VOL STATE WINNIES
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The Tennessee State Winnebago
International Travelers Club

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VSW NEWSLETTER MAY/JUNE 2020

The covid-19 virus has had a serious impact on all our lives as well as our planned events. I hope and pray that all are sheltering in place and surviving this catastrophic event. Our scheduled events have changed drastically. Please note our chapter schedules at the end of this newsletter.

President's Message

I was reviewing the March/April VSW Newsletter, it was shocking to see how our lives and the world have changed in such a short period of time. What looked like exciting and friendship outings during the summer suddenly became lock down, social distancing, masks and other precautions to slow down the spreading of this particular corona virus (COVID 19). It has given us new meaning and an expansion of our appreciation of the normal first responders, firemen, police and military putting themselves in harms way for all of our benefits. We now need to share an appreciation of the newly expanded dedicated personnel providing medical care, production, transport and distribution our needed food and other essential supplies. One of the best ways to show our appreciation is to tailor our lifestyle in an attempt to reduce the transfer of the virus that can adversely affect these dedicated individuals. Also, concern is for those that have lost their jobs and have limited available assets to carry them through.

We are in an environment of responding to the analysis of the continuous new information concerning the unknowns of this epidemic. Thus, as you are aware, scheduled VSW outings thru July 2020 have been cancelled.

Now For VSW Current Events

New Members

New Members since the last newsletter:

David & Terry Strand of Collierville, TN and Walt & Diane Hardee of Mt. Juliet, TN have joined us. We welcome them and look forward to meeting in the near future. Walt & Diane attended and enjoyed our State Rally last October and desired to join us after their move to Tennessee from Georgia. Thus, some of you met them at the October Rally.

GNR

On April 22nd, Winnebago sent an email to WIT Club Members notifying the cancellation of the 2020 GNR in Forest City, Iowa due to health and safety of team members, guests and others. They expressed that they are looking ahead to the 2021 Grand National Rally and the good times to be shared then.

They did not mention a theme for next year, but a WIT member posted on Facebook that they hoped Winnebago would keep the 2020 theme for 2021. Part of rational was the individual liked the theme and had already made some purchases for the decorations, etc. The 2020 theme was "Road Trip of a Lifetime to the Hawaii Paradise of Forest City, IA". Sounds good to me! Virginia already checked the availability of several inexpensive and easy to put up items for a State Row Display as an option for 2021 GNR if they happen to keep the theme.

October 15-18, 2020 VSW Outing

With all the unknowns at this time, we have decided to retain the October outing on hold pending a decision projected to be made by the end of July 2020. The October outing is still 5 months away and no one knows for certain how the situation will be at that time, especially since we've only had a couple of months experience.

October 18-21, 2020 Rolling Rally to Louisiana State Rally

As of this date the Louisiana Sate Club President still plans to hold their State Rally October 22-25, 2020 at the Rayne Civic Center, Rayne, LA. This is subject to change based on later information on availability of facilities and other guidelines closer to the date.

In this regard, all the WIT State Clubs with Rallies scheduled for 2020 have cancelled their Rallies, except NY in September and TX & LA in October per WIT web site.

VSW Web site

You can check www.tnvolstatewinnies.org for current information on VSW activities. If you have specific questions, please contact Ralph Wiggers, President VSW 931-787-4157 or email.

RVers by nature are flexible and resilient and we will be prepared to re-start our mobile lifestyle in the fall or the coming year.

Winnebago Outdoor Adventures/Fantasy RV Tours Update

By Steve and Connie Pacheco

The Fantasy RV tour website (https://www.fantasyrvtours.com/Home/COVID-19-Updates) has a special COVID-19 statement written by Nel Filliger, CEO/Founder on April 24, 2020.

> **Our customers are like family and we are committed to ensuring a safe environment for you and your "home on wheels". We know you are taking precautions to remain healthy and at Fantasy RV Tours, the health and security of our guests and staff are our top priorities, as well.**
>
> **We are diligently monitoring and following the guidelines provided by the World Health Organization and CDC, as well as the state and local health authorities of the communities we visit. Therefore, based on the travel advisories from these trusted sources and the current National State of Emergency, as of March 12th we have been forced to postpone our spring tours.**
>
> **These decisions have been agonizing and very disappointing for us and our guests, as our mission has always been to provide our customers with their RV trips of a lifetime…**
>
> **Each day, we are continuing to evaluate our upcoming tours to determine if changes will need to be made. We ask for your patience and commitment to future tours as we monitor and review the situation…**
>
> **Please rest assured, Fantasy is ready to continue helping you check off your bucket-list destinations once it is deemed safe for us to do so. As RVers, we have weathered many storms before and I'm confident that this latest challenge will only make us all stronger and more determined than ever to travel this amazing world!**

Anyone who is currently on a 2020 tour that has questions, please call Fantasy directly, 800-952-8496. That is the best place to get the most up-to-date info. As Fantasy Ambassadors, we look forward to travelling with you soon. If you have any questions about future tours, please contact us. We will be glad to help you plan your next special, post-pandemic travel experience. Email: cmp@pacheco-computer.com or spacheco@pacheco-computer.com or phone 401-741-3926/401-741-3050. It is never too early to start planning those trips! Stay Safe and be well.

UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

Rocky Top Travelers (RTT)

May 12-17 Chattanooga Holiday Park **(CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19)**

June 4-7 Two Rivers Landing RV Resort, Sevierville, TN
(CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19)

Music City Winnies (MCW)

May 15-17 Harpeth River Bridge, Ashland City,Tn **(CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19)**

June 5-7 Lillydale campground Allons, TN Dale Hollow Lake
(**AWAITING REOPENING OF COE CAMPGROUNDS)**

West Tennessee Travelers (WTT)

May 18-20 Village Creek State Park, Forest City, Ar
(CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19)

June 11-13 Natchez Trace State Park, Lexington, TN (Still on Schedule)

Good Camping & Travels

Ken Dixon, Sec
The president's message from Ralph