



Road-Runner Rambles

February 27, 2014



Wow, already the second issue of the Road-Runner Rambles. We just came away from a great shared camp/dance weekend with Hitch-N-Go, Chapter 082, in Vero Beach. Four of our members camped with 082 and four more of our member couples came out for the dances. We're thrilled with all the support and interest in the Road-Runners.

We were also saddened to hear that Al Putman, one of our members and caller had been in a motorcycle accident. He's doing well and in rehab. Please include him in your prayers and I'm sure we'll see him back with us soon.

To help us get better organized, we had a meeting on Friday, February 21st at 5:30 pm. The details of the meeting are provided at the end of this report. Now for the schedule and activities of our next fun weekend at Zachary Taylor RV Park.

Location

The park is located on the east side of Zachary Taylor creek, on the north side of Hwy. 98/441. This is about two miles east of the traffic light at the lakeshore where Hwy. 98/441 turn north through Okeechobee. Their phone number is 863-763-3377. They have everyone's name and details and have requested that everyone call to confirm their reservation. We will be placed together in one area.

Cost

As we reported at the February meeting, their standard in-season site rate is \$47 per day. It's steep but they agreed to give us Passport America rates if you have a Passport membership. This is a great time to join Passport America if you haven't yet since it will save you one day's site fee which is about the same as the Passport membership fee of \$50. They do accept other discounts like Good Sam, etc.

Schedule

Friday, March 7th

Your on your own for dinner

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| 7:00 pm | Early rounds if we can get a cuer |
| 7:30 - 9:30 pm | Squares with rounds (see early rounds) |
| 9:30 pm | Afterparty, location will be announced at the Friday dance |

Saturday, March 8th

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| 8:30 - 9:00 am | Breakfast; we are planning on pancakes and sausage (possibly eggs as well); coffee & juice |
| 10:00 am | Chapter Meeting |
| 11:00 am – 1:00 pm | Social time, come and meet at our camper, bring your lawn chairs |

drinks, snacks, whatever, and let's get to know one another better since this is a new chapter. We'll provide the hot dogs for lunch.

2:00 to 3:00 pm	Workshop or open class with resort residents
5:00 pm	Pot Luck
7:00 pm	Early Rounds (see Friday comments)
7:30 pm	Squares with Rounds (see Friday comments)
9:30 pm	Afterparty

Meeting Summary

The following is an attempt at unofficial minutes (since we don't have formal officers and specifically a secretary yet).

The meeting was convened at 5:30 pm at Sunshine Travel Park in Vero Beach.

It was attended by Members Dolly & John Ide, Sonny & Judy McCartney, Mel & Evelyn Marshall, Ross & Ellie Wade, Jay Smith and Suzy Murphy/Mike Sanchez. Also in attendance were Don and Faye Hardison who later joined Chapter 193 as new members.

John Ide (yours truly) conducted the meeting. After opening with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance, we discussed the following:

Officers and Callers/Cuers

We did not have sufficient volunteers at this time to fully staff the various (P/VP/T/S) positions so we chose not to elect officers at this time. Also since we do not yet have any funds, we have not selected a chapter caller or cuer. We owe a great deal to Sonny McCartney for volunteering his time.

Camp-Out Schedule and Resorts

At our January meeting, we agreed to camp/dance the second full weekend of each month. Because of the difficulty of finding a resort this early in the year, the only place we found that had space for us was Zachary Taylor RV Park in Okeechobee. However, the available time was for the first full weekend in March. After some discussion about this and the site costs (\$47 per day without any discounts, but they would honor Passport America and other discounts) we agreed to meet at Zachary Taylor. John Ide was asked to contact ZT and ask for any other site fee reductions we could manage. We also felt that this one weekend would pay for the PA membership for the year when the available savings are considered. A brief survey indicated that all present at the meeting were willing to come.

For April, the presented option was Lake Josephine in Sebring. The rally site fees at LJ will be about \$25 per night. The scheduled dates are 11th and 12th of April. For May, we are planning on Camelot RV Park in Malabar (Malabar is about 20 miles north of Sunshine Travel Resort where we were in February.) for the 9th and 10th of May. Their rates are \$27 per day for 30 amp and \$29 per

day for 50 amp. Both Lake Josephine and Camelot require 10 rigs or more so talk it up among your friends.

We have not yet decided if we will continue through the summer or not, but several people felt we should continue. There is no reason not to unless we can't get the participation since many people are gone. I'm looking at using the lakeshore resort in Pahokee in the fall, maybe even in the summer. It used to be a state park and has been redone and is now called the Pakokee RV Resort and Marina. Also, don't forget the state convention over Memorial Day in Lakeland and the Camporee in October in Bushnell.

Finances

We all agreed that the standard site rate for Zachary Taylor was too high but the Passport rate of \$23.50 is acceptable. With this as a start, we agreed that a rate between \$20 and \$25 is preferred with a maximum of \$30 per night per sight. We will not consider RV resorts with site rates higher than \$30.

Next we discussed chapter dues. Since no NSDCA national dues are required for 2014, we have set the chapter dues at \$20 for the year. We will start collecting the chapter dues at the March campout.

Weekend dance charges were next on the agenda. After considering what other chapters charge for two nights of dancing, we felt it appropriate to keep our charges a little lower to attract dancers and members. We established the two night dance and workshop (if any) fees at \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members. Anyone dancing only one night would be charged \$3 for one night or \$6 per couple.

Finally, we tackled caller and cuer reimbursements. After some discussion we agreed to reimburse or pay for the caller and cuer campsites but had more difficulty with the actual reimbursement for their talent and equipment. It was suggested and tentatively agreed to that we would give the caller and cuer if any 50% of the door or dance fee collections for the event. Sonny suggested that this was too much and would create difficulty for the chapter since we're just starting. We may want to re-visit this. Also it's assumed at this time that the 50% portion of the door charges would have to be split between the caller and cuer.

Here's a possible scenario for Zachary Taylor. If the campsite cost is \$23.50 per night and we have no cuer camping and if we have 10 couples camping and dancing, then the door receipts would be \$100. out of this, we would have to pay \$47 for the caller site and \$50 for caller reimbursement. That leaves \$3 plus anything we raise from 50/50 raffles for the chapter. I think as we get started, that's OK, but right now we only have 8 couples who said they would go to Zachary Taylor. That makes the door collections \$80 with \$47 for caller site and \$40 for 50% of the door when there is only \$33 left out of the \$80. How do we handle that??????

Badges and Name Bars

We took a vote on the logographics and it was 9 for the bird and 1 for the camper. I did not vote. We'll work on formatting that so it will fit on a badge or name bar. We also discussed the name bars and agreed that they would be provided by the chapter out of Chapter funds. I will look into the details and report back on the cost and when they might be available.

Membership Roster & Member Information

Next, we discussed a membership roster or chapter booklet. I took pictures of everyone who attended the February weekend and then collected birthdays, anniversaries, etc. I have to apologize, because I lost the paper with the birthdays and anniversaries so I hope you'll give me that information again in March. The pictures are safe in my camera and in my computer. I have also completed a fairly detailed member list with camper types and sizes. I'll have a copy for everyone at Zachary Taylor.

Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules

A copy of the generic NSDCA constitution and By-Laws was distributed to everyone in attendance for their consideration. As we get better organized, we will have to adopt something or create our own. Please review the NSDCA version of the by-laws and make any suggestions or recommendations that you feel are appropriate. We'll collect all the comments and discuss them at a future meeting.

Thanks for your participation.

John Ide