

“The Roadrunner Express”



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Life is meant for good friends, and great adventures!

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“**HAPPY ST. PATRICK’S DAY PARTY**” was the theme for the March 11—14, 2019 camping meeting for the Caloosa Winnies at Lazy Days RV Resort! All the tables were decorated in green and everything was set for the arrivals on Monday afternoon. Happy Hour traditionally was held at 4:00pm in the Rally center. Our pizza and salad dinner was ready at 5:30pm which was a GREAT combination. Ice cream cups of Ben & Jerry’s Cherry Garcia was dessert and it disappeared fairly quickly! Our evening entertainment was the movie, “The Greatest Showman”, the musical story about P. T. Barnum in the mid-19th century and his rise to fame in show business. This was a great movie and enjoyed by all of the group!

Joining us for the weekend were a couple of special guests! Pictured on the right is member Lucy Murse and her mother Elvera also known as “Baby”! “Baby” is 102 years old and works full time at Walmart! She is an inspiration to all of us with her friendly personality and that spring in her step! She also played “Nickels” in the evenings and was just a delight to have with us!



President Rich Beck also had a friend joining us for the event—Matt Ross! Matt was visiting from New Jersey and was a good sport and joined in our games and fun! We hope he’ll return again as he will always be welcome to visit!

Tuesday morning at 10:00am all the members met in the Rally Center to form teams for the Cell Phone Scavenger Hunt! Each team was assigned one person to be the photographer, and the team was given a list of items to look for and photograph. The list had 40 items for them to hunt down. In their usual fashion, they were up to the challenge and had one hour to find all the items and return to the hall. They took this game seriously as you’ll see in the pictures.

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MORE Cell Phone Scavenger Hunt teams on the lookout for items on the list!



Of course our guests joined in with the teams and it was overheard by a member this comment: "I can't believe a 102 year old woman out walked me in this game!" That member shall remain anonymous. It was a great exercise in teamwork and FUN!



The winning team: L to R: Joe Periard, Karen Autry, Rich Beck, Rick Amos, & guest Matt Ross.



The afternoon was free time and several of us did a road trip to nearby Plant City, the strawberry capital of Florida! Parkesdale Farms is a huge market and their specialty is Strawberry Shortcake served any way you like it! We saw several members in line as we were, and we all enjoyed this seasonal treat!

Happy Hour at 4:00pm brought us back together in the Rally Center, and a 50/50 was held! 3 lucky winners shared in the raffle proceeds! Mary Periard, Linda Byerly & Doug Taylor shared in the prizes!! CONGRATULATIONS to you all!

Dinner plans for the evening—nearly Cracker Barrel Restaurant was the destination! We were seated in a private area and it was a great dinner served by great staff! Here we are doing what we like to do—EATING!!



Later in the evening some of the group played "Nickels" and as always—they had a GREAT time!!



**NICKEL
MANIA**





Wednesday morning out came the crock pots and lots of GREAT dishes for the potluck breakfast! All the members do such a great preparing such wonderful foods for all of us to enjoy! WE THANK YOU for all your contributions—no one ever goes hungry at the Caloosa meetings!

At 10:00am our President, Rich Beck called the business meeting to order. The final report was read about the February rally the Caloosas hosted at Lazy Days. The event was well attended and everything was orchestrated as scheduled with virtually everyone attending reported to have had a great time! A HUGE THANKS goes to the officers Charlie & Karen Autry for assuming so many duties during the week, and also to the other officers pitching in helping with all the tasks. The many members who volunteered to be on committees—a HUGE THANKS to you also as this would not have been a success without everyone offering help! We were fortunate to have a small profit from this rally to combine with other profits to enable us to secure GREAT entertainment for our 2020 rally! From this editor and Wagon Queen, I personally THANK YOU ALL for everything you volunteer to do as this makes my job so much fun and with only a little work—and very little stress!

A few more announcements were made about the upcoming April/May Caravan with more details being sent out to everyone who will be joining us for that excursion! More camping dates will be announced soon. Rich closed the meeting in 30 minutes—which is a record for the Caloosas!! YAY!

The afternoon was also free time, some members enjoyed the Lazy Days pool, or went to visit local tourists stops. At 5:00pm we all met at the Rally Center for a combination of Happy Hour and Heavy Hors d'Oeuvres for dinner! Did you ever wonder what we would do without crock pots for cooking??? Me neither! AND would you believe this—there were NO MEATBALLS in all the crock pots! That has NEVER happened before and was a surprise! We had all the crock pots lined up on 3 tables, along with some wonderful salads! This day was our 1st VP Karen Autry's birthday and her husband Charlie had a beautiful cake made for her to celebrate the occasion with us! We are ALWAYS happy to have a Publix cake, Charlie! We all sang happy birthday and promptly cut the cake! The Caloosas always have a great time when it comes to food and drinks!

The evening games began after clean up and the teams were formed for "St. Patrick's Day Minit to Winit Games". There were 8 different games, some involving physical skills and 2 involving brain teasers! The bottle shake challenged the team to move "Lucky Charms" from one bottle to the other in a minute by shaking the water bottles that were taped together. Next came the Shamrock Cutout—one designated team member had scissors and shamrocks to cut out, then came the Spoon Lucky Charms and each person had to spoon pieces from the plate into the bowl. A word game and rhyming game were played, and then they had to separate "O" by color, and stack shamrock cups. All games were awarded points and accumulated for a total score. As you can see in these pictures—the competition was pretty intense!





Winning team for guessing the right number of "O's" in the jar: L to R: LuAnne Taylor, guest Matt Ross, Jerry Miller & Helen Jette.



Winning team for overall high score in games: L to R: Doug Taylor, Joe Periard, John Murse, & Diane Cipolla.

MANY THANKS to all the Caloosas who are always good sports and play the games that make things fun for all of us!

Thursday morning our Coffeemaster Charlie Autry had the coffees ready for everyone by 8:30am so we could all enjoy some donuts and bagels before going our separate ways. It was a very relaxing time and I think we all enjoyed the time together! We especially were happy our guests "Baby" and Matt had a good time with us and you are both welcome to visit anytime! Our next adventures will be the 4 city caravan beginning April 23rd at Sanlan Ranch. We'll look forward to seeing all our members attending, and this will be another exciting time for us! We always invite any WIT member to visit with us, our schedule is posted on our website, www.caloosawinnies.org, and on the WIT Club website at witclub.com under the Chapters tab.

SAVE THESE DATES!!

FLORIDA CHAPTERS REUNION FRIENDSHIP RALLY
 SPONSORED BY CALOOSA WINNIES



"THE ROARING 20's"

February 17—21, 2020
 Lazy Days RV Resort
 Seffner, FL



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Tom Rapson**
- 5 Kathleen Campbell**
- 5 Diane Cipolla**
- 10 Sharon King**
- 13 Patti Doty**
- 14 John Zink**
- 17 Karen Mayes**
- 19 Dave Wilkie**
- 22 April Milian**
- 23 Rick Amos**
- 23 Jan Sidebottom**



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Doug & Patti Doty**
- 9 Vaughn & Norma LaVigne**
- 12 Stephen & Sharon King**
- 19 Allen & Betty Gabroy**
- 25 Tom & Paige Rapson**
- 26 Donald & Lori Williams**

FUTURE MEETINGS

2019

- April 23—May 5 4 City Caravan, members can attend all 4 places, or any of the locations.
- April 23—25 Sanlan Ranch RV & Golf Resort, Lakeland, FL
- April 26—28 Roadrunner Travel Resort, Ft. Pierce, FL
- April 29—May 1 International RV Park, Daytona Beach, FL
- May 2—4 or 5 Compass RV Resort, St. Augustine, FL
- November 7—10 Alligator RV Park, Punta Gorda, FL
- November 10— Jolly Roger RV Resort, Marathon, FL
- December 5—8 Oak Haven RV Resort, Arcadia, FL

2020

- January 6—9 Sarasota Fairgrounds, Sarasota, FL
- February 17—21 Lazy Days RV Resort, Seffner, FL 3rd Annual Reunion Rally
- March 8—15 Cruise on RCL Harmony of the Seas



***CHECK OUT** our website from time to time as Mike Dippel, our webmaster, is always adding new things to help us all communicate on various topics. www.caloosawinnies.org is the place to look for our camping schedule, newsletters, and lots of information!*



The Caloosa Winnies April/May Caravan plans are underway! If you have not signed up to join us for any part of the adventure - you still have time! BUT—PLEASE let us know ASAP as the parks are requesting our lists this early! As we know, parks will be filled with so many RV's traveling. Details and agendas have been sent out to those participating and more options for further tour options will be announced as we get closer and plans are made. Payments will be due by April 5th for the camping portion of each park. If you have questions—feel free to call or email: Nancy Miller, 239-565-3115, or nmiller1213@gmail.com.

CALOOSA COOKBOOK CHALLENGE

WE NEED YOUR RECIPES! Because we have so many GREAT cooks in the Caloosa Chapter we are creating a cookbook of all our favorite recipes! The recipes will be sent to Fundcraft company to be assembled. The plan is we will sell them to each other and at the rally in February 2020! The former state club did this project in 2012 and the book is a great product! Members with recipes in the 2012 book—with your permission—we will publish those recipes from the book—but you can donate MORE! Recipes can be typed, emailed, hand written, and given to this editor at any meeting. **WE CAN DO THIS!!**