

July-August 2016



The Tennessee State Club of Winnebago International Travelers

VOL State Winnies News

VSW Wins Row Decorations!

For the second consecutive year, VSW won the row decoration competition at GNR. Unlike last year when we competed in the 1 to 14 coaches group, in 2016 we competed in the 15 to 39 coach group meaning much stiffer competition but with Dave Franke's interpretation of the *Many Borders, No Boundaries* and the help of many volunteers VSW was the resounding winner. In addition to bragging rights, this event included a \$100 cash prize to VSW. The display consisted of a 12-foot depiction of Tennessee with major highways and attractions surrounded by individual states that have either attended our rallies/campouts or that have been visited by our VSW members. Each state was color coded and indicated the number of coaches involved.



Continuing the theme, the display also contained a whiskey still—used to serve Lynchburg Lemonade and our own picking and grinning Hillbilly band. (Photos on pages 6-9)

VSW Wins Newsletter Award!

As part of the GNR celebration, WIT selects the club or chapter who publishes the best newsletter. The competition is open to all active WIT clubs and chapters who submit copies of their newsletters to WIT.

VSW was selected as the 2016 winner. In addition to a certificate, the award includes a \$50.00 prize. Congratulations and thanks to Jan Mobley, as well as contribution from the Chapters, Yvonne Potts (our Sunshine correspondent) and others who helped allow our Tennessee club set the bar for WIT newsletters.



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THEY'RE OUT THERE!!!



Since October 2015, we have signed up 11 new coaches (22 members) but have lost 9 coaches—the latest being Dave and Fran Surlles.

To remain a viable club, and chapters, we need new members and there are ample potential members just waiting for an invitation to join. At GNR, we met, invited and gained two new families—one from the Gardens—and expect the four other Tennessee attendees to join shortly.

On the journey home, we met an additional family from Sevierville who expressed interest and hopefully will join.

We need your help. Keep your eyes open for new members. Introduce yourself and extend an invitation to join or at least attend one of our state of chapter outings.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Well it's over. GNR 2016 wrapped up in a thunder storm but was a resounding success for Tennessee and its' WIT clubs. A total of 30 coaches attended the rally; 24 VSW members (includes two who signed up during the rally), of which, 9 parked in the state row. While we did not have the highest attendance, the state was well represented—not only by the number of coaches—but by visibility of our many volunteers.

As always, VSW and its chapters provided a disproportional number of volunteers—even some of our newest members who where first timers to GNR volunteered. Even with their volunteer duties, everyone helped with row decorations, found time to spend time in our hospitality tent and just visit.

Competition for state row decorations took on a new twist this year. Instead of competing based on the number of coaches parked in the state row, the groups were based on total state attendance. As a result, we had to compete in the 15 - 39 coaches group—last year we were in the 1 - 14 group. Needless to say, the competition was much stiffer this year, but Dave Franke's interpretation of *Many borders, No boundaries* and his team's dedication and skilled execution resulted in a resounding "win" for VSW.

But the awards do not stop there. VSW's Newsletter also won the award for the best newsletter for 2015-16. Congratulations to Jan for a job well done.

Still more. Vol State Winnies won Club of Excellence and Rocky Top Travelers, Music City Winnies and West Tennessee Travels Chapter of Excellence Awards.

Needless to say, Tennessee and its WIT Club was highly visible throughout GNR. To everyone who attended, you have my heartfelt gratitude and thanks for a job well done.

Keith Mobley, President

Vol State Winnies



Making Friends

What an experience! GNR is unlike any other camping outing ever! We were first-timers and there was a lot to take in.

I especially enjoyed my driving lesson and two classes with our own VSW member, Sue Argabrite,. She helped me relax behind the wheel and corrected my seat position to give me better control and less fatigue.

A special thank you to all the ladies who baked cornbread. It was delicious! All varieties were enjoyed by the many who came by for Lynchburg Lemonade and had a special surprise of a chewable treat, as well. You all did a super job of baking and SERVING in that horrid heat and humidity.

It was inconceivable that we would have leftovers but leftovers we had. That's when Robyn Roscoe had the idea to gather it up and take over to an outdoor concert that was taking place. No problems with storing leftovers; the Moores and Roscoes blessed the concert crowds that evening with muncies.

See you at the state meeting in October where we'll make more friends!

CHANGES TO WIT BY-LAWS

During GNR, Denise Yeager introduces changes to WIT By-Laws that become effective August 1, 2016 that will require comparable changes in the VSW and its chapters' by-laws. Once we receive an official version of the new WIT by-laws, we will send out a formal request the our membership to approve the required changes to our by-laws.

In the interim, here are the major changes to the WIT by-laws:

1. The official name is Winnebago International Travelers, changed from Winnebago-Itasca Travelers.
2. Any member canceling their membership may receive a refund of any full year of unused dues upon request as long as that member returns his ID plate and membership card to the WIT Club office.
3. Each club or chapter must elect at least the following officers: president, vice president, secretary and treasurer from the membership
 - It is recommended to elect officers in one-year terms.
 - Only offices of secretary and treasurer may be combined into one person.
4. President limited to no more than 5 consecutive years of service. All other officers can serve unlimited consecutive teams.
5. Presidents will receive one-year of complimentary WIT membership for each year of service--if the Club or Chapter receives Excellence status for the year served. Other officers will receive 6-months of complimentary WIT membership-if Excellence status is achieved.
6. Friendship outing (no rallies) can be held no more than once every 12 months and must be approved at least 4 months prior to the event.
7. Club or chapter authority derives from by-laws and operating policies duly adopted by vote of the membership. Such voting may take place in duly called meeting or by mail/e-mail ballot. Proxy voting may not be used.

The major changes involve the complimentary WIT membership for service officers--the first time this group has been given any compensation for their efforts and the ability to use mail or e-mail in lieu of meetings to authorize club or charter actions.

These changes will need to be reflected in our club and chapter by-laws, as will the official name of WIT. Changing our term of service from 2-years to one is at the discretion of the members and unless the membership recommends this change, there is no plan to change the current 2-years terms. However, the 5 year limit on consecutive terms for the president will need to incorporated into our club and chapter by-laws.

If there are any questions and/or comments on these changes, please contact your club or chapter president.

Winnebago

News

Club-Chapter of Excellence Award Changes

In 2016, the rules and requirements to receive the Club or Chapter of Excellence Award will change.

Details of these changes are not yet available, but expectations are that it will become more difficult to win the award.

Consumers Panels Formed

During GNR, WIT created Consumers Panels each of its business units. These panels, consisting of Winnebago owners will provide end-user feedback (voice of the customer) directly to the business unit leaders.

VSW is represented on two of these panels. Jimmy Fitts is on the Gas-driven and Keith Mobley on the Diesel-pushers panels.

WIT By-Law Changes

Denise Yeager announced that there have been changes to the WIT By-Laws, some of which will require modification of VSW and its Chapters By-Laws as well.

Details will be forthcoming shortly and will be shared with all members.

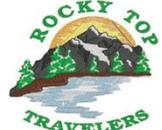
MUSIC CITY WINNIES



Congratulations to the Music City Winnies for their 2016 Chapter of Excellence Award. Unfortunately, no one from MCW made it to GNR this year, but they were there in spirit.

Their July campout was cancelled due to lack of participation. They are looking forward to camping at Salt Lick Creek August 19-21. Ya'all come!

ROCKY TOP TRAVELERS



Congratulations to the Rocky Top Travelers for their 2016 Chapter of Excellence Award.

We were well represented at 2016 GNR with most of our members serving as volunteers in a variety of capacities. They really put the VOL in volunteer for this organization.

We need our folks and others who may want to join in to get their reservations made for our September campout at Tom Sawyer in West Memphis, Arkansas for Sept. 22-25. Some are arriving as early as the 20th; there is much to see in the Memphis area. Please use Jan Mobley's name when making your reservations. 870-735-9770

WEST TENNESSEE TRAVELERS



Congratulations to the West Tennessee Travelers for their 2016 Chapter of Excellence Award.

West TN Travelers did not have a July club meeting at GNR as everyone was busy with parking or Vol State row decorations. Members present were: Larry & Jane Bolding, Mark & Pat Bolding, Judy Doyle (parked in NOTOWBAGO row), Mike & Diana Logan, Cliff & Kay Klein, and new members Hulon & Donna Bush from Springville, TN.

The pre-rally week started out with rain and delayed parking but cleared up and the parkers moved the motor homes thru quickly. The weather turned HOT and muggy for GNR, which made for few members showing up at the TN tent for evening gathering. The club did go out to Mitchell's for ribs & chicken on Thursday night of pre-rally week.





SUNSHINE CORNER

Sympathy cards have been sent to the families of Lee Cordar and Betty Stone.

Lee was president of Vol State Winnies from 2001-02. Brent Nickles, who served as secretary during that time, recalls Lee as an easy-going fellow who Brent enjoyed knowing and working alongside. He passed away July 4.

Betty and her husband, C.W. , were active in both VSW and Music City Winnies. They were friendly, out-going people. Betty is still remembered for her delicious cakes. Betty died on July 20th at their home in Franklin, TN.

A 'thinking of you' card was sent to Carolyn McComsey, who has received a serious diagnosis. Carolyn is the sister of new member, Hulon Bush. Please keep Carolyn and her family in your thoughts and prayers as they go through this time of treatment for Carolyn.

New VSW Shirts



Some members have expressed a need for new VSW shirts and since this is our 40th Anniversary, it seemed the perfect time to get this started.

Joe Moore has made inquiries at a business in the Crossville area that can more than supply our needs. Joe and Jan Mobley plan to visit and try on various styles of shirts to see what type will work best. This will also help us determine the sizing since that can vary quite a bit.

In addition to the VSW logo, the shirts will honor our anniversary with the line, 1976—2016. We anticipate an email with photos, pricing and sizing information to go out in late August or early September. We should be able to have some by the October state meeting but orders can still be placed at that meeting in October.

NEW MEMBERS

We gained a new member family in May, but failed to introduce them in our earlier newsletters. Please welcome:

Glenn and Marilyn Breeden (W170069), 166 Sligo Street, Crossville, TN. Glenn and Marilyn joined us on the Tennessee Row at GNR.

Three new members joined VSW during GNR. We have added 11 new members since October, 2015 and look forward to getting to know them better in upcoming campouts. Join us in welcoming our newest members.

Hulon and Donna Bush (W168448), 201 Pineview Drive, Springville, TN. While they maintain a brick and mortar home in Springville, they have been full-timers for the past few years.

Rich and Lisa Campbell (W147380), 105 Our Way Loop, Crossville, TN. Rich and Lisa are long-time members of RTT and joined VSW during GNR.

Irwin and Debbie Gordon (W169573), 1665 Scenic Woods Way, Sevierville, TN. Irwin was waiting for us at the meet and greet tent eager to join both RTT and VSW.

GNR 2016 Row Night



VSW's Hee Haw Jug Band entertains the judges during competition. Missing is dancer, Irene Craig. Shown are Dave Franke, Corrie Butler, Michael Logan, Glenn Craig, Stephen Pacheco, and Robert Butler. Hiding from the revenuers behind Robert is Valerie Ralston.



Did someone mention Lynchburg Lemonade? Feeding the crowds cornbread and our own Tennessee 'recipe'.

GNR 2016 Row Night



Don't ask me, he just showed up and stayed and stayed. Seriously, Lady Winnie had lost his chandelier earrings by this point. Guess that lemonade knocked them right off. Serving are Mark and Larry Bolding and new member, Rich Campbell.



The calm before the storm at the award winning display.

GNR 2016



The Tennessee flag enters the amphitheater carried by Michael Logan during the Parade of Flags. He was joined by Robert Butler and Keith Mobley. We'll get Michael an orange shirt for 2017!



Pre-rally week fatigue had already set in for our hardworking parkers although a younger member had boundless energy and always a big smile.

GNR 2016



Guess who learned to whistle? Miss Kelserae Potts, that's who! While Rocky Top camping in KY, Milt Smith caught her to whistle. She became an expert. Little Miss Potts also took a third place ribbon in Photography at the GNR Craft Event. Not bad for a seven year old!

LET'S HAVE A PARTY!



Saturday, October 22, 2016 during our Fall Campout, Vol State Winnies will celebrate our 40th Birthday/Anniversary of our state chapter being formed. This is exciting stuff.

Invitations are going out this month to former members and officers who have 'aged out' of the RV lifestyle. We hope many are able to attend. Due to the anticipated ages of our guests, we are moving our catered meal to Saturday at noon rather than in the evening. It will be a hot dog and hamburger cookout with sides and, of course, cake and ice cream.

Basically, it will be whatever I (Jan) decide it will be since no one has come forward to engage in the planning. I will most definitely be contacting people to oversee various aspects of that weekend since my clone has gone AWOL. I totally understand what it is like to read a newsletter or email and think, 'I need to let them know I can help' and then life happens and we do not make that contact. So, I am moving on. If you can lend a hand in any capacity, please let me know. Otherwise, the draft will be back in action as we move closer to October.



VOL STATE WINNIES

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MEETING, CAMPOUT & RALLY SCHEDULES

2016

Aug 7-10	Lake View Campground, Bluff City, TN	RTT
Aug 15-18	Long Branch COE CG, Long Branch, TN	WTT
Aug 19-21	Salt Lick Campground Gainesboro	MCW
Sep 16-18	Long Branch Campground, Lancaster, TN	MCW
Sep 12-15	Columbus/Belmont State Park, Columbus, KY	WTT
Sept. 22-25	Tom Sawyer CG, West Memphis, AR	RTT
Oct 17-20	Lock A, COE CG, , Ashland City, TN	WTT
Oct 20-23	VSW Campout, Lebanon, TN	ALL
Nov 12	Corner Pub Mt. Juliet, TN 12 Noon	MCW
Nov 9-15	TBD	RTT
Nov 14-17	TBD	WTT
Dec 3	Member Appreciation Luncheon, TBD	RTT
Dec TBD	Christmas Meal and Meeting	WTT

Music City Winnies
 Rocky Top Travelers
 West TN Travelers
 ALL—Vol State Winnies

Neighboring State Rallies

Sep 16-18	Virginia State Rally, Roanoke, VA	ALL
Oct 27-30	Louisiana State Rally, Rayne, LA	ALL

Louisiana Rally in October!

Following our October campout (10/20-10/23), several VSW coaches plan to head to Rayne, LA for the Louisiana State Rally. Join us for the fun!

Registration information can be found in the April/May issue of Wit Club News. We hear this is a 'not to be missed' rally.

