



FTCAC Pirate FYI's April/May, 2018

April Rally

Twenty-seven people attended the spring rally "Blueberries & BBQ" at the Elite Citrus Valley RV Resort in Clermont. Those in attendance were: **Susan and Eric Arens, Jim and Edie Caldwell, Joe and Tammy Dinneen** (with two guests), **John and Jackie Groeneveld, Blair and Sallie LittleJohn, Charles and Peggy Matthews, Gene and Sandy Poast, Mike and Alicia Rafter, Jill Ricketts and Lois Martens, Joe and Sue Smedley, Rob and Lea Stanton, Allen and David Strickland, Sue Wendt.** Activities open to the group included a tour of the Presidents Hall of Fame in downtown Clermont, a tour of the Dreamcatcher Horse Rescue Center and nearby blueberry picking. As usual, there was plenty of food - a potluck dinner on Thursday evening; a hot breakfast provided by **Joe and Sue Smedley** and their helpers on Friday morning; a catered BBQ meal Friday night followed by ice cream and homemade blueberry cobbler made by **Edie Caldwell**; and a make-your-own-sandwich from Publix cold cuts for Saturday lunch. The Business meetings were held Saturday morning; minutes will be sent out when available. Many thanks to **Susan Taylor-Arens, Blair LittleJohn and Edie Caldwell.** See page 3 for important news from the meeting.

Region 3 Rally

Five members of FTCAC attended the Region Rally in Myrtle Beach. **Mike and Alicia Rafter, Joe and Sue Smedley, Rob and Lea Stanton and Sue Wendt** caravanned from Clermont, with an overnight in Folkston, GA and two nights in Walterboro, SC where **Jan Werner** joined



them. There were close to 190 trailers and 348 people at the beachfront rally. In addition to the planned entertainment by a storyteller/author; an unusual, and well known, clogging group; and a Celtic music group with Airstream affiliations, attendees were highly entertained by the Blue Angels as they practiced overhead on Thursday and Friday in preparation for their Saturday and Sunday Air Shows. Most folks felt that the practices were more fun than the actual shows. Since the airport is only 6 miles from the campground, we had plenty of flyover action, even in our "cheap seats."

Bill Wild, current President of the Georgia Unit, was elected 2nd VP of Region 3. He joins 1st VP Randy Godfrey and President John Leake as the Region leadership team.

New Members

We heartily welcome new members **Jan and Matt Healy** from Green Cove Springs, **Joe and Tammy Dinneen** of Orlando, **Wally and Rene Dabasinskas** from Lakewood Ranch, FL and **Greg and Marcy Ruhl** from Lake Worth, FL. We look forward to seeing all of them in the future.

When asked for introductory info about themselves, the Dinneens sent the following. We hope to receive similar introductory info from our other new members soon.

We are in our 40th year of marriage-Still in the Clouds (Flying Cloud)!

We have 2 children Julie and Tony and 3 grandsons; Alec 6, Logan 6 and James 2.

Both of us will be retired for one year by May 1st. Joe worked at Publix Miami Distribution Warehouse for 35 years, holding positions in management and as a truck driver. The logistics of local deliveries could be as far north as Lakeland or as far south as Key West. He has driven over 2 million miles. Also, during this time he has competed in numerous truck rodeos within the Publix divisions and the Florida Trucking Association Championships, driving the tractor trailer through a series of obstacle courses, winning against other drivers from various companies such as UPS, FEDEX, DHL, Walmart, etc.

Tammy worked 25 years with Delta Air Lines in various positions; aircraft services, cargo agent, ticket/gate agent, Miami Cargo supervisor, lastly as Cargo Executive Sales Manager of Florida.

We have been traveling the world together by air enjoying the adventures, and are continuing our love of travel in our Airstream!

Tammy and Joe Dinneen

Still in the Clouds

Another Way to Airstream

Jackie Groeneveld recently sent details on how they have extended their Airstream enjoyment.

Since I am part of the Working Club, I can only dream of caravans, long trips and spur of the moment get-aways. But I don't like sitting at home week after week either, especially during the winter.

Last summer we came up with an idea. Rent a campsite and use our trailer as a weekend cottage. In August, we went through 5 campgrounds before we found a park that had lots available during the winter. Nature's RV Resort in Homosassa had a lot available so we immediately made our reservation.

We arrived in February. We parked the trailer, set it up and did not have to move it for 2 months. I was able to take every other Friday off, so we could extend our weekend stays. It was nice to arrive, turn the key in the door and enjoy ourselves.

Every weekend we enjoyed the river, the large dog park and riding our bikes. We made our reservations for next year. Yes, I have already requested days off for 2019.

Now we can look forward to winter!

New Name Badges

At the recent General Business Meeting, a motion passed specifying that our club treasury pay for new name badges for all FTCAC International members who request them according to the proscribed procedure. Since the International logo was changed a few years ago, most of our member badges are outdated. Additionally, many are faded or yellowed due to use and/or age. In order for badges to be paid for by our club, they must be requested through our club. We plan to send in an order by the end of May, and another one next Fall. Due to the heavy workload at WBCCI HQ occasioned by the International Rally, processing the May order will be understandably delayed.

If you wish to order a new name badge, send an email to me abrafter@bellsouth.net with the following information **by May 29th**. I will acknowledge receipt of your email. Please be sure your information is correct, since I will be forwarding them on to HQ.

Send the following for **each** person. You may include two badge orders in one email.

Your name as you want it to appear on the badge.

Current office held or former office for which you wish to be known. Specify Unit, Region or Int'l.

Address you wish the badge(s) mailed to.

November Rally

We have no hosts for the November Rally at Okeechobee KOA. The dates are Nov. 1 - 4, 2018. Please let us know if you're willing to host. It is not hard to do! Please step up and do your part, especially if you have not done so. **Susan Taylor-Arens** will serve as Wagonmaster and will collect campground fees and rally fees. Checks will be made out to FTCAC and mailed to Susan. Look for more detailed information in June or July. [Editor's note: Club Presidents should NOT have to host rallies; AND Susan has already hosted the April one.]

2018 International Rally

For details on the International Rally, see the *Blue Beret*. Joe Smedley is the FTCAC Delegate to the Delegates' Meeting. Sue Smedley is the alternate.

Memorial for Don North

A large number of family and friends gathered in Port St. Lucie on Saturday, March 17, 2018, for a Memorial Service for **Don North**. They reflected Don's main interests: family, Airstreaming, playing bridge and the Treasure Coast Symphony.

In addition to **Gail**, family members who are FTCAC members included **Debbie and Anthony DiCicco**, and **Tony DiCicco**, their son. Other FTCAC members/former members present were: **Charlie and Carol Helm, Ed and Charlotte Curran, Blair LittleJohn, Jack and Mary Ann McLaughlin, Mike and Alicia Rafter, Allen Strickland, and Sue Wendt.**

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.

Remember to save pop tops from aluminum cans to be donated at each International Rally.

The editor wishes to thank **Jackie Groeneveld** and **Tammy Dinneen** for their contributions to this issue. Some of you know how I have pleaded for "news" to publish in this newsletter. 😊 Please follow their lead and send in your own contributions — travels, stay-cations, volunteer work, family "milestones," whatever.



Happy Memorial Day, May 28, 2018.