

December/2017



The Tennessee State Club of Winnebago International Travelers

# VOL State Winnies News

## VOL STATE WINNIES CAMPOUT APRIL 2018

COHOSTED BY MCW

### NASHVILLE I-24 CAMPGROUND—SMYRNA, TN

20 sites have been reserved for VOL State Winnies. 50 amp sites are \$35/night and 30 amp sites are \$33/night. Good Sam members will get a 10% discount from those fees. **Each RV must make their own reservations and ask for the VOL State Winnies Group.** The sites will be reserved until March 1, 2018, and then will be released. **Make your reservations early to get the site you want. Reservations call 615-459-5818.**

Facilities include an enclosed shelter with electric outlets and heater, if needed,. There are picnic tables for seating and fold up tables for potlucks, etc. The Rally fee will be collected at the business meeting based on costs. More information will be sent as a schedule is develops.

Things in the area are: Murphreesboro with several interesting sites, Franklin—a historic town, Historic Sam Davis Home in Smyrna, the TN Walking Horse Museum in Wartrace and Bell Buckle. There are several good restaurants in the area also.

The campground will have music on Fri night for all the campers to enjoy.

## A BIG THANK YOU

**A big Thanks to the Officers for the last 2 years. You all did a great job and put on some wonderful campouts and the recent VOL State Winnies Rally. Per usual the decorations and efforts with the newsletter were winners. It is our hope that the new officers will be able to carry on the great tradition and keep the club energized. We ask for all of your help in our efforts and send each and every one of you and your families our wishes for a Blessed Christmas and New Year. Many will be traveling over the winter and we hope your travels and stays in warmer climates are wonderful.**



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## NEW Products

Winnebago has launched some new RV's.

The Revel is for the outdoor enthusiast. It is on a Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 4x4 platform. The 4x4 will take you places your RV could not take you before.

Intent—This is a Class A coach for those on a budget. The design and concept are a result of Winnebago listening to dealers and customers. There are 4 floor plans from 26' to 31'.

Horizon—Reintroduced this Class A Diesel has modern design and bold styling. It is built on the Maxum Chassis.

Minnie Plus Fifth-Wheel

It has been added to the family of Minnies. There are 3 floor plans to include 25' and two 27" plans. Each floor plan has private sleeping space with a queen bed and a full bath.

## Sunshine Report

**Cards were sent out to Tom Borla, Jan Mobley and Yvonne Potts. We send our wishes for all to stay well and healthy into the New Year. Our thoughts and prayers are with any who are having health issues.**

## President's corner

As the newly elected President of the Vol State Winnies, I first want to thank Keith and Jan Mobley for taking the reins of VSW for the past 2 years. They have done a remarkable job in promoting the club, and more recently orchestrated a Great State Rally. Responses from the participants were very positive and expressed having a good time. In addition, the support of volunteers from VSW members has been great. There were a lot of favorable comments in that the TN and other state attendees intermixed, making all feel more welcome and part of the event. Thanks to all for making everyone feel welcome.

Next, it appears that the VSW is going through a transition period similar to what most camping groups are experiencing. That is the reluctance of volunteering for the upper positions. The members present at the VSW State Rally discussed the reluctance to step up. Some of the concerns relate to the fact we purchased RV's to travel ( the past summer was a problem due to many on trips to Alaska and other destinations.) One of the major concerns seems to be a fear that being an officer requires too much time and effort plus the optimal situation is that the VSW Vice President serve the 2 year term, gain experience and knowledge and after move up for the 2 year term as President – 4 years is a long commitment. This has not happened in the last 6 years. The Vice President didn't move up to the President position, thus both served 2 years in the respective position and new were elected to both positions. Thus it was decided by the members present to request a change to the VSW Bylaws to have the term of officers changed from 2 to 1 year. Another concern is that we have a tendency to be the top dog in all we do – nothing wrong with this ( it is admired) , but it is difficult to keep this going.

The current officers were elected for a one-year term for this transition period. Thus, my goal for this year is to see how we can take some of the pressure off of the VSW Officers through more sharing of tasks and what other measures available to us. We may have to accept that we won't be better than last year, but we will be respectable in our accomplishments. The fun and enjoyment of the time is what is most important.

First, I would like all to pull out your calendars and note the following dates: VSW campouts/outings April 19-22, 2018; October 25-28, 2018; and April 25-28, 2019 and the VSW State Rally October 17-20, 2019. All are currently scheduled at the Ward Ag Center, Lebanon, TN except April 19-22, 2018 which will be at the Nashville I-24 RV Park in Smyrna, TN. (See other information in the Newsletter). The only vacancy at Ward Ag Center was the first weekend in April 2018 and is too early for many snowbirds.

This VSW outing will be cohosted by the Music City Winnies. Preliminary discussion with MCW representative indicates we should have a great outing.

At our VSW Executive Board Meeting on Nov. 14, 2017 it was the plan to have each Chapter host one of the VSW campouts one time in each two year period.

## **VOL STATE WINNIES STATE RALLY**

The VOL STATE WINNIES held their biannual State Rally at the James E. Ward Ag Center in Lebanon, TN. We had a great rally with about 50 coaches representing 13 states. The Theme was Rock “N” Roll Reunion.

There were pre-rally tours to the Veterans Memorial in Lebanon; Cumberland University and Nissan Motors Manufacturing Plant in Smyrna. Reports on the tours were very positive.

The rally started off with a wonderful Hospitality Table with lots of goodies. Thanks so much to all who were so generous in what they brought. We even had leftovers to add to the breakfasts. Debi and the Doo-Wops were the entertainment and they were excellent. Many were up dancing to their wonderful songs.

Friday started with breakfast by the West TN Travelers. The Silent Auction opened with lots of choices of wonderful baskets. Our thanks also to the vendors who spent time at their booths talking to folks and also presenting seminars. After lunch games started and were very popular with lots of excitement as scores got close. The evening meal was catered by Whitt’s Barbecue. An excellent meal.

Saturday morning again we had breakfast provided by Rocky Top Travelers followed by seminars. VSW had a business meeting to seek new officers. Ralph Wiggers volunteered to be President for 1 year. Glenn Craig volunteered to be VP and Virginia Wiggers volunteered for Secretary. That gave a full slate of officers since Joe Moore had agreed to continue as Treasurer. A lunch of hot dogs and chips was donated by Camping World. A game of “Bobby Socks Pass” sent many home with nice gifts. This was a lively time with the bobby socks flying from one side to the other to give more people a chance to win. Before dinner prizes were awarded for the winners of Corn Hole and Bean Bag Baseball. Patrick and Janet Wright installed the new officers followed by a good Dinner again provided by Whitt’s Barbecue. Again a very good meal with lots of food and ice cream that was provided by FCIS Insurance. Entertainment was our own DJ Glenn Craig with his wonderful assortment of music for listening and dancing. His audio equipment was valuable during the whole rally for announcements etc.

Sunday started with a Continental Breakfast hosted by Music City Winnies followed by Closing Ceremonies. VOL STATE WINNIES had a business meeting following the Closing Ceremonies. The minutes of that business meeting will be sent out before the April campout so that those items will be fresh in your mind.

We also want to extend a welcome to our new Central Area Reps Butch and Val Peters who attended the Oct. Rally and joined in the fun and activities.

**WIT Club RV ID Plate**  
**WIT Club has a new RV ID Plate. There is an order form in the Outdoor Adventures Magazine issue. The cost is \$10 per plate. Because they have a minimum order it may take as long as 6 months to get them. This will depend upon when they have a 20 minimum order.**

## VSW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

November 14, 2017 at President Ralph Wiggers Residence

The Executive Board Meeting of VSW was Called to Order by President, Ralph Wiggers at 1:14 pm on Nov. 14, 2017.

Members present were: Ralph Wiggers; Glenn Craig – Vice President; Joe Moore, Treasurer; and Virginia Wiggers, Secretary.

Ralph Wiggers stated that according to the Bylaws of VSW the Executive Board is made up of: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President, and President of each Chapter or their designated representative.

Since it was not possible to get all members together at this organizational meeting, Ralph wanted to send the minutes to all of the absent members for their comments and discussion. He considers it very important that the Chapter Presidents are involved in VSW planning.

### DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Per discussion at the October 28, 2017 meeting in Lebanon, it was suggested to change the term of Officers from 2 years to 1 year. This means a change in the Bylaws and the notice of proposed change will be sent to each member by e-mail and a vote will be taken at the April campout as long as we have a quorum present. The motion for this change and procedure was made by Virginia Wiggers and seconded by Glenn Craig. The motion passed.
2. The VSW Banner was destroyed in a storm at the 2017 GNR. Members approved the purchase of a new banner at the October 28, 2017 meeting. The Board recommends that an existing 2'x4' embroidered banner be used instead of replacing the larger damaged one. The embroidered Davy Crockett and bear on this one is also better.
3. Meetings: It was agreed that we will continue to have 3 meetings each year, at each campout (April & October) and the 3<sup>rd</sup> at GNR. Chapter Presidents or their representatives would more likely be able to participate.
4. Newsletter Editor – due to lack of response, Virginia has agreed to write the newsletter. It was suggested that there be a minimum of 3, one before each major event and simplified e-mails with basic header will be sent as needed. All members agreed with the proposal. It was suggested that all Newsletters refer to and give the VSW web address.
5. Joe Moore has taken responsibility for the web site from Keith Mobley. He is looking at making a page on the web site for each chapter. It will be kept a public site, since member specific information is not listed.
6. VSW Property. We have many bins of supplies that are spread between several people. Joe will update the inventory of VSW property and where located. Dave McKitrick has agreed to get quotes from area storage locker facilities. He will price different types and their cost. We will present the findings at the meeting in April for a vote.

7. VSW Campouts—Since the AG Center in Lebanon did not have a suitable date for April 2018 the members indicated that another centrally located site would work. A date of April 19-22, 2018 has been secured at Nashville I-24 RV Park in Smyrna . More information will be sent out in the Newsletter. It was recommended that each Chapter host one of the VSW campouts, one time in each 2 year period. Brent Nickles has agreed for Music City Winnies to cohost the April 2018 campout. The Board agreed that it was a good idea to have the Chapters host as stated. West TN Travelers and Rocky Top will host either October 2018 or April 2019. The Presidents will be contacted. A discussion of fees for campouts was held and it was agreed that the hosts will plan the activities and as nearly as possible have participant fees cover their expenses, and to be collected at the campout.

## GNR

WIT sent out a questionnaire about events at GNR. First, they asked about the Flag ceremony at Opening Ceremony and if instead people would prefer Reps to announce their states and have those representing the states to stand. After discussion, we decided that the parade is often very long and having Reps announce states would be good. Second, it was asked whether to eliminate the Row Parties. Our Board felt that the Row Parties are an integral part of GNR and people should only do what they are comfortable with in terms of decorating and food, but that it would be a mistake to drop that event. Those responses will be sent to WIT as the VSW responses to the questionnaire.

The membership authorized the renting of a tent, and tables for GNR. The full theme for GNR is Red, White and W – 60 years of an American Icon.

Responsibilities for GNR so far are:

Tent + site and tables – Ralph Wiggers

Decorations – Dave Franke with lots of help

Lynchburg Lemonade – Glenn Craig

Food– Virginia Wiggers

## OTHER DISCUSSION

At the April Meeting we need to work on a theme for October 2019 VSW State Rally.

A Nominating Committee needs to be chosen for 2019 Officers.

The IA State Rally is scheduled for July 12-14, 2018 at Amana Colonies. We think 3 units are planning to attend on the way to GNR. More information will be sent out to members as it is available.

The meeting adjourned at 3:16 pm

Respectfully submitted by Virginia Wiggers, Secretary

## STATE RALLIES

**Florida State Rally—**  
**Feb. 26-Mar. 1 at**  
**Seffner, FL** This Rally will be held at Lazy Days RV Resort. There will be sunshine and fun at their “Luau Party” for the first 200 coaches to register. Highlights are : Bingo; Happy Hour; Chapter Row Party; Ice Cream Social; Dealer Displays; Seminars; Vendors; Arts and Crafts; Door Prizes; and Tours.

Registration received by Feb. 5, 2018 for 1 coach 2 people is \$225. Fee includes: 3 nights full hookups, 3 days free breakfast and lunch; 1 catered dinner; 1 catered breakfast; and potluck meals provided by FL Chapters.

**Southwest Regional Rally—Mar. 25-29, 2018**  
**Indio, CA**—The theme “Springtime in the Desert”. The rally will be at the Indian Waters RV Resort.

Rally costs are: \$269. per coach for 2 people. Registration closes on Feb. 25, 2018. Use the form in the WIT magazine to register.

Fee includes a Taco Buffet; Italian Dinner; a potluck dinner; and a catered BBQ dinner. Other fun stuff includes: ice cream social, raffles, outdoor games, card games and night entertainment. They plan to also have seminars and vendors.

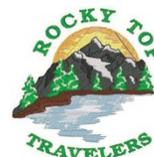
## ROCKY TOP TRAVELERS

Rocky Top Travelers just had their December Holiday Luncheon at Caramella Riverside Bistro in Kingston, TN. The food was excellent and well presented. Glenn Craig held a short meeting and the new officers present were installed by Ralph Wiggers, President of the VOL State Winnies. We are sorry for those who could not attend since this was a new location and a beautiful day for the ride to Kingston from wherever you live.

### NEW MEMBERS

We want to welcome all new members.

John and Theresa Neff were at the rally in Oct. and joined right into the activities. Other new members are Steve & Debbie Fritts, David & Sara Kenney, Boyd Mitchell & Wendy Baker, David & Cindy Plummer, and Wayne & Vicky Thornton. We hope to see each of you at one of our campouts soon. Welcome to VOL STATE WINNIES!



## WEST TENNESSEE TRAVELERS

Four units of the WTT attended the Vol State Rally this year. Most of us arrived early to assist in the preparations. By Thursday, 40 plus units had arrived, some from as far away as Washington and Oregon. We all had a blast at the Sock Hop and dinner. It was great to kick up our heels to some of our favorite 50's and 60's music. Of particular note was the Veterans Memorial tour in downtown Lebanon & the Nissan plant tour led by our own president, Larry Bolding.

Don't forget our Christmas luncheon on Wed., Dec. 6 at 1:30pm at Eat Well Sushi & Grill located at 2965 N. Germantown Pkwy in Memphis.

Our 2018 camping schedule will kick off Apr 15-18 at Lock A COE campground followed by VSW meeting Apr 19-22 at I-24 RV Park in Smyrna, TN.

See you there. Ken Dixon, Sec.



**VOL STATE WINNIES**

**Website:**

[tnvolstatewinnies.org](http://tnvolstatewinnies.org)

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**Meeting, campout & Rally schedules**

| 2018       |  |     |
|------------|--|-----|
| Jan. 20    | Corner Pub - Mt. Juliet, TN 11 am  | MCW |
| Feb. 17    | Los Compadres Mexican Restaurant<br>12894 Lebanon Rd. Mt. Juliet, TN 11 am | MCW |
| Mar 17     | Cheddars—Hendersonville, TN 11 am  | MCW |
| Apr 15-18  | Lock A, COE CG, Part of Cheatham Lock & Dam, Ashland City, TN              | WTT |
| Apr 19-22  | Nashville I-24 Campground, Smyrna, TN<br>ALL                               |     |
| May 15-18  | Monte Sano State Park, Huntsville, AL                                      | RTT |
| May 18-20  | Lock A Campground, Ashland City, TN  | MCW |
| May 20-25  | Branson, MO, Campground TBD<br>WTT   |     |
| Jun 7-10   | Sevierville, TN Campground TBD   | RTT |
| Jun 15-17  | Obey River Campground—Dale Hollow Lake<br>Monroe, TN                       | MCW |
| Jun 17-20  | Natchez Trace SP—Pin Oak Loop, Clarksburg, TN                              | WTT |
| Jul. 13-15 | Cedar Creek Campground— Mt. Juliet, TN                                     | MCW |
| Jul 23-28  | GNR—Forest City, IA  | ALL |
| Aug 17-19  | Salt Lick Creek Campground—Gainesboro, TN                                  | MCW |
| Aug 17-19  | Salt Lick Creek—Carthage, TN   | WTT |
| Sep 16-19  | North Abutment COE CG, Gainesboro, TN                                      | WTT |
| Sep 21-23  | Salt Lick Creek CG, Gainesboro, TN   | MCW |
| Oct 21-25  | Long Branch COE, Long Branch, TN   | WTT |
| Oct 25-28  | VSW—Ward AG Center, Lebanon, TN  | ALL |
| Nov. 11-14 | Columbus/Belmont SP—Columbus, KY<br>( sites 23-28 full hookups)            | WTT |
| Nov 17     | Cheddars—Hendersonville, TN 11 am  | MCW |
| Dec. 15    | Chili's—Hendersonville, TN 11 am   | MCW |
| Dec.       | TBD—Dinner meal  | WTT |

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