



GATOR TALES

Volume 12, Issue 2

*

Fall 2023

A Publication of ESCAPEES CHAPTER 57
FLORIDA SUN GATORS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings Officers and Members of Chapter 57 Sun Gators. Thank you for keeping the Chapter on course through the turbulence we have experienced in the past few years.

I hope all of you had a very good and enjoyable time traveling and visiting family and friends, and a safe return to Florida or wherever your destinations to be. Hope to see everyone in November for the Chapter rally.

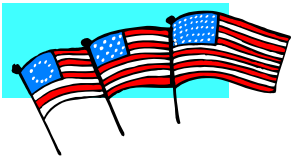
VERY IMPORTANT - ELECTION FOR PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY IS A REQUIREMENT TO HAVE A CHAPTER.

Stay safe healthy and keep enjoying life. Hope to see you down the road.

NATE

<i>President</i>	Nathan Colter	SKP #105329	c.nathan21@yahoo.com
<i>Vice President</i>	Vacant		
<i>Secretary</i>	Rose Irons	SKP #24561	ggshirkey@yahoo.com
<i>Treasurer</i>	Debby Thompson	SKP #89508	gator57banker@gmail.com
<i>Webmaster</i>	Debby Thompson	SKP #89508	<u>sungators57@gmail.com</u>
<i>Facebook Ch. 57</i>	Chick Thompson	SKP #89508	chickndebby@gmail.com
<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	Becky Lunde	SKP #14580	lblunde@aol.com

Minutes of the Business Meeting for Escapees Chapter 57 Sun Gators



Minutes Escapees Chapter 57 Business Meeting April 11, 2023

Location Cypress Campground and RV Park

The business meeting was called to order at 10:33 AM by Nathan Colter, President. The Pledge of Allegiance led by Nathan Colter. All guests and members, especially our new members, were welcomed.

Introduction of Officers present:

Nathan Colter, President

Rose Irons, Secretary

No Vice President

Debby Thompson, Treasurer (represented today by Larry Forbes)

Sunshine Representative, Marilyn Forbes

Becky Lunde, Gator Tales Editor

Secretary Report: Minutes of last business meeting was read by Rose Irons, Secretary. No discussion or corrections were made. Motions to accept minutes as read was made by Marilyn Forbes, seconded by Dave Irons. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: A printed copy of Treasurers report (prepared by Debby Thompson, Treasurer) was passed out to members and read by Larry Forbes. No discussion or corrections were made. Motion to accept as read was made by Dave Irons and seconded by Becky Lunde. Motion carried.

April Treasurers Report

Members can view report in members section of website

Sunshine Report: Marilyn Forbes was happy to report that no Get Well or Sympathy Cards have been sent out. She reminded members to please let her know if anyone needs a card. Unfortunately, she usually finds out about need from Facebook.

Gator Tales: Becky Lunde reminded members that the next deadline for the newsletter is September 15th. Please send pictures, recipes, stories, travel information, or helpful RV tips.

Old Business: No old business discussed.

New Business:

Wagon Master: Rose Irons assumed this role when we were unable to fill the Vice President position at the last rally. It continues to be difficult to find campgrounds with reasonable rally fees, especially during season. Morningside in Dade City was booked for our fall rally, but new

policy changes and rates were made in March. The rally rate increased to \$59.99/night and entire group reservation required within a seven-day period and 6 months in advance. Rose contacted Cypress Campground and they can have us back with the rate of \$35-40/night November 6-10, 2023. Rose asked members if this would be acceptable or do we continue to look for another campground. By a show of hands, we agreed to come back to Cypress Campground in Winter Haven for the fall rally. Rose will change this in the Escapees Magazine, and encouraged members to book before leaving this rally.

Everyone was reminded to attend the Round Table discussion today at 2 PM. We plan to discuss the future of our Chapter in reference need for officers (President and Secretary), rally hosts, camping fees, types of campgrounds and travel distance. With no further new business, a motion to adjourn was made by Becky Lunde and seconded by Marilyn Forbes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:20 AM.

Respectfully Submitted, Secretary
Rose Irons.

From Your Treasurer ---

Rally host(s) are still needed Please remember rally host is another opportunity to help the Chapter. We have two rallies a year, but most times no one steps up to host. November will be one of those rallies. No one offered to host the November rally and Donna Pheneger offered to take a day, so that's what we will try this rally. Donna Pheneger will be planning Wednesday November 8th. A **VERY** tentative schedule is attached. * items on the schedule are Chapter or campground events. If you would like to sponsor/host an event at this rally, please let me know, we'll get it on the schedule. Meal, craft, entertainment, game, speaker, whatever you would like to sponsor/host. Expenses are reimbursable through the rally fees. A MASA representative has contacted us about doing a presentation, but I have no confirmation at this time. Thank you, Donna, for helping with the rally!

From the Website Manager: I make every effort to keep our website up-to-date. If you see anything that needs corrected, please contact me at sungators57@gmail.com (there is a link on the website). Happy for **any** input for the website:
<https://sungators57.wixsite.com/sungators>. A link to the Chapter website can also be found on Escapees.com website under the Community tab (top of page) select Chapters. REMEMBER you must be logged in to see details about any of the chapters.

Treasurer's Report:

Members can view report in members section of website

Officers Needed: There comes a time when officers need to step down from their duties due to health reasons. Other members get older and are no longer able to help in the way they did for many years. This Chapter has a critical need for members to volunteer their time and bring new ideas to allow our Chapter to grow and thrive. Many Chapters have the same problem. Let's keep this Chapter going with your support and ideas. Elections will be held at the November rally for President and Secretary. Without someone in these positions, the Chapter will fold. Terms are for 2 years. Please be willing to step up. Position descriptions are on the "News" tab on the website. Please contact Nate (c.nathan21@yahoo.com) or Debby (gator57banker@gmail.com) if you are willing to step up and help your Chapter.

SKP Hugs

Debby Thompson



Sunshine Report

I have only sent out 3 cards since the last newsletter. On June 2nd, I sent Nathan Coulter a get-well card, and on June 30th, I showed Larry Forbes a get-well card. Then on July 9th, I sent Dave Irons a thinking of you card.

I hope I haven't missed anyone. If you know of anyone in need of a card, please let me know. My contact information is phone and text 352-552-0132, and my email address is mforbes37796@gmail.com. Hope we see lots of you at both the November lunch and the fall rally.

SKP Hugs



Marilyn Forbes, Sunshine
Lady

From Your Newsletter Editor:

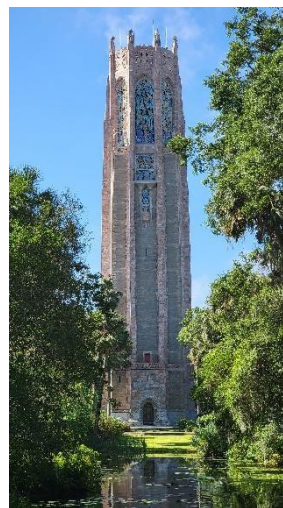
It's time to get together, eat, play lots of games, sightsee, **eat too much**, meet new friends, catch up with old friends, learn something new, share stories, work/**volunteer**, and just generally have a really great time! Look at all the fun we had at the Spring 2023 Rally! Please volunteer.

Spring 2023 Rally:

If you were not at the April Rally, you missed a great one. Our hosts Rose Irons and Marilyn Forbes kept everyone busy having fun and eating of course. The very first day of the rally, we had a great dinner of Subway sandwiches with chips and cookies all while visiting with friends and making new friends. It was great welcoming so many new members in attendance. Tuesday morning our rally hosts provided at least 4 different breakfast casseroles. They were so good that the recipes were requested and they so generously provided those recipes in recipe section of this newsletter. Following breakfast, we had an informative presentation by Sky Med followed by the chapter business meeting and adoptions. That afternoon, we had a big turnout for a round table discussion about the future of the chapter, where to have rallies, how many miles members are willing to travel to a rally, hosts for rallies, and the price of camping fees. Later at 4:00 we all gathered outside at the Irons camper for a breezy but pleasant social hour. Dave Irons even entertained everyone singing and playing his guitar. It is amazing how he remembers so many words to so many different songs and does such a great job. Later some of us played the park's bingo, but sadly there were no chapter winners.

Wednesday provided some free time after the continental breakfast. At 4:00 pm we had our social and sharing for CARE that brought in \$103.00. Then at 5:30 we had a great pot luck meal. After so much delicious food, it was time to work some of it off listening and dancing to music from the "Dancing DJ's" Lynn & Becky Lunde. The entire campground was invited, so there was a very good ballroom dancing and line dancing. Everyone had a

We got up early Thursday morning for a quick clubhouse so we could depart at 9:00 am for Bok. It had been a long time since this writer had been there. We all met at the Visitor Center where Donna, the guide, spoke a little about the garden and then we watched a short film. The Singing Tower is 205 ft. tall and houses the 60-bell carillon. The tower plays a short tune every half hour, but at 1:00 pm is a live show. Several of us had a nice lunch there at



The entire turnout. There was fun time.

breakfast at the Tower Garden. It had been beautiful. We watched a little film. The Carillon carillon. The tower a terrific 30-minute show at the Blue Café. It was

a perfect weather day too. What more could you ask for! We got back just in time for a 3:00 pm social. Then we all drove to Harborside Seafood Restaurant. They have great food. What better way to end a fun rally. Many thanks to the Hosts Rose Irons and Marilyn Forbes.

Reported by Becky
Lunde

POT LUCK PAGE

From: Marilyn Forbes



Kathy's Green Chili Egg Casserole

Servings: 8

6 Eggs (I use 8 eggs or combine eggs & egg beaters)

4 Cups sharp cheddar cheese

2 Cans Green Chilies, chopped

Preheat oven to 350. Add cheese and green chilies. Mix and pour into 9x13 baking dish and spread evenly across dish. Bake for about 25 min. or until casserole is set and is lightly brown. Cut and serve. If you want you can serve it with your favorite salsa and/or sour cream.

Breakfast, Eggs

Per serving (excluding unknown items) 288 calories, 23g fat (70.6% calories from fat); 19g Protein; 2g Carbohydrate; trace Dietary Fiber; 218mg Cholesterol; 405mg Sodium. Exchanges: 2 ½ Lean Meat; 0 Vegetable; 3 Fat.

Potato Bake

Servings: 12

½ Cup Milk

1 Can Cream of Celery Soup

½ Cup Sour Cream

Dash Pepper

1 Bag hash browns, frozen, thawed

2 Cups Cheddar Cheese shredded

1 Can Fried Onions

Combine soup, milk, sour cream and pepper. Stir in potatoes, ½ the cheese, and ½ fried onions. Spoon into 9x13 baking dish. Bake at 350 for 40 min. Top with remaining fried onions and cheese. Bake 5 minutes longer.

Potatoes:

Per serving (excluding unknown items) 117.6 Calories; 9.1mg Fat (69.4% calories from fat); 5.7g Protein; 3.4g Carbohydrate; 27mg Cholesterol; 208mg Sodium. Exchanges: ½ Lean Meat; 1 ½ Fat.

From: Rose Irons

Quick and Easy Cinnamon Roll Casserole

This is a great breakfast when you need to serve a crowd but don't want to spend a ton of time on prep. Using refrigerated cinnamon rolls makes these a cinch! Recipe by fabeveryday Published on June 6, 2021

Prep Time: 15 min Cook Time: 25 mins Total Time: 40 mins

Ingredients

2 (12.4 ounce) packages refrigerated cinnamon roll dough with icing
4 Tablespoons butter, melted
½ cup heavy whipping cream
4 large eggs
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
½ cup maple syrup
½ cup brown sugar

Directions Step

1:

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C). Open cinnamon roll packages and set icing aside. Step 2:

Chop cinnamon roll dough into ½ inch cubes and place in the bottom of a 9x13-inch baking dish. Pour melted butter over dough pieces and toss lightly and spread into an even layer.

Step 3:

Whisk cream, eggs, cinnamon, and vanilla together in a small bowl; pour evenly over the dough pieces. Drizzle maple syrup over top and sprinkle with brown sugar.

Step 4:

Bake in the preheated oven until golden brown, about 22 minutes. Drizzle icing over the top and serve.

Cook's Note:

You can substitute milk for the heavy cream if preferred.

Nutrition Facts

Per serving 537 calories; total fat 25g; saturated fat 11g; cholesterol 129mg; sodium 720mg; total carbohydrate 73g; dietary fiber 2g; total sugars 25g; protein 8g; vitamin c 0mg; calcium 79mg; iron 3mg; potassium 158mg.

Baked Denver Omelet

This Baked Denver Omelet recipe is packed with onions, peppers, ham, and cheese and so easy to make. It's fluffy and delicious and sure to be your new go-to brunch recipe. Prep Time: 5 mins Cook Time: 25 mins Total Time: 30 mins

Course: Breakfast Cuisine: American

Keyword: easy Denver omelet, make ahead breakfast casserole, omelet, oven baked omelet.

Servings: 6 Calories: 233kcal Author: Katerina – Easy Weekend Recipes

Ingredients:

1 small yellow onion finely diced

½ cup finely chopped red bell pepper

½ cup finely chopped green bell pepper

1 cup chopped mushrooms

1 cup fully cooked diced ham

1 cup shredded cheddar cheese (I like to use a blend of white cheddar & Yellow cheddar) 8 eggs

½ cup Half & Half or Milk

Salt and fresh ground pepper to taste

Chopped fresh parsley for garnish

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees
2. Grease a 7x11 baking dish with cooking spray. You can also use a 9x9 baking dish.
3. Add prepared onions, peppers, mushrooms, and diced ham to the baking dish. Stir around to mix it all up.
4. Top with shredded cheddar cheeses and set aside.

5. In a large mixing bowl combine eggs, milk, salt and pepper; whisk until well blended. You can also whisk in your choice of dried herbs, seasoning, and spices.
 6. Pour egg mixture over the mixture in the baking dish.
 7. Bake for 23 to 25 minutes; or until eggs are set and top is a light golden brown.
 8. Garnish with parsley and serve.
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MEMBER NEWS AND TRAVELS

Lynn & Becky Lunde:

I am sure many of you have experienced wonderful places as you traveled this summer. Since we stayed in Florida this summer, we would love to hear of your experiences. I imagine many of you fellow travelers would also like to hear of others experiences. If you visited a great place, we just may want to add it to our bucket list. We did take a quick trip to Dothan, AL to escape Hurricane Idalia. While there, we did not experience any severe weather. However, upon our return via I-10, and in the path of the hurricane, there was a tremendous amount of trees down on both sides of the interstate. We are happy to be back now, safe and sound, and look forward to attending the upcoming Chapter rally in November. We hope to see many of you at the rally.

Chick & Debby Thompson:

Since the last newsletter, we completed a successful Escapade. We always enjoy Escapade and Tucson is a great venue. Our donuts for CARE auction was very successful this year, I'm happy to report. We hung out "south" watching weather waiting for South Dakota to thaw. This included a month at Saguaro SKP Co-Op. It is a beautiful well-maintained park. We spent time with our friends in Springfield, SD for 3 months. We normally only stay about a month, but they needed some help, so we hung around. This city girl got a lesson in harvesting corn (for eating and freezing) and canning peaches, yummy! The remainder of our summer plans took a sudden turn when we were needed back in FL for a family emergency. We made a quick 1500 mile trip and arrived at Clay County Fairgrounds RV park September 1st. We were watching Idalia, glad she stayed mostly east of Tallahassee. Since all is good with the family, we will go to Red Bay, AL in October for annual maintenance, then to our lot at Sumter Oaks in Bushnell. Looking forward to seeing many of you at the luncheon and/or rally in November. It's been a while for us since we were not at the Spring Rally.

I received a note from Denis & Susan King. They are in the process of selling their RV and leaving the RV lifestyle behind for the next chapter in their lives. They found a house in The Villages. Best wishes to them!

Editor's Note: As your Newsletter Editor, I will do interesting read, and provide accurate information. please email me articles on where you have been or how to fix things on your RV. Send me funny articles input, and would really appreciate it. Please submit email (lblunde@aol.com).



my best to make the newsletter an To make the newsletter the best it can be, where you are going. Send me articles on or poems. In other words, I need your any articles for the Gator Tales to me via

Pictures are welcome and may be used in a collage, or cropped for space. JPG format is preferred. I will attempt to include all articles in the current issue. I look forward to receiving lots of articles from everyone. **The newsletter deadlines are March 15th, September 15th, and December 15.** Thank you for your participation. I hope you enjoy this issue.

Becky Lunde Thank you to all who submitted articles for this issue!

JUST FOR LAUGHS

1. Why do skeletons have low self-esteem? They have no body to love.
2. Why did the ghost go into the bar? For the Boos!
3. What do you call a witch's garage? A broom closet!
4. Why don't mummies take time off? They're afraid to unwind.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Florida Escapees Gathering For Lunch

Luncheons are held the first Thursday of the month (**November thru April**) at 11am at Golden Corral, 6855 Gall Blvd. in Zephyrhills, FL.



Chapter 57 Fall Rally – November, 2023

When: November 6-10, 2023
Where: Cypress Campground, 7400 Cypress Gardens Blvd., Winter Haven, FL 33884
Rally Hosts: Need Hosts
Site Fees: Approx. \$40 per night including 2 days each side of rally. Be sure to say it is for the SKP Ch. 57 Rally
Reservations: Call the resort at 863-324-7400

Chapter 57 Spring Rally –April, 2024

To be determined

FUTURE ESCAPADES: <https://escapade.escapees.com>

When: June 16-21, 2024
Where: Sweetwater Events Complex, Rock Springs, WY

When: March 16-21, 2025
Where: Pima County Fairgrounds, Tucson, AZ

The [2024 SKP ACRE](#) will return to Brunswick, GA

The dates for the 2024 ACRE are:

Registration 9:00am to 11:00am Monday 4/15/24, departure Saturday 4/20/24.
(Boot Camp will begin Friday morning, 4/12/24 and end Sunday 4/14/24).

Coastal Georgia RV Resort is accepting reservations.

912-264-3869

www.coastalgarvresort.com

SKP ACRE

Reservations will open in 1/1/24.

www.skpace.weebly.com

Steve Masterson

President

ACRE Steering Committee

SKP ACRE Rally – 2024

When: April 15-20, 2024 (Boot Camp April 12-14, 2024)

Where: Coastal Georgia RV Resort, 287 S. Port Pkwy., Brunswick, GA
912-264-3869.

(For further information on this rally, go to <https://skpacre.weebly.com>).

Escapees Boot Camp - <https://www.escapees.com/community-calendar/category/rvers-boot-camp/>

Tentative Chapter 57 Spring Rally Schedule November 6-10, 2023

Cypress Campground and RV Park (863-324-7400)
7400 Cypress Gardens Blvd Winter Haven, FL 33884

Monday November 6	2-4 PM 4 PM	Registration* Happy Hour and Adoptions* Announcements and plans for rally*
Tuesday November 7	8 AM 10:30 AM 4 PM 6 PM	Coffee Chapter 57 Business Meeting* Election for President & Secretary <u>Or</u> motion to fold Chapter Happy Hour (Location to be announced)? BIG BINGO Cypress Campground Clubhouse*
Wednesday November 8		<u>Donna Pheneger is hosting activities – will update as info received</u>
Thursday November 9	8 AM 4 PM	Coffee/Breakfast Happy Hour
Friday November 10	8 AM	Hitches and Hugs*

Items with * are Chapter or campground functions,
ALL ACTIVITIES ARE IN THE CLUBHOUSE EXCEPT AS NOTED AND FOR TUESDAY HAPPY HOUR. PLEASE BRING PLACE SETTINGS TO ALL MEALS. PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN COFFEE TO BREAKFAST(?).

PICTURES FROM APRIL LUNCH AT GOLDEN CORRAL – 22 in attendance!





Chapter 57 Group touring Bok Tower in Lake Wales, FL – Beautiful Garden & Nature

Cypress Campground Clubhouse Gathering



Adoptions at the Spring 2023 Rally



Mike and Donna Pheneger Adopted by Rose and Dave Irons



Diane Wright and Morgan Kirk Adopted by Marilyn and Larry Forbes



Alan and Jacque Essig Adopted by Becky and Lynn Lunde



Frank and Regina McBride Adopted by Susan and George Young

Julie and Tony Spacek and Jim and Christy Martin were adopted by Russ and Maria Sens, however no pictures were available.

Here are the job descriptions for President and Secretary. Please Volunteer!

ESCAPEES RV CLUB

Job Description: CHAPTER / C-BOF PRESIDENT

Job Summary:

As a volunteer, elected position, the President coordinates, motivates and directs all activities of a chapter/c-bof of Escapees RV Club.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Conduct chapter/c-bof meetings and executive board meetings.
2. Supervise all chapter/c-bof activities.
3. Appoint committee chairpersons and assign duties as necessary in order to assure the smooth operation of the chapter/c-bof. Ensure that the chairpersons have job descriptions and complete their tasks.
 - a. Appoint, elect or retain newsletter editor.
 - b. Appoint, elect or retain webmaster .
 - c. Appoint, elect or retain voicemail chairperson.
 - d. Appoint, elect or retain historian.
 - e. Appoint, elect or retain sunshine chairperson.
4. Ensure compliance with by-laws and standing rules.
5. Ensure that all chapter/c-bof officers are informed of all correspondence pertaining to the chapter/c-bof. Email works well.
6. Ensure that lines of communication are open between the chapter/c-bof and national headquarters through the chapter/c-bof director.

7. Ensure that new and interesting chapter/c-bof programs are created in order to keep member participation at a high level.
8. Sign check as required by chapter/c-bof.
9. Appoint a member to serve in the temporary absence of the vice-president, secretary or treasurer.
10. Appoint a temporary officer until an election is held in the event of a board member's resignation or death.
11. Other duties as may be necessary.

ESCAPEES RV CLUB

Job Description: CHAPTER/ C-BOF SECRETARY

Job Summary:

As a volunteer, elected position, the secretary maintains chapter/c-bof records and records minutes of all chapter/c-bof meetings and executive board meetings.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Record minutes of all chapter/c-bof and executive board meetings.
2. Send minutes of all chapter/c-bof and executive board meetings to
 - a. Club Business clubbusiness@escapees.com Email is acceptable.
 - b. Chapter Director. Email is acceptable.
 - c. Minutes may also be posted in the newsletter.
3. Maintain a current list of chapter/c-bof officers and chairpersons.
4. Process chapter/c-bof correspondence. Email works well.
5. Submit the Chapter/C-BoF Report to the Escapees Magazine no later than the **10th day of each odd numbered month** (January, March, May, July, September, November). Send completed forms to departmentseditor@escapees.com and Chapter Director. Include information about upcoming events (upcoming rally / luncheon information, chapter/c-bof contact persons, and all officer information. Share updates with the newsletter editor, webmaster, and voicemail chairperson.

6. Display bylaws, standing rules, chapter/c-bof newsletters, sign-up sheets for future rallies, and other items of interest at each chapter/c-bof rally. These may also be posted on the group website.
7. Assume the duties of the president in the absence of the president and vice-president.
8. Other duties as may be necessary.

Chapter 57 Membership Application

Please complete the information below. Then give or send to, along with cash or your check made out to: "Florida Sun Gators Chapter 57", to Treasurer: Debby Thompson, 411 Walnut Street #6878, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043-3443.

Please Print Clearly: Checks payable to Sun Gators Ch. 57

Name(s): _____ SKP #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Addresses: _____

Telephone No(s): _____

Check all that apply: _____ RENEWAL, or _____ NEW _____ \$5 one-year membership _____ \$20 five year membership

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Florida Sun Gators
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Gator Tales
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Escapees Web: www.escapees.com

Chapter 57 Website:

www.sungators57.wixsite.com/sungators

Voicemail Messages: 888-757-7701; at prompt enter: 8057
Press 1 & listen to Nathan Colter's message

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

Next Newsletter Deadline

DECEMBER 15, 2023
