



Newsletter

May 2022

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May Birthdays:

Joe Fiorentino 5/9
Janet Marks 5/8
Kathy Orchard 5/28



May Anniversaries:

Bill & Michele Mann 5/25



addition to Heise, Humphrey and Simms. On the way to the rally Hime, Griffin and Marks went down to the COE park on the Lake Okeechobee Locks.



The Okeechobee locks before the rally

Cares & Concerns

Please keep these members and families in your thoughts and prayers.

- Phyllis Horn will be having surgery to replace her pacemaker on May 11.
- Jan Heise will be undergoing robotic prostate surgery on June 17.
- Rose Lima is in the hospital, and they renewed their membership.
- Steve Hall continues to have health issues.

Our Sunshine Chairman, Shirley Fiorentino, sends cards out to those in our group in need. Please let her know if you know of anyone in our group with health or other issues who could use a card to cheer them up or let them know we care about them.



Our banner prominently displayed at the rally

Campout News

Florida Spring Rally

Seven of our group went to Okeechobee for the Florida Good Sams Spring Rally. These included our four officers, Horn, Hime, Griffin and Marks in



Happy hour at the rally

Linda Whittie camped with us at the rally and plans to start camping with our group when possible. We were also joined on most of our events by Rick and

Louise Stahurski. They live in The Villages and came to our May campout where they officially joined our GTS group.



VP Sharon Hime and Roger carried our banner at the rally opening ceremony



Assistant State Directors Dale and Phyllis Horn ran the State Store at the Rally



On Wednesday we had great seafood

Each day at the rally there were different competitive events including holey board, corn hole, beanbag baseball and Bocci. Our teams

competed in all the events, but earned no awards. However, Carol Griffin won first place in Mexican Train dominos.

We had some great entertainment which was supplemented by our own members.



Steve Griffin did a great job as one of "The Temptations"



Carol, Janet Louise S. stared in the line dancing



The real star was "Rocking Rick" Stahurski, our newest GTS member. He will fit right in with us!



May GTS Campout

Our May campout was held at Southern Oaks RV Resort in Summerfield, FL. It was hosted by Mickey and Janet Marks and Dale and Phyllis Horn. Thursday we enjoyed sitting outside and catching up with everyone. Bella found a new friend named Roger who was kind enough to give her plenty of neck scratches.



We enjoyed beautiful weather outside on Thursday.

Due to the warm weather we took advantage of the nice clubhouse and very supportive staff at the campground, we had our happy hours and meetings all in the clubhouse. After happy hour Friday we went to Sakura Japanese Restaurant. We all had a great time at dinner.



We had a large group for dinner Friday evening at Sakura Japanese Restaurant



Mickey got a drink of Saki at Sakura Japanese Restaurant

Friday evening after a big dinner with everyone bringing home boxes of left overs, we played games in the clubhouse. We had two large tables playing a new card game called Swoop, and another table playing Pegs and Jokers.

Saturday morning we all shared various cereals, fruits and sweets. At 10:00AM we had our monthly meeting where, in addition to our eleven campers, we had three drive-in members for a total of 28 people at our meeting. It was great to see so many people in attendance.



We had a group of 28 members at our May monthly meeting

After lunch on Saturday we played beanbag baseball. Teams were picked at random by drawing tickets. It was a high scoring, close game.



The May 2022 winning baseball team



Tim took a unique homerun hole view of his team



We also played several rounds of corn hole

Saturday for dinner the hosts provided us the main dish, which was a chicken and dressing casserole. Janet Marks shared her family recipe which is included with the newsletter email.

On Sunday morning we all brought sweets and breakfast items to share. Sharon Hime thanked our hosts and we gave them a round of applause. After breakfast we enjoyed packing up and helping Steve and Carol Griffin get their slide in.



The guys helped push Steve's slide in



The ladies claim they were the real pushers

Steve reports that they have an appointment scheduled this summer at the factory to have the slide rebuilt.

Jan and Joyce Heise had a little excitement on the way home when they had a trailer tire blowout on the turnpike. This adventure had some “What works and what doesn’t” lessons.



Heise’s unfortunate blowout on the turnpike

Jan was not worried as he had a big hydraulic jack, breaker bar and socket. He quickly removed four of the five tire nuts when he learned a valuable “What doesn’t work lesson.”



Regular sockets don’t work on cheap lug nuts

The fifth lug nut just rounded the edges when he tried to remove it. Factory lug nuts are not solid, but have thin chrome metal over the nut. At a minimum you need a six sided socket like the one on the right in the photo. Jan later learned that Roger, Steve and Tim have all replaced their lug nuts with solid nuts.

Joyce placed a call to the *347 FHP non-emergency number and they contacted the State Farm Road Ranger. After about thirty minutes Jan contacted Good Sam Roadside Assistance. They dispatched someone, but shortly thereafter the Road Ranger showed up. He had the correct socket, which he tapped onto the lug nut with a mallet, and he was able to remove it. In less than 15 minutes the spare was installed.

We replaced the bad lug nut with a new one Jan had bought to mount the spare when he replaced the black wheel with one that matched the wheels on the trailer.

Jan called the number of the company provided by Good Sam and they contacted the driver who was on the way and cancelled our roadside assistance call.

So, in the “what works” column goes the Road Ranger. The service is provided free by State Farm, and he refused to accept the \$20 Jan wanted to give him because it is against policy.

What also did not work, was the tire pressure and temperature monitor. (Only because it was not installed) That will be done before our next trip, along with replacing the 20 lug nuts with solid metal nuts and a new socket.

November GTS Campout Action Required

Humphrey and Miller will be hosting the November campout at Cypress Campground and RV Park in Winter Haven. This is in the prime camping season so we must make our reservations **NOW!**

Dates: Arrive: Thursday, Nov 3

Depart: Sunday, Nov 6

Cypress Campground and RV Park

PHONE: (863) 324-7400