



Seasons Greetings



GATOR TALES

Volume 12, Issue 3

*

Winter 2023

A Publication of ESCAPEES CHAPTER 57
FLORIDA SUN GATORS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello Chapter 57 members, allow me to introduce myself, I'm Russell Sens, your new President. My wife Maria and I have been Escapee's since the mid-90s. We full-timed for 12 years and now have a home in Bradenton, plus a Safari Trek for our adventures. I'm looking forward to serving as your leader with Maria, an enthusiastic supporter of our chapter.

Florida is a big state and our Members' are spread far and wide. My vision is "more fun together". We are all proud of our community so let's show it off. Invite the members to join you for a campout or an informal get-together at any time of the year. You can reach me or the other officers by clicking the link below. I'm looking forward to meeting as many Members as possible, and Maria's enthusiasm is contagious. We have secured a campground for the Spring rally, please check our Web Site for dates and details

<https://sungators57.wixsite.com/sungators>

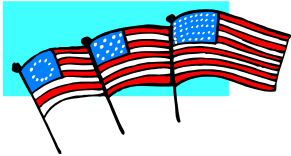
Thank you all
Russell Sens

<i>President</i>	Russell Sens	SKP #56793	rsens2672per@yahoo.com
<i>Vice President</i>	Vacant		
<i>Secretary</i>	Diane Wright	SKP #13713	dimor222@gmail.com
<i>Treasurer</i>	Debby Thompson	SKP #89508	gator57banker@gmail.com

Webmaster Debby Thompson SKP #89508
Facebook Ch. 57 Chick Thompson SKP #89508
Newsletter Editor Becky Lunde SKP #14580

sungators57@gmail.com
chickndebby@gmail.com
lblunde@aol.com

Minutes of the Business Meeting for Escapees Chapter 57 Sun Gators



November 7, 2023 Location: Cypress Campground and RV Park, Winter Haven, FL

The minutes have been emailed to all members and also appear on the Website.

From Your Treasurer --- A current roster is attached to this Gator Tales. It will also be available on our website. Please review this information and let me know if there are any corrections that need to be made. Just a reminder: Membership in this Chapter is open to all current members of the Escapees Club. (This means if your Escapees Club membership has expired, you cannot be a member of Chapter 57). It is that time of year to pay your Chapter 57 dues. If you owe for 2024, I will be sending reminders out at the end of the month. Feel free to contact me on your membership status at: gator57banker@gmail.com. Emails are checked at least once a day.

Dues should be mailed to: Florida Sun Gators Chapter 57; c/o Debby Thompson, Treasurer; 411 Walnut St #6878; Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. I am pleased to announce the annual Audit was completed at the Fall Rally. Feel free to contact me with any concerns or questions. Annual Financial statement below:

2023 Annual Treasurer's Report - Year to Date

1/1/2023 Beginning Balance				
Income:				
	Dues	\$	125.00	
	Rally Fees	\$	125.00	
	Sharing for CARE	\$	154.00	
	SkyMed meal	\$	<u>105.00</u>	
Total Income:				\$ 509.00
Expenses:				
	Gator Tales	\$	(45.05)	
	Food for rally	\$	(232.00)	
	Rally,Entertainment	\$	(55.19)	
	CARE	\$	(154.00)	
	Stamps			

	\$	(13.20)
Gifts	\$	<u>(53.50)</u>
Total Expenses:		<u>\$ (552.94)</u>
Bank Statement Balance 11/30/2023		██████████
Unearned Dues	\$	<u>(481.00)</u>
Available Funds		██████████
Unearned Dues:		
2024	\$	184.00
2025	\$	125.00
2026	\$	104.00
2027	\$	64.00
2028	\$	<u>4.00</u>
	\$	481.00

From the Website Manager: I welcome **any** input for our website: <https://sungators57.wixsite.com/sungators>. 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). Anything underlined on the website is a link. Email addresses (or names) underlined opens an email to that person. References to a document underlined will open that document in a new window. An event, campground or place underlined opens a link to the website for information about it. The members section has a copy of the latest Gator Tales (unedited for public), a Membership List (roster) and Secretary's Report (minutes from the last meeting). If you've forgotten the password it's [sungators](#). There is a lot of information on the website at your fingertips.

What my SKP parents mean to me. If you remember your first Escapee (SKP) Chapter 57 rally, you should remember getting adopted. The Chapter has been doing it as far back as I can remember. Briefly, if you have not been to a rally, if it is your first Chapter 57 rally you get “adopted” by another member to help you navigate the rally events. Chick and I were adopted when this Chapter was still 27 and had not yet merged with 15. We were adopted but never saw our parents again. However, Larry & Marilyn Forbes have always been there for us as Escapee mentors. (I think dad had his eye on me for treasurer that far back). When we became VCR’s (at their encouragement), they became our VCR (Volunteer Club Representative) parents, which only seemed natural. As our Escapee membership evolved, they were there to answer questions and, in many ways, guide our decisions in connection with Escapees. They

are great parents, leading by example. Caring and sharing has been their way since we met. We've volunteered on the national and local levels for Escapees largely from their encouragement to do so. I hope I've made dad (and mom) proud following in his footsteps as treasurer of the Chapter. I know we are proud to call them mom and dad. This was going to be a quick thank you to them, but it was hard to keep it short with all they have done for us. If you have not been to a Chapter 57 rally, regional or national event I encourage you to attend one or many Escapee functions and volunteer! You will find your parents along the way. We call them parents but we know they are lifelong friends (along with many others) we have made through this Chapter and Escapees. Thanks dad and mom for being there for us!



Sunshine Report

I have only sent out 2 cards since the last newsletter in September. A thinking of you card went out to Colleen Shervey. She and her husband Ernie are longtime members of the chapter. The other card went to Rose and Dave Irons. The folks at the last rally wrote notes to them which I enclosed.

I hope I haven't missed anyone in need of a card. My email is mforbes37796@gmail.com or you can reach me by text or phone at 352-552-0132.

I want to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please stay safe especially if you are traveling. I look forward to seeing many of you at the lunch in January.

Hugs,

Marilyn Forbes, Sunshine Lady

POT LUCK PAGE

LAYERED JELLO SQUARES

From: Becky Lunde's Kitchen

6-oz. Jello (Orange) (dissolve in juice & H2O)
1 ½ C. H2O (Mandarin Orange liquid can be used)
2 Cups Ice
Stir to thicken. Remove unmelted Ice)

2 pkgs. Dream Whip (prepare according to pkg. Directions)



Fold into 1 cup of above. Put in 8" square dish and Chill 5 min.

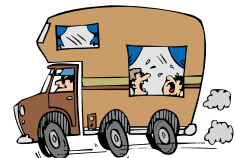
2 Cans (sm.) Mandarin Oranges. Add to remaining jello and spoon over whipped layer.

Chill at least 1 hour. Cut into squares and serve.

MEMBER NEWS AND TRAVELS

Lynn & Becky Lunde:

We had a wonderful time at the November rally. For a no-host rally, there were plenty of activities and of course food. Thank you everyone who volunteered, and thank you to all who attended. It wouldn't be a rally without attendees! Now it is time to enjoy the holidays. It is such a fun time of the year, but goes by so quickly. Happy Holidays to you all.



Mike & Barb Moseler:

Greetings Sun Gator's! Barb and I attended our first Escapee event in November at the rally in Winter Haven, having been Escapees since 2017! We enjoyed the rally and the folks in attendance, especially our adoptive parents, Donna & Mike Pheneger, so we joined the chapter! For the rest of the chapter, the following introduction is provided.

We are Barb and Mike Moseler. We are from the Jamestown, NY area. Barb grew up in Bemus Point and I in Greenhurst. We both graduated from Bemus Point High School. Barb attended Otterbein College before getting her Mrs. and later graduated from Sawyer Business College. I joined the Naval Reserve my junior year in high school and wound up a 33-year Naval Career in 1997. Barb retired from the government in 2006 and then worked for a golf course management firm until I retired from my business partnership at the end of 2016. We began our camping ventures in tents in 1969, quickly moving to tent campers. That lasted until 1994 when we returned from our second tour of duty in Iceland where we camped all over the country in a tent again (Barb didn't have to worry about critters there)! We still had our tent camper until 1998 when we bought our first motorhome, a 1987 27' Gulfstream Sunstream with no slides. Since then, we have owned 5 more class A's and our current super C. We reside in Mount Olive Shores North where we also have a rental lot.

We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas/Happy Hanukkah and a Happy & Healthy New Year!

Chick & Debby Thompson:

Not much traveling since the last newsletter but major changes in the future for us. We have been house hunting during our stay near Jacksonville, FL. We have a contract on a place in Orange Park, FL. It seems like a done deal but still in process. We have a tentative closing date of December 28th. Chick is ready to come off the road, and we do not anticipate keeping a RV. We know we will be getting rid of the Phaeton. Hope everyone has a great holiday. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Editor's Note: As your Newsletter Editor, I will do my best to make the newsletter an interesting read, and provide accurate information. To make the on where you have been or where you are RV. Send me funny articles or poems. In appreciate it. Please submit any articles for (lblunde@aol.com). Pictures are welcome space. JPG format is preferred. I will attempt 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.



newsletter the best it can be, please email me articles going. Send me articles on how to fix things on your other words, I need your input, and would really the Gator Tales to me via email and may be used in a collage, or cropped for to include all articles in the current issue. I look

Becky Lunde

Thank you to all who submitted articles for this issue!

JUST FOR LAUGHS

1. Why was the stadium so cool? It was filled with fans.
2. What's a sheep's favorite Christmas song? Fleece Navidad
3. Which holiday mascot has the least spare change? St. Nickel-less
4. What do reindeers say before they tell a joke? This will sleigh you.
5. Why did Santa put a clock in his sleigh? He wanted to see time fly!



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 Spring Rally –April,

When: April 12-17, 2024
 Where: Dreamin' n Driftin' RV Resort, 8883Hwy. 90W, Lake City, FL 32055
 Rally Coordinator: Russell Sens
 Site Fees: \$55.00 per night + 3% (\$8.25)= 283.25 for the week. A \$63.25 deposit required. Sites 77 -93 have been blocked for us. If anyone wants to come in

early, book your site per the link and add days by calling the campground directly at 386-315-0698 - owners Paula and Bobby. These sites will be released one month prior to the rally.

Reservations: reservation link

<https://resnexus.com/resnexus/reservations/group/2F969860-886E-45DE-ABBE-469FF9034F15?GID=649bceab-c131-437f-b190-cee51aaa5bd1>

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 Sunday 4/7/24, departure Friday 4/12/24.

(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.skpacre.weebly.com

Steve Masterson

President

ACRE Steering Committee

(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 AGENDA
Dreamin' n Driftin' RV Resort, 8883Hwy. 90W, Lake City, FL 32055
APRIL 12-17, 2024

I'm very excited about our spring rally in Lake City, there are a lot of interesting and fun things to do. Remember check-in at Dreamin'n Drift'n RV Resort is from 12 to 8 PM on April 12th. Following is a **Tentative rally schedule**, its early so I'll be filling in the blanks.

- Friday the 12th arrival check-in 12:00-8:00PM
- Official start of the rally will be Saturday the 13th, with morning coffee, Registration, business meeting, happy hour and adoptions.
- Sunday 14th: morning coffee. Explore Falling Creek Falls, Webb's Antique mall, historic downtown, play golf or whatever your interest may be. Happy hour, Dinner on own, evening games, board, dominos, cards, etc.
- Monday 15th: a trip to the Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center, with a guided tour of the museum, and opportunities to explore the park. Late Lunch/Early Dinner then evening games, board, dominos, cards, etc.
- Tuesday 16th: morning coffee, ----- Dinner out (Ole Times Country Buffet) then evening games, board, dominos, cards, etc.
- Wednesday 17th: morning coffee, Hitch and Hugs.

It's going to be fun - looking forward to seeing you all.
Russell

PICTURES FROM NOVEMBER LUNCH AT GOLDEN CORRAL – 27 in attendance!



ADOPTIONS AT FALL RALLY



Mike & Barb Moseler Adopted by Mike & Donna Pheneger

Pictures From The Fall Rally



Gathering in the Clubhouse



Circle B Bar Preserve Tram Tour in Lakeland, FL



Picnic at Preserve after Tram Tour



Sens & Lunde's Hiking at Circle B Bar Preserve



Diamond Art Class Taught by Dave & Donna



Dinner at Andy's Igloo in Winter Haven, FL



PICTURES FROM DECEMBER LUNCH AT GOLDEN CORRAL – 24 in attendance!



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

A Publication of ESCAPEES CHAPTER 57
FLORIDA SUN GATORS



Florida Sun Gators
Escapees Chapter 57
Gator Tales
2404 32nd Ave. W.
Bradenton, FL 34205

Email: Russell Sens rsens2672per@yahoo.com
Facebook: Escapees Ch. 57
Escapees Web: www.escapees.com
Chapter 57 Website:
www.sungators57.wixsite.com/sungators

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

Next Newsletter Deadline

MARCH 15, 2024
