



Good Sam CHAPTER CHAT

1st Quarter 2015



Welcome to the First Edition!

It is our hope that you find this newsletter to be informative and beneficial to you as a chapter member. As always, the Good Sam Club strives to provide consistent communication to our chapter members by working with the Regional, State and Provincial directors.

Chapter members play a vital role in the success of the Good Sam Club and we want to be sure that each and everyone one of you has all of the information you need regarding your club membership. In this first issue of the Chapter Chat, you will find all of the contact information

for your Regional directors. Put in place in January, 2013, The Regional Directors are doing a remarkable job of travelling about the U.S. and Canada representing the Good Sam Club and Chapters. If you see one of them, be sure to say "Hello".

The Chapter Chat newsletter will be distributed to all chapter presidents once per quarter. It will provide updates on new member benefits, events, samborees, and volunteer opportunities and so much more! Be sure to check with your chapter president for the newest edition.



Complimentary Membership Program!

Our Mission in 2015 is to keep our Chapters thriving! In order to do that – we need to continue to grow the Good Sam Club. We are proud to introduce to you our new Complimentary Membership Program. This program is only available to Regional Directors, State/Provincial Directors, and chapter members.

Have you ever been approached by someone who asked "What's the Good Sam Club all about?" Do you know an Rver who is not a member of the Good Sam Club? If so, this is your opportunity

to introduce someone to the Club who may have never been a member before. Each State and Provincial Director has been given a supply of Complimentary membership forms. These forms are provided for you in order to collect the information for membership activation.

It's easy – And everything you need is in the brochure! Your state or provincial director will be mailing the forms to chapter presidents soon. Once you receive them, if you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask!

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Coming Soon

**Western Weekend
"Above & Below"**
May 8 – 10, 2015
Peach Tree, AZ

Nevada Samboree
March 11 – 14, 2015
Pahrump, NV

**Georgia 'Wearing of
the Greens' Samboree**
March 19 – 22, 2015
Perry, GA

**Texas 'Luck of the
Irish' Samboree**
April 2 – 5, 2015
Waco, TX

**Louisiana 'Dare to
Dream' Samboree**
April 9 -12, 2015
Shreveport, LA

**Florida 'Mad Hatters'
Samboree**
April 15 – 19, 2015
Okeechobee, FL

**Arkansas 'Rock N Roll
Through the Years'
Samboree**
April 16-19, 2015
Dothan, AL

More information & events at
GoodSamClub.com/Samborees

The Chapter of the Year Award Goes To...

The Trail Blazing Sams turned out for last year's Florida Samborees in full force, enthusiastically taking part in activities and volunteering hundreds of hours behind the scenes. The chapter assisted with RV parking, led the morning walk and ran the indoor and outdoor games, from cribbage and Mexican train dominoes to horseshoes and bocce ball. In typical shipshape fashion, they constructed an elaborate pirate vessel that won first place in the Samboree parade, then went above and beyond donating gift cards for door prizes.

The chapter takes advantage of Florida's well-attended Samborees to raise money for favorite causes. At last year's events, they sold bottled water, hot chocolate and flea market items, and sponsored a pet in the dog walk, raising \$639 for Oregon's Dogs for the Deaf and \$172 for Florida Guide Dogs for the Deaf. Throughout 2013 the chapter also donated \$150 each to the Wounded Warrior Project, the Suncoast Hospice Foundation, the Friends of Joshua House Foundation and the James A. Haley Veterans Hospital Fisher House Foundation.

To brighten the lives of seniors and veterans, chapter members gave hundreds of handcrafted shawls, lap robes and bed-size afghans to HPH Hospice and Bay Pines VA Hospital, along with angels to hang on patients'



doors. For new mothers and infants, members crocheted 33 baby blankets and more than a hundred baby hats for the Women's Center at Seven Rivers Regional Medical Center.

Over the years the Trail Blazing Sams have contributed \$18,000 in aluminum pull-tabs to Shriners Hospitals for Children, including 71 pounds' worth in 2013, but that's just for starters. Last year the chapter collected Box Tops for Education for a local elementary school, old phones and phone accessories for the Citrus County Abuse Shelter Association, greeting cards for St. Jude's Ranch for Children and household items for St. Vincent de Paul. Members also donated several boxes of school supplies to the Hillsborough Education Foundation, 20 new toys to the Salvation Army's Our Angel Tree program and 65

Easter baskets to Shriners Hospitals.

Doing more than their share for the environment, the Trail Blazing Sams have kept South Mobley Road litter free since 2005, as part of Hillsborough County's Adopt-a-Road program. Last year alone chapter members picked up 1,220 pounds of trash and hauled out everything from hubcaps to a basketball hoop. Members also volunteered 189 hours clearing trails and removing evasive plants at Rye Preserve and Key State Park.

Spreading the Good Samaritan spirit to tens of thousands of RV enthusiasts at the state fairgrounds last year, members volunteered 500 hours at the Florida RV SuperShow, serving refreshments, handing out door prizes and promoting the Good Sam Club all the while.

Get Involved Volunteer Opportunities Await

A big reason people join the Good Sam Club and Chapters is so they can lend a helping hand to others. This directly coincides with the inspiration behind the Good Sam Club - the Good Samaritan. Many opportunities exist for ways you and your local Chapter can get involved with this spirit of giving.

STANDBY SAMs

What would it be like to have a good friend nearby wherever you traveled? Someone who could tell you the most scenic route to follow, places for repairs, or even the best restaurants in town? That's what Standby Sams do for their fellow Good Sam Club members. This network of almost 2,000 volunteers is ready and able to lend a helping hand and give valuable advice.

Go online for Standby Sams in the location you are visiting next. You can also volunteer to be a standby Sam in your area.

CLEAN UP DAYS

In May, we designate a weekend for Good Sam Club Cleanup Days. This is a day/weekend when Club and chapter members select a campground, park, or other public land and pick and pick up branches, trash and other items.

Chapters that collect 10 or more bags of trash AND send in their picture are eligible to enter a drawing for a \$25 Camping World Merchandise Certificate - one per membership!

The next Clean Up Days are May 16-17, 2015. You can learn more by visiting www.GoodSamclub/volunteer.



Kenneth & Diane Wagner Community Advocates

Since 2008, Good Sams' Rver of the Year Award has recognized exceptional members who go out of their way to make the world a better place. Nominations flow in year-round, with member online voting in the fall.

RVers since 1982, Good Sam Life members Kenneth and Diane Wagner are prime examples of leadership within the Good Sam organization. Each year at their state's Samboree, the Wagners help coordinate an auction and raffle to benefit Maine's Camp Sunshine, a retreat for youngsters with life-threatening conditions. They belong to Good Sam chapter Moose Trak Travelers, Kenneth being President, and contribute much of what they do to the help and assistance of the chapter members as a whole. They commend Maine Good Sam and state staff for the work done to help



the chapters. Also belonging to Maine's Good Sam Special Olympics Chapter, they volunteer and help earn hundreds of dollars for Maine's Special Olympics.

We're always on the lookout for RVer of the Year candidates. Do you know an Rving Good Sam member or couple who has given back to their community or the world at large in a big way through volunteering, fundraising, or building awareness for worthwhile causes? Nominate them now and tell us what they've done to deserve the award. If you'd make a good candidate, don't be shy – nominate yourself! Nominations are accepted year-round. Learn more at www.GoodSamClub.com/rveroftheyear.



The Greatest RV Rally! Meet us in Phoenix

Come join the fun, at the Camping World/Good Sam Rally in Phoenix, Arizona, February 26–March 1, 2015! The Rally features a vast exhibit of motorized and towable RVs, more than 300 indoor booths with the latest RV accessories, and dawn-till-dark seminars and activities. You can even test drive an RV on the track. Nightly entertainment includes tribute bands Ticket to Ride (Beatles), Super Diamond (Neil Diamond) and the Real Tones Band (50's, 60's, and 70's music). Bring your best friend to Halo's Best in Show dog show on February 28. Take part in the Salute to Veterans on March 1, which includes a special appearance by members of the Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club, many of whom represent veterans from different military branches. The Rally will also attempt to break the record for the world's largest wedding vow renewal.

The Chapter's team will again feature a base camp tent with games and fun for all Rally attendees. The games will be sponsored by chapter members from various states and provinces. For more information contact your Regional, State, or Provincial Director.

New Club Benefits!

Beginning in 2015 you'll find **members-only Hot Deals** inside each Camping World flyer! You'll enjoy savings on some of your favorite products. Throughout the year, you will also be able to view the Hot Deals at www.GoodSamclub.com!

Plus, throughout the year, you will also receive **members-only installation special offers** on select items offering significant savings! Camping World also promises members the lowest installed price on the items **GUARANTEED!!**

Community Connections

Stay connected and up to date.

- Follow our updates on **Twitter** @TheGoodSamClub
- Join the Conversation and Like the Good Sam page on **Facebook**
- Subscribe to the Good Sam **Youtube** channel for the latest how-to videos and information on new products
- Connect with others on **RV.NET!**
- Follow us on **Pinterest** too!





For more information about joining or starting a chapter in your area please contact your Regional Director using the information below:



Central Plains Region

CO, IA, NE, UT, WY

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Midatlantic Region

DE, MD, NJ, PA, VA, WV

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Northern Plains Region

ON, MB, MN, ND, NW, SD, SK, WI

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