

MAY 2019



The Tennessee State Club of Winnebago International Travelers

VOL State Winnies News

President's Message

Welcome back to all the Snowbirds and many are already on the road again enjoying the RV Lifestyle. The old saying "April showers bring May flowers" is certainly holding true in Crossville this year. What a difference a few weeks can make.

The VSW April outing at the Ag Center in Lebanon was a success with cooperating weather. We had some good discussions resulting in making things simpler for the officers and members. Some of this is covered in the membership meeting minutes.

There are a few things I would like to highlight.

April 2019 Outing in Lebanon

Summary of the outing with a picture has been posted on WIT web site www.witclub.com. We wish more of you could have enjoyed the Red Neck Comedy Bus tour and the Cracker Barrel Deco Tour. They were both entertaining and interesting.

July 22-27,2019 GNR with Pre-rally July 16-21

We hope to see many at GNR and on the state row, if possible. We plan to have a tent at head of row, have get togethers, a simple effective row decoration and



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Sunshine Corner

Cards were sent to:
Nichols and Cathy
Moore.

Our thoughts are with
the Nichols in the death
of a close relative and
with Cathy for a speedy
recovery.

typical row party. See separate article for more information to include Forest City Pucker Brush Days Celebration.

August

Special recognition to Music City Winnies (WCW) on their 45th Anniversary.

October 17-20, 2019 VSW State Rally at Ward Ag Center, Lebanon, TN

There are also pre-rally tours and activities during October 15-17. An update has been posted on the WIT & VSW web sites. We plan to post another update before the GNR which will include more detail, fees and registration information. We already have several interesting seminars, evening entertainment, and dinners scheduled.

2020 VSW Outings (Posted on WIT & VSW web sites)

April 23-26, 2020 Ward Ag Center, Lebanon, TN

October 15-18, 2020 Ward Ag Center, Lebanon, TN

Note: The October outing was scheduled to make it easy for those who are interested in attending the Louisiana Rally scheduled for Oct. 22-25, in Rayne, LA.

GNR – July 22-27, 2019

The Grand National Rally (GNR) is the annual gathering and celebration of Winnebago RV's and their owners. The event takes place from July 22nd thru July 27th in Forest City, IA. For information and registration go to www.witclub.com. You can register on line at the web site or print a copy and mail it in.

RV's 40' or less can park on the TN State Row where we have a tent at the head of the row. We encourage you to park in the TN Row since it makes it easier to socialize and participate in TN activities to include row get togethers and Row Party Night.

Rally fees cover the period of GNR – July 22-27. Pre rally parking begins at noon on July 16th with additional parking fees to be paid at the arrival gate. Pre-rally fee is \$15.00 per day for general 30/50 amp, \$20.00 for C-50 area.

There are several things to do locally during the pre-rally period. Most popular are the Omelet Breakfast at the airport and the Pucker Brush Parade on Saturday July 20th.

July 16 – Rally Grounds opens at noon for parking

7 pm Bingo sponsored by Presidents Club

See GNR Pre-rally daily schedule on WWW.witclub.com

Includes daily am walk & several craft workshops Jul 17-20

Forest City Puckerbrush Days (is in Forest City Facebook)

July 18 Farmer's Market

Pet Parade

Brick Street Theater Bingo

Live DJ

Pork Loin and Sweet Corn Dinner

July 19 – Ice Cream and Watermelon

Battle of the Businesses

Live Music

July 20th – Omelet Breakfast at Airport

Puckerbrush Parade

Rotary Club Chicken Barbecue

Fireworks

GNR Rally Activities and Attractions, Educational Seminars

Vendor Exhibits

Craft and Hobby Classes

Games and Events

Row Competitions and Row Party Night

Winnebago Product Display

Winnebago Factory and Special Building Tours

Service at the Winnebago Customer Service Facility

Daily Entertainment



VOL STATE WINNIES

**Website: [tnvolstatewin-
nies.org](http://tnvolstatewin-
nies.org)**

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MEETING, CAMPOUT & RALLY SCHEDULES

2019

May 13-17 Bear Creek RV Park, Asheville, NC	RTT
May 16-18 Natchez Trace SP, Lexington, TN	WTT
May 17-19 Lock A Campground, Ashland City, TN	MCW
Jun 6-9 Lake View Campground, Bristol, TN	RTT
Jun 17-19 Columbus-Belmont SP—Columbus, KY	WTT
Jun 21-23 Lillydale Campground-TN Dale Hollow Lake	MCW
Jul 12-14 Cedar Creek Campground—Mt, Juliet, TN	MCW
Jul 22- 27 GNR, Forest City, IA	VSW
Aug 16-18 Salt Lick Creek Campground—Gainesboro, TN	MCW
Aug 19-21 Canal COE, Lake Barkley, KY	WTT
Aug TBD	RTT
Sep 10-13 Creekwood Farm RV Park, Maggie Valley, TN	RTT
Sep 19-21 Tom Sawyer RV Park—West Memphis, AR	WTT
Sept 20-22 Long Branch Campground—Silver Point, TN	MCW
Oct 14-16 Cages Bend COE—Hendersonville, TN	WTT
Oct. 17-20 VSW State Rally—Lebanon, TN	VSW
Nov 16th Corner Pub, Mt. Juliet, TN—11 am	MCW
Nov TBD Eat Out?	WTT
Nov TBD Member Appreciation Luncheon	RTT
Dec. 21 Sunset Restaurant, Lebanon, TN—11 am	MCW
Dec TBD Christmas Meeting	WTT

2020

Apr. 23-26 VSW Ward Ag Center, Lebanon, TN	VSW
Oct. 15-18 VSW Ward Ag Center, Lebanon, TN	VSW

Music City Winnies

Rocky Top Travelers

West Tennessee Travelers

VOL State Winnies (includes all chapters)



Pre-Rally Dinner @ Mo'Gara Restaurant



Redneck Comedy Bus Tour



Dinner @ O'Charlies



Social Media Presentation by Steve Pacheco



Saturday Night Grill Out



Saturday Night Potluck

Communication Among Members

We are a long way from using “Smoke Signals” to send messages to one another. The topic of Social Media and how to best communicate to keep members informed and attract new members or other Winnebago product owners to attend our events, particularly in the biennial odd year Rally, can create a lot of different ideas.

At the recent April outing members Steve and Connie Pacheco presented a very interesting and educational seminar on Social Media. This seminar went overtime and took some time from his seminar on using the I phone. This presentation gave the members some basis for our later discussion on how we, as an organization, can best communicate internally and externally.

Generally, communication can be done via telephone, mail service & computer (to include smart phones). Telephone is good for one on one or can be set up for group conferencing. Mail service provides hard copy, but slow and getting expensive.

The internet or computerized sources can be broken down into three modes of primary interest – email, web sites and Facebook.

From rough survey of members, most have and use email. Less than half of members use WIT or VSW web or Facebook and there is a reluctance of members to volunteer to be responsible to set up and/or operate either a web site or Facebook account, plus there is a lot of personal fear of security and privacy in using Facebook.

Next a review of what is available to use for Club and Chapters.

Email – most everyone has and uses

Web sites – many do not look up

WIT – www.witclub.com has a lot of information and is updated daily, major areas covered are:

News and events of clubs/chapters and Area Representatives

GNR

Winnebago Outdoors and Activities

Clubs and Chapters officer contacts, rally/outing schedules and social media references

Community – membership applications, various guidelines for officers/clubs/chapters, games and rules, service tips, etc.

Miscellaneous – news, archives, by-laws, visitor center etc.

VSW – www.tnvolstatewinnies.org

Contains information about VSW and chapters, archives, officers, outing schedule, recent and upcoming event details and registration. There is a lot of information that takes constant monitoring and difficult to update and make changes.

Facebook

Winnebago and WIT have Facebook accounts that members can obtain information and interact with other members. To receive GNR updates, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2019WinnebagoGNR/>

VSW – has a couple of Facebook accounts that have not been used by members and difficult to obtain volunteers to control and maintain the accounts.

The recommendation by members present at the April 2019 member meeting in Lebanon includes:

To use email as the prime source of internal communication among club and chapter members, along with utilization of WIT's web and Facebook sites.

To use WIT's web and Facebook sites to communicate externally along with email for specific groups or individuals, i.e., rally information to Presidents of State Clubs.

Note: If we can make the VSW web site simpler and easy to update, consideration will be made to retain it primarily to assist in those checking it to obtain information and offer a contact point for more in depth information.

Minutes of the VSW Business Meeting

James A Ward Ag Center, Lebanon, TN

Saturday April 27, 2019

Members Present: Guy & Connie Carter; Glenn & Irene Craig; Ken & Jeanette Dixon; Carol & Joe Dyer; Dan & Aggie King; Cliff & Kay Klein; Mike & Diana Logan; Bob & Jean Maxwell; Dave & Lynda McKitrick; Ed Potts; Bob & Veronica Ralston; Steve & Carol Richardson, Ralph and Virginia Wiggers. New members Raoul & Arlene Sanchez. This was the first meeting for the Carters and Richardsons.

The meeting was called to order by President Ralph Wiggers at 9:15 am. The pledge was led by Ed Potts and the Invocation given by Aggie King.

President Wiggers welcomed Arlene and Raoul Sanchez as new members and Carters and Richardson's as first time attendees. He also gave thanks to the Ag Center for their arrangements to be sure we had a place to meet while renovations were on going.

Aggie King said she has sent cards to Cathy Moore and Nichols. She asked members to let her know of any Sunshine needs. She can only send cards if she knows about needs.

The October minutes were printed in the newsletter and a copy was available to refresh memories. A motion was made by Ed Potts to accept the minutes as published. Cliff Klein seconded and motion passed.

President Wiggers read the Treasurers report submitted by Joe Moore. The balance on hand is \$6,966.95. Ralph mentioned that while it seems high we need a balance to pay ahead at times to secure places or services. The Fall Rally netted \$76.41 and GNR cost \$1,373.00. That was about \$100 more than in the past. In the past members have donated food to be passed out and we bought trail mix last year. Mike Logan made a motion to accept the treasurer's report subject to audit and it was seconded by Irene Craig. The motion passed.

Dixons made a report from West Tennessee Travelers about their recent campout at Seven Points Campground at Percy Priest. Dave McKitrick reported for Rocky Top Travelers that there is a campout coming up at Asheville, NC on May 13-17. Music City has a Aug. campout scheduled at Salt Lick Creek and a May 17-19 campout at Lock A Ashland City, TN.

Old Business

New directional signs – Thanks to Dan King for these new signs. They are very visible and will be especially helpful in October when people come for that rally.

GNR – We will have a TN Row. A 9 x 20 tent has already been approved. It includes 2 tables and if possible 2 end covers. There was discussion of using other tents, but the company at GNR takes care of set up, take down and it is secure in case of bad weather. We pay WIT \$30 for the space for the tent.

Pre-rally ties in with the Forest City Pucker Brush Days. There is a omelet breakfast at the airport, Lions Club chicken barbecue, Methodist Church pie and ice cream and of course, the parade. President Wiggers asked for a show of hands for those going to GNR and there were several. We will have daily get togethers at the TN Row

Decorations are for 50 years of WIT and GNR. It was suggested we have a typical camping scene and a banner. Irene suggested the banner say “WIT GNR – Come Camp With Us”. Glenn Craig will consult with Aggie on the design and order the banner from the place that did last years banner.

Party night- we will again have Lynchburg Lemonade and either mixed snacks as last year or miniature moon pies. Wiggers will check on the moon pies while in Chattanooga. Glenn said they will reduce the amount of Jack Daniel by one jug since they had left over last year.

During GNR there is usually a dead time around 3:30 pm and we may schedule a daily happy hour during that time. We invite all units with TN tags to our get togethers. One day we have a pizza or sub party and the club has paid for the pizzas or subs. It was suggested we do the same this year.

Cliff mentioned that we have been notified that the youth program has been cancelled at GNR.

New Business

Officer Nominations: Terms are for 1 year. We need to have the nominations set in August and publish in September so we can vote in October and swear them in. Volunteers for any office should contact either Ed Potts or Mike Logan. The Rally for 2021 already has a volunteer as Rally Master and that is Aggie King. President Wiggers discussed the job of President, Vice President and Secretary and urged members to think about volunteering. Joe Moore has agreed to continue as Treasurer. Outings are only April and October each year. There is an Executive Committee made up of the officers of VSW, each Chapter President and the Past VSW President.

Social Media – Steve Pacheco did a presentation on Friday on various social media options and a later one on the I phone. Thanks to him for such a good presentation which helped us understand the pros and cons of Web pages, Facebook and e-mail. The group discussed various options and want to keep it simple. Several are not on Facebook and WIT has a Web page and also is on Facebook with all the information on the states and chapters. The group agrees that everyone has email and that it would be best to do away with the Web page and not have a Facebook page. Cliff Klein made a motion that we use email for internal communication and Lynda McKitrick seconded. The motion passed. There are two outdated Facebook accounts that will be deleted.

VSW October Rally

Mike Logan has arranged a Nissan factory tour and Ralph has arranged a Cracker Barrel Deco Tour

Those who took the Redneck Comedy tour enjoyed it and recommended it be offered and then set up if there was interest. The senior rate is the same as the group rate so numbers are not a concern.

Mike also suggested the Lane Motor Museum.

Other potential Nashville tours are the Grand Legend and Discover Nashville. Both are 3 1/2 hours long. They are \$82.68 with tax included and the group felt that was too expensive to offer. These are offered on the tour Winnebago does of Music City.

Fiddler's Grove offers tours for \$5 to \$10 depending on type. They have a cart for 10 people. It was suggested we offer tours there – one pre and one during the rally to accommodate more people.

Bob Entner

will set up golf if enough are interested. It will be put on the registration form to determine interest. Bob will pick the time and day.

We will also have a list of options for people to follow on their own time.

Vendors/Seminars – Chip is coming with Rallies R Us. Red Cross – CPR and defib training seminar. Line Dancing, Pressure cooking and soap making. Aggie has agreed to do rock painting again.

Caterers – Friday night will be Wildberry Catering with a Poppysseed Chicken over rice, Garden Salad, Glazed carrots, Green Beans, Roll & butter and dessert (pudding cups). They provide the plates, napkins and utensils. Saturday is Whitts barbecue – both pork and turkey pulled meat, baked beans, cole slaw and tea and lemonade plus the plates etc. We will add the applesauce and a dessert. Both meals should run a total of around \$24/person. On Friday we are asking people to bring their own drinks.

Coffee – on regular outings it was suggested that people bring their own since Dave throws out so much each outing. For the big Rally he will make coffee each morning.

Outing for October 2020 – Ralph had coordinated with Louisiana since the last year we had a conflict in dates so people could not go from one to the other. Louisiana's rally is October 22-25, 2020 and our outing is set at October 15-18, 2020 tentatively. Cliff made a motion to commit to the dates in October and Lynda seconded. Motion passed. April 12th is Easter in 2020 so suggested the April outing be scheduled that either 15-18 or later.

Glenn made a motion we adjourn at 11:04 am

Respectfully submitted.

Virginia Wiggers, Secretary