservations limited to the first 200 coaches.

Reservations due by February 5, 2018.

MAIL RESERVATION FORM AND CHECK MADE OUT TO CALOOSA WINNIES TO:

Nancy Miller
2134 Everest Pkwy.
Cape Coral, FL 33904
239-565-3115

Email: nmiller1213@gmail.com

Cancellation policy: Requests for refunds must be submitted to Nancy Miller via phone or email by February 10, 2018. Fees will be refunded with the exception of \$5.00 for administrative fee.