

"The Roadrunner Express"



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Life is meant for good friends, and great adventures!

April 7—10, 2022 the Caloosa Winnies group traveled to Port Charlotte, FL and met at Riverside RV Resort for our meeting. John & LuAnn Zink, our 2nd VP's were on the porch of the office to greet everyone upon arrival. Some of the other members also came to help—and chat while waiting for coaches to arrive.

OFFICERS 2022

Presidents

Mark & Patti Burnett

1st Vice Presidents

Joe & Ellyn Bewes

2nd Vice Presidents

John & Lu Ann Zink

Secretary

Jan & Mike Dippel

Treasurer

Tim & Karen Mayes



Happy Hour found us in the clubhouse sharing news, drinks and snacks. We were delighted to introduce new members Michael & Minnette Howard, friends of Diane & Frank Cipolla. We also had guests joining us—see below!



Michael & Minnette



Sharlene Peter



Diane & Tom Harmer

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Sharlene Peter came as a friend of Jan & Mike Dippel. Sharlene is a pickleball player as are Jan & Mike, and both park RV's in the same location. Diane & Tom Harmer are close neighbors of Wes Sims and Wes convinced them to check us out! We were just happy to have them with us, and they have since joined our group! The picture of Shar is from our contest of flying planes, which will be explained later!

Papa John's delivered pizza for our dinner, combined with a salad made by the ladies proved to be a great meal! Of course ice cream was served by our volunteer scoopers seen in the picture!



L to R: Mark, Orte, Mike, Jorge, Jan



The fun activity for the evening was about to begin. Each person was given a glider plane kit to assemble. Of course after reading the directions, (??) everyone was ready to FLY! In groups of 4 at a time, each person put their plane in the air to see how far it would fly! Some planes dive bombed the table, some hit the ceiling fan, others went out the door that was open! So much for good aim!



Diane Harmer



Gail Schwartz



Tim Mayes



Michael Howard



Mike Ketchmark



Jan Dippel



Hank Bauman



And the winner is:
Mike Dippel!

As you can see the competition was REALLY tough and the concentration on their faces was intense!!! The winner of the overall contest was Mike Dippel. (His plane didn't hit the ceiling fan!) His prize?? PEANUTS—an airplane snack!

After the planes were parked some of the group played nickels and other games. We were keeping a sharp eye on the weather as a storm was predicted. It rained—which is really needed badly—but no damaging storms.

Sharlene, our guest, asked for some help with her RV as she had several issues with things not working. Many of the guys went to help her and offered many suggestions and worked hard to help her. Her awning was stuck open which is a REAL problem if you want to drive the coach! After days of working on her coach they did get some things working. This is a new RV experience for her. One thing about our members - they are always willing to help each other and work together to diagnose and try to fix problems. THANKS to all the guys who helped rescue Sharlene from her issues!



Friday morning dawned a beautiful day for area adventures! Some of our group went to Solomon's

Castle, a unique museum of sorts! Howard Solomon was a genius of making things out of junk parts! His museum is filled with incredible sculptures and pictures he made out of scrap! We had a tour guide who explained all the items in our 90 minute tour. The castle building itself is made from newspaper printing plates—the aluminum look to the exterior! Printing plates were used years ago to print a paper! This group had a great time looking at all the creative objects in the rooms of the castle. We stayed for lunch in their restaurant, “Boat in the Moat”, yes—a real boat built in the middle of a dried up creek bed! Food, service and atmosphere in the garden made for a fun time!

Our co-president Patti Burnett found the old stocks by the castle entrance!



Some of the group who have recently been to Solomon's Castle chose to visit a nearby spot and take an airboat ride! I also understand the restaurant at this location



Bruce & Linda, Dave & Barb, Mike & Cookie

served GATOR BITES??? A Florida delicacy??? HHMMM.....

Friday afternoon at 4:00pm Happy Hour was happening in the clubhouse. We held a 50/50 drawing and had 3 winners as is our custom. Winning 3rd place \$\$ was Jorge Gil, 2nd place \$\$ was Jeanne Billa, 1st place \$\$ was Linda Byerly! I know there were 3 happy winners!

For dinner plans we were headed to Peter's Family Restaurant nearby. This is a family owned restaurant and on any night it's usually busy! This evening was REALLY busy but the 3 servers did a great job handling different groups. The food was served correctly, hot and great!! Dinner was enjoyed by all of us!

Back at the clubhouse games were starting, different games in groups to finish out the evening.



Saturday morning at 8:30am it was time for our potluck breakfast. John Zink, our coffeemaster at work had coffee ready for early arrivals! The tables were soon filled with casserole dishes, eggs, fruit, rolls, just a huge variety. Dave Wilkie made pancakes on the spot for orders! It turned out to be another great breakfast for us!

At 10:00am our business meeting was called to order by President Mark Burnett. The minutes from the previous meeting were waived, the Treasurers Report given by Tim Mayes was positive with a good balance in our account. Old business discussed was the proposed caravan plans, which have been cancelled due to so many restrictions at parks. It's easier to just stay with our current system of individual camping events. The possibility of a group cruise was discussed and will be researched for the future. The meeting ended about 10:40am and members were invited to play shuffleboard on the courts outside of the clubhouse.

The afternoon was leisure time—some folks went shopping, some spent time together just chatting.

Our theme of Luau Party came to life at Happy Hour as everyone came dressed in their best flowered shirts!



Jorge is on FIRE!! GREAT shirt!



Dave, Barb, Mark, Patti, LuAnn, John



Harold, Gail, Tim, Dan, Bruce, Linda, Mike



L: Hank, Tom R: Patti



Jan, Mike, Michael & Minnette



L: Jan, Gail, Tim R: Harold

Potluck dinner was ready at 5:30pm. As you can see from the table of food above—lots of great food! The cooks did a FINE job cooking all this table filled with dishes! And all of it low calorie..... Many recipes have been exchanged by this group and we keep getting the favorite dishes repeated!!!

The winners of our guessing games jars were announced! Barb Wilkie and Patti Burnett won the candy filled jars! They had the correct guesses for the amounts in the jars!! YUM!!!

Tropical Beanbag Toss was the game for the evening entertainment. The teams were formed and 4 teams total were split into different ends of the room. The tropical board was decorated with 4 holes cut in the middle section and the object was for teams to toss the beanbag and try to hit the hole for a point! THANKS to Patti Burnett, the chapter now has a brand new set of beanbags—in the Caloosa colors of Royal Blue and Yellow! The team captains were assigned to keep score and not allow cheating! (NEVER happens!!) The captains were Capt. Mike Ketchmark, Cookie Bakunoff, Jorge Gil, and LuAnn Zink.



Mike K. & Cookie



Tim & Dave



Cookie coaching, Patti & Diane pitching



L to R: Linda, Minnette, LuAnn, Barb and Linda pitching!



Michael & Gail



Mark pitching!

As you can imagine, the room was filled with laughter, atta boys, go get 'em, and YAYS!!! Everyone had a lot of fun and were such good sports—and even those who punched through holes that were not open! THANKS to everyone for playing and having FUN and making this game a success!



L to R: John, Diane, Bruce, Cookie, Dave, Cheri, Gail, Jeanne, Joe, Hank, Jan, Barb, Harold & Jorge



Sunday morning dawned just beautiful and sunny, our last gathering for the weekend was our continental breakfast. Donuts, bagels, and beverages were ready at 8:30am. Soon it was time to pack up and bring this fun weekend to an end. THANKS to everyone who participated in the fun for these 4 days. Our next event will be May 5—8, 2022 at Alligator Park in Punta Gorda, FL. We will celebrate the Kentucky Derby with lots of fun things planned!! Everyone planning to attend this meeting—get those CREATIVE hats ready for our annual parade and contest!!!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN APRIL TO:

- 3 CARL REILLY
- 5 DIANE CIPOLLA
- 7 KENNETH LOWDEN
- 14 JOHN ZINK
- 17 KAREN MAYES
- 19 DAVE WILKIE
- 23 RICK AMOS
- 23 JEANNE BILLA
- 24 TENA JONES
- 25 LINDA LEVINE



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY IN APRIL TO:

- 19 ALLEN & BETTY GABROY
- 21 NICK & GINNY SANBORN



OUR NEW MEMBERS

Hey! WELCOME
We're very **GLAD** you're here!

MIKE & MINNETTE HOWARD **THOMAS & DIANE HARMER**

FUTURE MEETINGS

2022

- May 5—8 Alligator RV Park, Punta Gorda, FL
- November 3-6 Alligator RV Park, Punta Gorda, FL
- December 1 –4 Campers Holiday, Brooksville, FL



2023

- January 9—12 Sarasota Fairgrounds, Sarasota, FL
- February 9—12 Red Oaks RV Resort, Bushnell, FL
- March 9 –12 TBA
- April 6—9 Riverside RV Resort, Arcadia, FL (closer to Port Charlotte)