



Roadrunner Rambles

January 15, 2015



Happy New Year, RoadRunners!

Well, it's official; we made the first anniversary with our new chapter, thanks our sixteen member and two associate member couples. Congratulations to all of the RoadRunners; you were all a part of our successful first year.

Our January campout was great, attended by 8 of our regulars. We were hoping for ten to twelve campers but some of our folks are still recovering surgeries and other issues, while others had urgent business to attend to. Nevertheless, we had three fabulous nights of dancing instead of the normal two by dancing with the Pineridge Promenaders on Thursday. Many of them then joined us on Friday and Saturday for our events. We also had some great square and round dance workshops thanks to Sonny and Chuck and interested several people in joining square dance lessons. We were also treated with Al and Bonnie Putman's calling and cuing. They are fast becoming a very capable calling/cuing duo.

In addition to the dancing, we had some delicious meals and wonderful after-parties with lots of socializing. Those of you who missed the event missed a great weekend. Roger and Lois found really nice accommodations at the Ramada Inn probably not more than a mile away. Those of you who are still camper shopping should consider joining our weekends in the same way; find a nice motel close by and join the fun; you won't regret it. When you consider the cost, a local motel probably costs less per weekend than an RV with its maintenance in addition to the campsite for the weekend. If that's not an option, you can always come in your tent. Why don't you join us in March at Lake Josephine? I'm sure we'll all have a great time.

As I said, the March campout will be at Lake Josephine just twenty miles north of Sunshine RV where we were in January. We had a great time there last year. The staff was exceptionally friendly and the hall was great as well. Now all we need is all of you. We'll get out a schedule and details toward the end of February and hope to see you all there.

Just to keep you informed of our camp/dance schedule for 2015, here's what's coming up:

February 5, 6 & 7

No chapter campout location available. Attending Winterfest in Lakeland.

March 13, 14 & 15	Lake Josephine (not PA but rally rates are \$25) 10809 Us Highway 27 S Sebring, FL 33876 863-655-0925
April 10, 11 & 12	Zachary Taylor RV Resort (PA ok) 2995 US Hwy 441 SE Okeechobee, FL 34974 863-763-3377
May 8, 9, & 10	Whispering Palms (PA ok) 10305 US Hwy 1 Sebastian, FL 32958 772-589-3481

For your further consideration in February, the Lakeland Winterfest is always a great event (<http://www.floridasquaredance.com/fwf/fwf.html>) featuring Tony Oxendine, Jerry Story, John Saunders and Jack Pladdys. We'll be staying at Lakeland RV Resort (863-687-6146) north-east of town for the weekend while many other campers will be at Sanlan RV Resort (863-665-1726) south of town. Both are nice parks, but if you plan on going, don't hesitate to make reservations.

The weekend following the Winterfest is the time for the annual Blue-Gray event in Lake City. It's held in conjunction with the Olustee Festival in Lake City and the annual Olustee Battlefield re-enactment east of town at the state park with the same name. You can check out the details at <http://olusteefestival.com/>. For those of you who have never been, the re-enactment is probably the largest in the state with the state park dedicated to the re-enactment. Lake City celebrates the event with a huge street fair, a street square dance, a re-enacted battle between the Monitor and Merrimac on the city lake, a parade including all the re-enactors and much more. The square dance on Friday night is with the local Dixie Dancers while the Saturday night dance is at the local armory with the re-enactment dignitaries in full costume. It's simply a great event. If you'd like to go, contact Martha Zimmerman (352-226-0118) of the Square Wheels for a campsite with the rest of the square dancers at Casey Jones RV Park south of Lake City on I-75. Dolly and I will be there. We hope to see some of you as well.

We wish you all a happy and safe New Year,
Dolly & John Ide