



Roadrunner Rambles

March 23, 2016



The April Campout is just around the corner!

What a great weekend we had in March at the Sunshine Travel Resort in Vero Beach. My apologies for the late site switch, but Sunshine Travel became available and your Board felt it best to go to Vero where we could dance both nights instead of only one if we would have used the St. Lucie Fairgrounds site. Anyway, we had eight members bring their rigs as well as the members that live in the area and then a very strong attendance from other dancers in the area, enough for three squares most of the time. Had it not been for the injured and ill, we could have had four squares dancing. We missed Chuck and Mary who were on a trip to California and thank Bonnie Putman for filling in for Chuck with the rounds. Also a special thank you to Larry Chatos for the wonderful recorded rounds that Sonny was able to use on Saturday night.

A special event we had was the Thursday night social time around baked potatoes and all the fixings. We ate heartily around a campfire and enjoyed a great time getting to know one another better. It confirms what I have always believed, that we camp together to enjoy ourselves and have fun, with square dancing as an added bonus; we don't camp to square dance and hope to have fun. Friday night, we all went to Woody's B-B-Q for dinner and on Saturday night enjoyed a great meal of 'Leprechaun Stew' plus 'Tacos in a Bag'. All in all, the hastily re-scheduled weekend was a roaring success. Now on to April at Zachary Taylor in Okeechobee.

As most of you are aware, this will be the next to last campout for this season until September. You might consider volunteering for one of the many regular tasks that we have and help us spread the load. You might even consider one of the officers' positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer). Elections will be coming up in May. We did ask Pam to be our Hospitality representative and thanked her for the beautiful cards that she makes by hand. Lana agreed to be our theme planner with her great creative skills (you should have seen her St. Patty's decorations for our Thursday baked potato bash and in fact for the entire weekend). Of course, there is always Faye's smiling face as she welcomes everyone as our Sunshine Lady. When our Saturday morning breakfast came around, Dolly was really missing Mary who usually has that all organized, but everyone had plenty to eat as always! There are many other jobs that always get done behind the scenes that many of you always help with, and for your help, we want to thank you.

By now, most of you have chapter outfits (the men's shirts with the fringe and the ladies' scarves) and it would be really great if we could get a group picture with everyone wearing the outfits. Please plan on wearing yours on Saturday night, April 9th and we'll take a picture of the group. A special thank-you to all the ladies who helped with the sewing during the last several months. If you don't have yours yet, let us know and we'll make arrangements to get it done for you. The outfits consist of a white blouse with the navy blue scarf with the fringed trim, and navy blue skirts for the ladies; white shirts with the yoke and fringed trim and navy blue slacks for the men. We hope you'll wear the outfits proudly, particularly at major events like conventions our annual Camporee because they're the most striking and attractive outfits in the FANSDC.

The other important thing to prepare for is our **White Elephant Sale and Auction**. Last year was our first (and totally spontaneous) event that raised about \$300 and we hope that this year, with some advanced planning, we will do even better. We're asking everyone to bring some of those treasures that you keep stumbling over in your closet or utility room and want to get rid of. The money raised will go to support the RoadRunners and our events. Besides the White Elephant sale, we will also be dancing and eating as always. The food for this weekend will be simple. Whatever you decide to bring, we will eat. In other words, it's totally a pot-luck meal for Saturday night. Mary is going with a regular breakfast of eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns and Dolly is making cheese grits. You may want to check with Mary (772-359-1048) as to what she needs you to bring for the breakfast.

For those of you who come early for the weekend (Thursday), we are planning a campfire with 'Tacos in a Bag'. Dolly is making the hamburger and we already have the chips, so you Thursday campers might check with her as to what else she needs. Friday we will all need to do the pricing of the White Elephant items and then we'll go out for dinner. Looks like a busy – 'fun' weekend!!

Now, here's the schedule for the remainder of this year:

April 8 & 9	Zachary Taylor; Okeechobee with White Elephant Sale & Auction
May 13 & 14	Whispering Palms; Sebastian

For our next camping/dancing year, **September 2016 to May 2017**, here's a preliminary schedule:

September 9 & 10, 2016	Whispering Palms in Sebastian
October 20, 21 & 22, 2016	Camporee at Blueberry Hill in Bushnell
November 11 & 12, 2016	Zachary Taylor in Okeechobee

December 9 & 10, 2016	Lake Josephine in Sebring
January 13 & 14, 2017	Highlands Hammock State Park in Sebring
February 10 & 11, 2017	St. Lucie Fairground in Fort Pierce ?
March 10 & 11, 2017	Sunshine Travel Resort in Vero Beach (not confirmed)
April 7 & 8, 2017	Zachary Taylor in Okeechobee
May 12 & 13, 2017	Whispering Palms in Sebastian

Don't forget to keep up with our activities by visiting our website (thanks as always to Chuck for his help keeping it updated) at http://www.whirlaways.org/rr_193_index.html . You can also get there through the Florida association at <http://www.floridasquaredance.com/fansdc/clubs.html> and click on Chapter 193. To get in touch with Dolly or I, you can call me (352)208-5980 or Dolly (352-598-7162) or by e-mail at john.d.ide@hotmail.com or dollyide@hotmail.com .

In the meantime, Dolly and I want to wish you a Happy and Blessed Easter.

See you in April,
Dolly & John