

June-July 2016



The Tennessee State Club of Winnebago International Travelers

VOL State Winnies News

Birthday Party.....Or, Not?

At our April state meeting, we liked the idea of celebrating our state chapter's 40 Anniversary with a party to be held at our October State Meeting. We asked that a couple folks step up to help Jan with the planning and implementation.....silence has followed. Deafening silence. So, if we want to do this please step up and let Jan know you want to work on this project. It could really be a fun event.

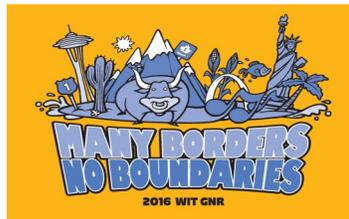
Thank you to Rose Brummit who visited the April meeting and brought contact information for former members who might enjoy attending such a celebration. For this to move forward, we'll need contact info from our other state clubs, Rocky Top and West Tennessee.

This is a great, fun group! Staying together for 40 years is a significant achievement. Let's celebrate that!

Still Time to Register for GNR!!

As of June 15th, we had 26 coaches registered for GNR. This number upholds that VOL State Winnies have a high profile at GNR. Not only do we have good attendance, averaging 15-25 coaches, but our members provide parking assistance, staff the front gate and generally live up to the "volunteer" state reputation. Let's have a great showing of Vol State Winnies at the Grand National Rally this July 18-23. You may register online at ww.witclub.com or by telephone at 1-800-643-4892.

We hope to see you in Forest City!!!



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Corner.	2
Sunshine Corner.	2
Making Friends.	3
Music City Winnies.	4
Rocky Top Travelers.	4
West TN Travelers.	4
Outings & Events	6
Contact Information	6

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

GNR First Time Tips.	3
Winnebago News.	4





THEY'RE OUT THERE!!!



Since October 2015, Winnebago has sold 104 new coaches in Tennessee. Only 32 of the new owners have joined WIT and of those who have joined WIT, 8 have joined VSW and/or one of our chapters.

As you travel throughout the year, be on the lookout for Winnebago and Country Coach motorhomes with Tennessee tags. Talk to them and let them know how great it is to be in WIT and VSW and the great friends they will have in your local chapters.

FYI, the beginning of 2016, VSW has lost 9 coaches or one more that we have gained.

We have prepared a trifold brochure that includes an application, as well as business-sized cards with contact information. Let us know how many you need to promote VSW and our 3 chapters!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As you read this, many of you are on your way to Forest City, IA and Winnebago's Grand National Rally. As usual, VSW and its member chapters will be well represented, albeit hidden at GNR. Of the 26 coaches registered for GNR only 9 will park in the Tennessee State Row. While I understand that it would be inconvenient for those helping with greeting and parking or are affiliated with other special groups to join us on the state row, I am disappointed in the low percentage.

Loss of members continues to be a primary concern. Health problems (the latest Dave Surles), discontentment with Winnebago quality and other reasons continue to diminish our ranks. VSW has lost 9 coaches (18 members) since October, 2015.

Currently, we have 58 coaches in VSW. There are an additional 7 coaches that are members of RTT, 4 that are members of WTT that are not members of VSW. Since members of a Tennessee chapter can attend VSW outings, there really is no advantage for joining the state club--other than it is the club's only source of income.

It's really difficult to put on a state campout and near impossible a state rally on a total income of \$580, plus fees. Our April outing lost \$400.00 and we expect that October will be worse.

I really need your help encouraging current members to stay and in finding new members. There are plenty of potential members out there. Winnebago (and Itasca) continue to sell an average of 12 coaches each month.

Keith Mobley, VSW President



SUNSHINE CORNER

Yvonne Potts has kindly stepped up to serve as our ray of sunshine for the coming two years. If you know of anyone in VSW who is in need of cheer or condolences, please contact Yvonne at ixstichtwo@aol.com.

After a heart situation in early April, Dave Surles experienced a related stroke in May. At this time Dave is doing quite well and praising the group of cardiologists and neurosurgeons over in Cookeville. We may all want to get names and numbers since they have done a great job keeping up with Dave's medical situation.

FIRST TIME TO GNR?

Some of us will be making our first pilgrimage to Forest City and Winnebago Industries' *Grand National Rally* in July. The anticipation is both exciting and intimidating—1500 motorhomes in one place! So, we thought we would share a few tips that have been given to us by the cadre of VSW members who are fixtures at GNR.

You will be dry camping while at GNR. You will have power and shared water but no sewer connections. Be prepared:

- Empty your holding tanks before entering the campground.
- Make sure your fresh water tank is full before entering the campground.
- Disconnect your toad before entering the campground. There will be a line waiting to be parked. Use this time to disconnect and park your toad
- Purchase *Honey Wagon* tickets at the front gate (as you enter the campgrounds). They are \$25 each. A ticket must be displayed on the road side of your RV no later than 7:00 a.m. the day service is needed.
- Tell the Greeters that you are a *first timer*. Your badge will signify you are a first timer and everyone—especially WIT personnel and members will make sure that you enjoy GNR.
- Bring extra power cables and potable water hoses. Potable water is shared and hoses will be needed to daisy-chain between coaches
- Cars are not allowed in the RV parking areas. Designated parking areas are available on the perimeter of the grounds. Do not attempt to drive within the grounds.
- People movers are free and continuously circle through the grounds. Bicycles, golf carts—but not ATVs—are also allowed.
- Bus service to points outside the campground is available. Schedules will be in your Rally Program.
- Register early for any events or activities to make sure you can get in or participate. This also applies to any service work you may want done.
- The pace will be frenetic—too much to see, too much to do—so plan your time before you get there.
- Read your March/April and May/June WIT Club News thoroughly. They are an excellent source of information and schedules. Also, the website, www.witclub.com allows you to register for classes and events.

If you have questions or concerns, ask one of the seasoned veterans or let us know and we will attempt to answer your questions.

Making Friends

RVing in UK

Keith and I enjoyed a rare trip out of the USA in early June. We signed on for a two week motor coach tour of England and Scotland; it was most enjoyable. We noticed quite a few campers and smaller motorhomes on their highways and lanes. The parks for camping were quite small and without many amenities but enjoying good turnout.

While touring in Scotland, our tour director suggested the driver take a short-cut down a country lane. It became so narrow that both sides of the bus often scraped the trees and shrubs lining the road. All went well until we reached a stone one-lane bridge followed by an ascending curve. The bus could not make the turn--too tight and too sharp. Our driver saw this before getting on the bridge.

Our driver, Derrick, backed the bus for 1.5 miles on a narrow, curving lane until reaching an intersecting lane for turnaround. This with only slight damage to the skin of the bus.

We tourists erupted in cheers for our intrepid driver's skills!

Winnebago

News

At the June 15, 2016, board of directors meeting Larry Erickson stepped down as chair of the board of directors and informed the board of his intention to retire from the board at the conclusion of his current term in December of 2016.

The Board of Directors have elected Robert M. Chiusano as chair of the Company's Board of Directors effective June 15, 2016. Mr. Chiusano will continue to serve as the chair of the Human Resources Committee until at least December of 2016. Mr. Chiusano has been a member of the board of directors since October of 2008. He assisted in the assembly of the Company's strong management team, including the appointment of Michael Happe as president and chief executive officer in January 2016. Prior to joining Winnebago Industries board, Mr. Chiusano was the chief operating officer, Commercial Systems, for Rockwell Collins, Inc., a provider of communication and aviation electronic solutions for commercial and military applications.



MUSIC CITY WINNIES AND ROCKY TOP

While we have not heard from Robert and Brent, we know that these two clubs are enjoying a busy summer of RVing. The Butlers are, no doubt somewhere between Tennessee and Forest City. The Nickles, we're sure are busy working and squeezing RVing in every opportunity they have.

See you in Forest City, Rocky Toppers and Music City Winnies!!

Travel safely!!

WEST TENNESSEE TRAVELERS



WTT had our June 13th campout at Canal COE Campground, Lake Barkley, KY with six coaches present. The greatest pleasure was to have our youngest member along, Carissa Dixon, age 6. She is staying with grandparents, Ken & Jeannette Dixon for the summer.

The weather was very warm and muggy but still had some cool breezes during the day. Monday we enjoyed a potluck and dessert. On Tuesday, we traveled to Grand Rivers, KY to eat at Patti's 1880 Settlement. Their food was great and many of us carried leftovers and desserts back to enjoy later.

Being RVers, we sat around each day discussing coaches and were able to take a look at the Logan's new Winnebago Trend with twin beds.

Only one of our WTT coaches will be absent from GNR. Our July meeting will be held in Forest City.

Thank You Cornbread Bakers!

We know the crowds will enjoy your efforts!

Name	Pineapple Cream Cheese	Jalapeno Cornbread	Sour Cream Cornbread
Cathy Moore		X	
Corrie Butler		X	
Diana Logan			X
Gail Franke			X
Irene Craig	X		
Jan Mobley		X	X
Jane Bolding		X	
Judy Doyle	X		
Lynn Fitts		X	X
Pat Bolding	X		
Robyn Roscoe	X		
Sue Argabrite		X	
Sue Entner			X
Veronica Ralston	X		
Yvonne Potts	X		



It is with a heavy heart I announce that Dave Surles has sold his motorhome. Dave has been a fixture in the RTT/VSW kitchens , rallies and campouts for over ten years. But, as he says, ‘When it stops being fun, it’s time to get out’. We do not know how we will go on; it will take more than one person to fill your shoes in VSW, Dave!

And, it is with a joyful heart that I share the news of the REMARRIAGE of Dave Surles to his lovely bride, Fran Surles! Yes, they discovered it was better together. They tied the knot on Friday, June 17, 2016. For a while at least, Dave’s great doctors will keep these two from being in Florida permanently. So, for now, they will spend time in both Florida and TN. We are delighted to know that true love won out and they continue to have some Tennessee roots. Congratulations and best wishes for a long, happy life, Fran and Dave!



VOL STATE WINNIES

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MEETING, CAMPOUT & RALLY SCHEDULES

2016

Jun 13-16	Canal, COE CG, Lake Barkley, KY	WTT
Jun 17-19	Salt Lick Friendship Outing ,Gainesboro	MCW
Jun 21-26	Whispering Hills RV Park, Georgetown, KY	RTT
Jul 8-10	Salt Lick Campground, Gainesboro, TN	MCW
Jul 12-17	Grand National Rally, Forest City, IA	ALL
Jul 18-23	Grand National Rally, Forest City, IA	ALL
Aug 15-18	Long Branch COE CG, Long Branch, TN	WTT
Aug 19-21	Salt Lick Campground Gainesboro	MCW
Aug 7-10	Lake View Campground, Bluff City, TN	RTT
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

May 12-15	Georgia State Rally, Brunswick, GA	ALL
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.