



FTCAC Pirate FYI's February, 2018

New Officer Needed

The Nominating Committee is looking for someone to serve as Vice-President. This individual will be nominated, and elected, at the upcoming April meeting and installed at the November meeting. He/She will serve as VP in 2019 and as President in 2020. Contact **Sallie LittleJohn**, **Jill Ricketts** or **Alicia Rafter** if you are willing to serve. **Leslie Martin** has volunteered to take on the 2-year Director position, so only the VP position is open.

Luncheon, Palm City

Our annual March luncheon will be held at Manero's Restaurant, 2851 SW High Meadow, Palm City, FL 34990, on Monday, March 12, 2018 at 11:45. The food is good and the company is even better! Make plans to attend. **Please RSVP to Alicia Rafter by Wednesday, March 7.**

New Member

We welcome new member **Lori Adams** from Geneva, FL. We hope to meet her at a rally or club activity in the near future.

April Rally at Elite Resorts Citrus Valley, Clermont

Susan and Eric Arens and **Blair and Sallie LittleJohn** are co-hosting this rally, with help from **Jim and Edie Caldwell**. To view the resort and its amenities, go to www.citrusvalleyrv.com. Contact Susan staylor-arens@hotmail.com or Blair at blairstream72@gmail.com if you have questions. Do not call the campground for reservations!

Rally parking is \$35+tax per night for 3 nights only. If you wish to go in early or stay later, the regular \$55+ per night fee will apply (total \$61.05). In order to comply with the campground's requirements, we must have payments and a list of participants by **March 15**. Campground fee and rally fee may be paid in one check, payable to FTCU (bank account name not yet changed). The reservation form is available on the website ftcu.wbcc.net. Mail your check and coupon in time **to reach Blair by March 15.**

November Rally

The November Rally will be at the Okeechobee KOA Nov. 1 - 4. Rally hosts/co-hosts are needed! Please contact President Susan Taylor-Arens if you are willing to host.

2018 Region 3 Rally

You may still be able to get a spot for the Region 3 Rally, April 25 - 29 at the Ocean Lakes Family Campground in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Call 1-800-722-1451 now to make your reservations and have your name put on one of our sites. Tell them you are with the AIRSTREAM REGION 3 RALLY. They have blocked off the entire week of April 22 – 29 for us, but you do not have to stay the entire week—pick your length of stay. A 50% deposit is required at the time of making your reservation.

Note: In addition to making your campground reservation, you must go to the Region 3 website (<http://region3.wbcc.net>) and print out the R3 Rally Registration form (3rd item under Region 3 Rally in list on the left of the page, then click on the link shown). Fill it out and mail as directed with your check. These are due by **April 8 or 9**, depending on which page you are reading. There is no online registration for this rally.

Caravan to 2018 Region 3 Rally

Joe Smedley's tentative plans for the caravan include the following:

Sunday , April 22nd. Travel to FL/GA border area via US27,441,301 to I95 at Yulee, RV park to be determined, about 190 miles.

Monday, April 23rd, Travel via I 95 to Yemassee/Walterboro area, RV Park to be determined, about 180 miles. Two nights.

Tuesday April 24th, Tour Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, and historic Beaufort, SC, if time permits

Wednesday April 25th, Travel to Ocean Lakes Campground via US17 about 160 miles

Anyone interested in joining the caravan, contact Joe **by March 1st** so he can negotiate and reserve campsites. (863) 444-1234 or fjsjmedley@embarqmail.com

2018 International Rally

For details on the International Rally, see the *Blue Beret*.

Tidbits

Leslie Martin had knee replacement a few weeks ago. She is home doing her exercises now and of course, it hurts. Please keep her in your prayers.

Jon and Barbara Liversedge have sold their trailer and are eagerly awaiting their new one.

Like children waiting for Santa on Christmas Eve, they are excited!



Robert Stanton has been spoiling **Lea** as she recovers from surgery for endometrial cancer.

They are hoping that Lea will be strong enough to start radiation in early March. If the schedule holds, they hope to attend our club rally in April and make their first trip to the Region 3 Rally. Rob says he is “not without skills” and Lea says she is “a tough ol’ bird!” Recovery prayers are appreciated!

To accompany the photo at left, Lea wrote, “Recovery is good, and so is bundling up with home made broccoli soup!”

In another email, Lea wrote that **Karen and Gary Goforth** went to the Stantons' house to watch the Falcon Heavy lift off. "The lack of Northern trees on our lot make for a little better view. After burn off we ran inside to watch the re-entry of the stages on the landing pads. Wow! Wow!

What excites me most is that there are so many young people interested in the space program. It reminds me when my generation watched us land on the moon.

"Gary noted that I have some sparkle back in my eyes! Probably the space program. I grew up on Navy bases where the early astronauts were recruited. Gus Grissom, who died during a pre launch test for Apollo 1, taught me to water ski. None of us kids thought too much of living with such extraordinary people. Looking back, I am grateful that my father declined to join the program. Instead he entered the 1000 aviator program which literally tracked their behavior for the rest of their lives. We were more anxious that our dads came home nightly from test flights. It was not all anxiety. Pilots had to have X number of fly time hours, so when their numbers were low, Daddy and crew would zip to Maine and come home with a crate of live lobsters. You should have heard my mom when she saw what filled the bathtub!"

Recycle Opportunity: If you haven't already thrown them out, please save Christmas cards for **Sallie LittleJohn**. Also she'd like to have any greeting cards, not just Christmas ones. She makes tiny, nesting, novelty gift boxes from them which she demonstrated at the recent picnic. She then generously handed them out to those who wanted them.

Daria and Alden Tansey and **Alicia and Mike Rafter** attended the Farmlife in Florida 2.0 Rally in early February, hosted by the Southeastern Camping Unit. They enjoyed a challenging miniature golf course, seeing "old" friends and making new ones, good food and two nights of entertainment by Antsy McLean. The Rafter's canoed four miles of the Hillsborough River, seeing only four humans and many, many alligators, turtles and wading birds.

While driving in the south end of West Palm Beach last week, Alicia Rafter spotted what appears to be a customized Airstream. With colored bottles inside surrounding the rear "window," it appears that it might be a "party trailer."



Twenty-five people attended the BYOB & F picnic on January 21 at the Rafter's home. The weather was cooperative and pleasant! Everyone seemed to have a good time! The (non-existent) award for farthest distance traveled to attend went to **Carol Wallen** from The Villages and her daughter visiting her from Ohio. In attendance were **Eric and Susan Arens, Ed and Charlotte Curran, Ron and Dorothy Engel, Gary and Karen Goforth, Charlie and Carol Helm, Blair and Sallie LittleJohn, Jack and Mary Ann McLaughlin, Don and Gail North, Mike and Alicia Rafter, Rob Stanton, Jack and Joan Starr, Alan Strickland** and daughter **Cindi, Carol Wallen** and daughter **Vicki**.

Top to Bottom, Left to Right: Carol Wallen & Vicki; Ed, Charlie, Allen, Eric & Blair; Mike & Jack, Sallie, Joan & Dot; Rob, Gary, Karen & Cindi.

