

The Challenger's

January & February Newsletter



The Challengers 2017 Executive Board

Saturday, December 10, 2016, the executive board of directors was installed by Felicia Fitzgerald. Carol Buck President, Wayne Bittner Vice President, Dave Haney Secretary, Judy Haney Treasurer and Russ Buck National Director. Congratulations!

1

TAMPA RV SUPER SHOW

January 18 to 22, 2017

2

SEA RALLY

Lakeland, FL

February 2 to 5, 2017

3

MARCH MYSTERY RALLY

March 6-12, 2017



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December Rally Recap

If you missed the December Rally, you missed a great time. Early arrivals rolled in on Tuesday with the last coach arriving late on Friday. A total of 18 member coaches were in attendance. Friday kicked off the start of the rally with a variety of pot luck dinners. I'll say this again, we have some secret chef's among us. After dinner Carol Buck and Judy Haney planned holiday games, I must say I was impressed with a 100% participation! Who would have thought you could fit so many balloons in a Farmer John outfit. Thanks to Diane Hoover and Felicia Fitzgerald who were stuffed with balloons by their husbands Dan Hoover and Mike Fitzgerald. It came down to one balloon and the

winner was Diane and Dan Hoover. The next game that Carol and Judy had in store for us was putting a candy cane in your mouth and picking up another cane candy up and placing it into a cup. Who would have ever thought we had such a talented a bunch, congrats to Wayne Bittner, Charlie Ragland, and Matt Kucharzyk The next game was a mystery package wrapped. When you rolled a 3 on the dice, you would go up and put on a trench coat, scarf, hat, and oven mitts, yes oven mitts. THINK ABOUT IT, try opening a box with oven mitts on. Dan Hoover became the final member to roll the dice and won a silver dollar. The final game of the night was guessing what was is in the stocking and how many items. This was fun as Judy gave us a moment to feel the stocking and write down what we thought was in the stocking. It was amazing there were 40 items in the stocking. Everyone was a winner on this game. Saturday morning Carol and Russ provided breakfast for everyone. Egg casserole with warm biscuits and fresh pineapple, very yummy. President Lori Pierce along with Secretary Felicia Fitzgerald and Treasurer Charlie Ragland held their last meeting. We thank each of you for your time as an executive board member. The board presented Lori Pierce with a gift, a GPS.



“It was the best time I had.” Paul Connors

Saturday night we celebrated with kicking off the evening with Candy Cane “Mini” Martini’s. Felicia Fitzgerald and Nancy Ragland provided each member with a glass. A toast was made by past president, Lori Pierce to wish everyone a Merry Christmas to our extended family and thank everyone for a great year. I must say you couldn’t just drink one. The Holiday meal started off with a Christmas Salad, prepared by Carol Buck, check out the recipe in the recipe corner of the newsletter. The main course was served by a few of our members. Charlie Ragland prepared the prime rib and Carol Buck prepared the cream of potatoes and seasoned corn. Our bellies were full but a few managed to get a few bites of the Almond Joy Cake. After dinner Dave Haney played the piano and members were handed a list of songs with words to sing along. We started the bidding on each present that each member brought. I think a few were still coming off the Candy Cane Martini as they were bidding against themselves. It was a fun night and each member should be proud, we raised over \$1,000 to split between the two charities that was voted on at the October Rally. Felicia Fitzgerald and her mom made a gift for each member to take home with them, thank you Felicia and please tell your mom thank you too! Sunday morning a few gathered to say our good byes and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Chaplain's Message

Dick and Linda Schauland

Jesus Can Set Them Free

"And as ye go, preach, saying, The Kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils, freely ye have received, freely give." (Matthew 10:7,8)

There are those who've said that some of the diseases that are on the rampage right now, diseases and sicknesses such as AIDS, cancer, flu, etc., are God's way of punishing immoral people today. There is absolutely no scriptural basis for that!

God does not bring disease on the human race. In fact, if there's anybody in heaven and earth who hates it, it's Jesus. The devil is the one who's trying to tell us otherwise. He's promoting a lie, trying to get us to believe God is the one who's inflicting these diseases on people because he knows that if the victims believe that, it will drive them further from God than ever. And that's his aim.

God wants us to put a STOP to the lie. He wants us to reach out to those who are suffering. Let them know that He didn't do this to them, and that He is their Deliverer!

We need to tell people who've been afflicted with one of these diseases or sicknesses that Jesus is Lord over them. We need to tell them that God loves them dearly, and He has the desire and the power to heal them.

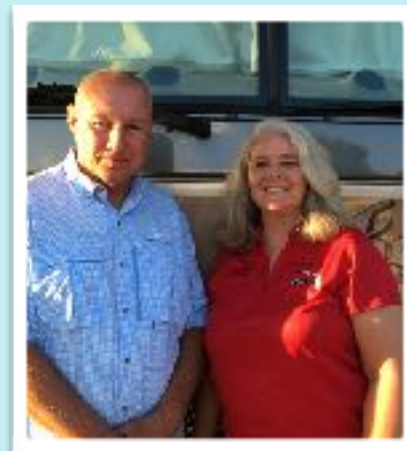
God is not responsible for the suffering we're seeing around us. That's just a nasty lie the devil is passing around. Finally, we need to pass the word that Jesus Christ is not their captor; He's the One who can set them free.

Prayer Request

As we read the above message from The Challengers Chaplain's, Dick and Linda was unaware of Alan Marsden health. Please keep Alan and Nancy Marsden in your prayers. Alan's doctor found a tumor on one of his kidney's. Alan and Nancy were sent to the Mayo Clinic and met with a doctor to discuss what the next step would be. The doctor informed them that they are unable to remove the kidney and tumor at this time as the tumor is wrapped around one of the main veins that goes through the body. Alan and Nancy are going back to the Mayo Clinic for a biopsy. After the biopsy, they will meet with the oncologist to see what type of cancer it is. They are going to start Alan on oral chemo for 4 weeks to shrink the tumor so both may be removed. Also please keep John McSweeney, Sandy Meyers, Nancy Ragland's friend, Cathy, Marianne Bittner, and always Leroy and Martha Barnes in our prayers.

MESSAGE FROM LORI PIERCE, PAST PRESIDENT

I want to thank all the members for your support and confidence that each of you bestow to me. I hope the past two years I was able to fulfill my promise to the members. I want to thank Wayne Bittner for his support. Thank you to Felicia Fitzgerald for your hard work and keeping the minutes of each meeting, keeping The Challenger members updated on important issues and members who needed our prayers. Thank you Charlie Ragland for collecting member dues and food dues at each rally. Thank you Russ Buck for keeping us updated with national information. Happy Holidays!



Christmas Salad

Ingredients: 1 package (3 ounces) lime gelatin, 1 cup boiling water, 1/3 cup Dole canned 100% pineapple juice, 1 cup crushed pineapple, drained.

Cream Cheese Layer: 1 teaspoon unflavored gelatin, 2 tablespoon cold water, 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened, 1/3 cup milk.

Berry Layer: 2 packages (3 ounces each) strawberry gelatin, 2 cups boiling water, 1 can (14 ounces) whole-berry cranberry sauce, whipped topping, optional.

Directions:

1. Dissolve lime gelatin in boiling water, stir in pineapple juice. Stir in pineapple. Pour into an 11-in x 7 in dish; refrigerate.
2. In a small saucepan, sprinkle unflavored gelatin over cold water; let stand for 1 minute. Heat over low heat, stirring until gelatin is completely dissolved. Transfer to a small bowl. Beat in cream cheese and milk until smooth; spread over lime layer; refrigerate until set.
3. Dissolve strawberry gelatin in boiling water; stir in cranberry sauce. Cool for 10 minutes. Carefully spoon over cream cheese layer. Refrigerate until set.
4. Cut into squares. Garnish with whipped topping if desired.

Yield: 10 servings.



Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS 🎉🎁🎈

Matt Kucharczyk 1, Paul Levine 3, Maxine Schremp 12, Charlotte Corbin 14, Rosalie Perry 25

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES 🎉🎁🎈

Ron & Jan Nelson 6, Charlie & Nancy Ragland 6

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS 🎉🎁🎈

Billy Barton 2, Frank Pierce 6, Maury Hudson 7, Norma Connors 8, Ted Nowak 9, Brenda Cassada 23, Beth Stafford 28

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES 🎉🎁🎈

Dan & Diane Hoover 27

Wagon's Ho!

SEA Lands in Lakeland, February 2-5

If you have signed up for Coffee & Donuts you should have already received your package in the mail. Don't forget to email Maury Hudson maury_hudson@mac.com if you plan on meeting at the rest area on January 30.

March Mystery Rally, March 6-12

The Mystery Rally will begin at the Barton's Farm, March 6. Plan to arrive before 12:00 pm so that we can start our first activity in the afternoon. Directions to the farm will follow prior to the rally. Each evening of the rally you will be given instructions for the next day's activities and locations. For you're planning this is an outline of what you will need to prepare for:

2 nights eating out, 1 night covered dish, food to pack for bag lunch one day, approximately \$75 per person entrances fees, 2 nights of campground fee, during the rally we will be driving approximately 120 miles. Contact Carol Buck if you plan to attend at 352-222-0036

Rally Survey

After each rally a survey will be emailed to the attending member. Please respond to this survey as it will help with future rally bookings.