

GOLDEN CIRCLE NEWSLETTER - MAY, 2010

Since the beginning of 2010 the Golden Circles have had four campouts and three dine-out meetings. Many of our members have visited out-of-state samborees this year as well.

At our campout in February Jim Ernestes volunteered to make a coffee table that we could raffle off at the Spring Samboree. Jim does a good job at woodworking and has made several beautiful tables that especially fit in a motor home. It was agreed that half of the money from ticket sales would go to Cystic Fibrosis and the other half would go to our chapter which we would donate to the memorial fund that Joyce Bumpus set up for her late father, Frank Oller.

It was also decided that Sue Stokely would substitute for our chapter president, Dianne Bond, at the Spring Samboree. Because of a conflict with Dianne's employment, she would not be able to attend this event.

Golden Circle Sams wanted to have representation at the RV /Boat show at the Jackson Fairgrounds in February, so tables were set up so that we could greet people as they entered the building. We met a lot of nice people and hope some of these contacts will result in new members for Good Sam.

At our March campout at Joy-O campground we worked on our contribution for the goody bags for the Samboree. We are proud to have a large percentage of our club now on the state staff, so five couples were absent from this campout. They attended the state staff meeting which was held at the same time as our campout.

Time passes quickly and finds us here almost at the end of May resting up after the Spring Samboree in Lebanon. We had over 240 rigs in attendance. Kudos to our new state president, Ron Masterson and his talented, hard-working staff. It was the first event for most of them to serve in their new positions and they did a wonderful job. We also had nice weather with only a few scattered rain showers.

This year's theme was "A Salute to the Military". Thursday evening we were entertained with a "USO" show. There were several entertainers from our chapter. Gloria Williams did a unique monologue about her childhood as a military "brat". Paul and Judi Newbert and Gloria did a great job playing many different parts in several of the skits. Ms. Verta Lee also entertained us with her jokes. This year Joyce took her father's place on stage with her mother. She even wore Mr. Frank's famous tie with her overalls. It was a fun evening and everyone enjoyed the show.

There were many serious moments throughout the week as tributes were paid to our Veterans, past and present. Many of the veterans brought their scrapbooks, photos, and other memorabilia to display at our military "museum". We enjoyed browsing through

their mementos and looking at their old photographs. We sure appreciate their willingness to share a piece of their history with us.

On Friday night our chapter was honored when we were presented with our newly designed patches which feature Frank and Verta Lee Oller, and celebrating 35 years as Tennessee's first Good Sam chapter.

Present at our Saturday afternoon business meeting was Joe and Sue Stokely, Jim and Arlene Ernestes, Verta Lee Oller and Joyce Bumpus, Gloria Williams, Ray and Hilda Ellington, and Betty Jones. Sue Stokely presided over this meeting in the absence of our chapter president, Dianne Bond.

A memorable ceremony was held Saturday night honoring all branches of the military and recognizing all of our veterans. We were happy to learn that the ticket sales for our raffle of the coffee table amounted to \$208. We all enjoyed additional entertainment with some good music as our last night as the Spring Samboree came to a close.

Chaplain Ron Solomon conducted a meaningful worship service Sunday morning before we departed. A red rose for each Good Sam member who died during last year was presented to a family representative and white balloons were released in their memory.

The balance of our camping schedule is as follows:

June 11-13	Pickwick COE campground (river levels permitting)
July 9-11	Reelfoot State Park
Aug. 13-15	McFarland Park, Florence, Ala.
Oct. 1-2	Tennessee Fall Samboree, Camp Jordan-Chattanooga
Nov. 12-14	Joy-O RV Park

We are looking forward to this year's camping season and hope you will come and visit with us.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Jones
Golden Circle Sams Tag-a-long