



# The Winnie Gate

A Newsletter for Members of the Florida State Winnie Gators  
Winter, 2008



## President's Message

Hope everyone enjoyed the October Campout. It seems like each campout just gets better and better. Our attendance continues to go up as the word gets out. Seeing the pictures from GNR really indicated what a great time we had.

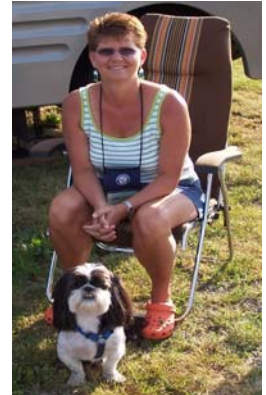
For January we have lots of great things planned. Fort Myers is a new area for the state to camp and we are providing you with lots of information and activities in the area. Review the attached agenda for details. The Babcock Ranch tour should be very exciting and I encourage you all to attend.

Camping World will have a motor home display for our viewing pleasure. On Saturday we will be finalizing all the plans for the state rally. I have a lot of things to go over. Please make sure that your local chapter officers are in attendance at the Board of Directors meeting on Friday. I would like for all the local chapter officers to attend, not just the Presidents. There is so much information to get out and I want to make sure every-

one is comfortable with their duties at the rally. Bring all of your questions.

Hope all of you have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Be safe and see you all at the campout.

*Linda and Dan*



**JANUARY MEETING—JANUARY 16–18, 2009  
LEE CIVIC CENTER—NORTH FORT MYERS, FLORIDA**

The January Campout will be held at the Lee Civic Center in Fort Myers, Florida. Please send your registration information to: (See Attached Form).

Charlene Busch  
1094 Motorcoach Drive  
Polk, City FL 33868

**Make Checks Payable to:  
Florida State Winnie Gators**

1 Coach 2 People           \$125  
1 Coach 1 Person           \$95  
Additional Guests           \$40  
Early Days Parking       \$20/Night  
(Tues., Wed., Thurs.)

### DIRECTIONS TO LEE CIVIC CENTER

- **From I-75**, Exit 143 go EAST on Bayshore Rd. (Rt. 78) 2.6 miles to Old Bayshore Rd.
- Turn left on Old Bayshore Rd. Go .4 mile to entrance on right. Signs will be posted.
- **From Rt. 31 and Rt. 78 West intersection**, take Rt. 78 West .6 mile to Old Bayshore Rd.
- **DO NOT** enter fairgrounds at the main entrance, pass the grounds and turn right on Old Bayshore Rd. go .4 mile to entrance on right. Signs will be posted

### Future Campouts

March 5-8, 2009	Salute to the Military Orlando, Florida
May 15-17, 2009	Rally Park (Lazy Days) Seffner, Florida



**ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2009**

**Please note, we will be voting on the following slate of officers for 2009**

President	Nancy Miller	Secretary	Kathryn Griffin
1st Vice President	Joe Loudenslager	Treasurer	Jerry Miller
2nd Vice President	Cliff Spiller		

**ITEMS OF INTEREST IN THE FORT MYERS AREA**

**Babcock Ranch Wildlife Tram Tour** – Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am. 90,000 acre working ranch with cowboys, cattle, wildlife birds and animals. Cost per person \$16.00, tour is 90 minutes. Babcock Ranch is 9 miles from the Civic Center. Maps will be provided. We have reserved trams for our group.

Optional places of interest in the Fort Myers area. Information and maps will be provided for these sites:

**Thomas Edison & Henry Ford Winter Estates**

Visit the homes of these famous Americans, as well as laboratory, vintage cars, gracious buildings reminiscent of a bygone era. Guided tours are available.

**The Shell Factory & Nature Park**

Lots of shops on the grounds, including shells of all kinds, art, jewelry, candles, home decorations, restaurants, etc. There is a nature trail with plants and wildlife from around the world. Waltzing Waters Liquid Fireworks, a water, light, & music production plays at sunset.

**Fleamasters Flea Market**

900 stores – open Friday – Sunday 8am – 4pm. Stores, produce, food stands, & entertainment.

**Beaches**

Ft. Myers Beach, Sanibel, Captiva, all nearby. Sanibel & Captiva are known for world class shelling. Shops, restaurants, fishing, at all beaches.

**Eden Winery**

The winery is open daily with wine tasting from 11AM to 4PM, locally grown and produced product

**Craft Class—Thursday, January 15, 2009—**Conducted by Lee MacDonald and Sylvia Smith

You will be making Pop Can Spinners (See picture on right). The class takes about 1 1/2—2 hours. You will need to bring 7 empty and cleaned beer or soda cans, needle nose pliers, long blade scissors and a box cutter.



**Florida State Winnie Gators Officers**

President	Linda and Dan Tuzzolo dltuzzolo@verizon.net 863-984-9349 863-712-8741	2nd VP	Cliff & Ree Spiller reclif@hotmail.com 352-422-0310	Treasurer	Jerry & Nancy Miller jmiller828@yahoo.com 239-574-2511 239-565-3115
1st VP	Louise & John Maener louiservin@aol.com 863-956-2575 863-521-4391	Secretary	Charlene & Terry Busch winnie_gators.secy@yahoo.com 863-206-4865	Director	Warren (Bud) & Paula Geng budgeng@aol.com 941-698-4194 239-822-4093