

WNY SAMS September 18 - 20, 2015 CampOut @ Southwoods

(Editor/Reporter/Photographer: Diana Fackler)

(Contributing photographer: Dick Kashdin)



September 17th found several of our members heading to Southwoods Campground in Byron, NY. **Thursday** arrivals included: Dean & Bonnie Stenshorn, Dick & Judy Cox, Dick Kashdin & Sandy Donovan (& Big Girl & Baby Girl), Ed & myself, Rich, Carol & Ralph Ward, Jerry & Marge Meyer, and Butch & Carol Ellis. It was **GREAT** to see Dean & Bonnie again and Dean looked **WONDERFUL!** During the afternoon, snacks were put out by Sandy & Big Dick. A piece of wood was given to me by "Little" Dick to see

what type of craft I could make with it. And, of course, "Big" Dick came up with the idea of "carry on



luggage for campers" because it had a red handle connected to it. I'm still working on the craft idea, "Little" Dick! A little bit later, some hobo pies (grilled cheese & pizza) were made over the campfire as well as a new treat introduced to the group by Jerry & Marge –



doughboys with pudding in the middle. Absolutely DELICIOUS!

Friday afternoon found many of our members



taking a hike to the office for an ice cream treat. (Sorry, Carol ... you can't hide from the camera!)



And some stayed to play a round of miniature golf after their ice cream. Finishing scores were Carol W (30), "Little" Dick (29), Judy (28), Ginger (25) and myself with 23! Of course, Ed claims it is because I was the one keeping score!



And some others decided to **cool** off a bit.

Friday arrivals included Jack & Ginger (as well as Bert & Ernie), Chuck & Susan Massey, Bill & Ann Marino, Debbie Reumann (Bob joined her a bit later), Chuck & Pam Bradford, Keith Pierce & Nancy Craig (and Oliver), Dick & Bev Elliott, Mike & Linda DeRose, Don & Terri Sokol, Mark & Liz Eichelberger, and our newest members Dave & Carolyn Nelson (and their beautiful dog Morgan). During the course of the day, Ed commented on the dream he had the night before but some of us were wondering if it was a dream or if it actually happened? According to Ed, someone was on top of him during the night, poking him and telling him to shut up and he said IT WAS NOT a female! It was at this point that “Big” Dick said he heard a coyote howling and Ed said it was probably him howling. That sounded like a pretty wild



dream! Several members (@ 7 couples and Deb Reumann) headed out for dinner at the **Viking Valhalla**



Restaurant and Party House In the Rose Garden Bowling Establishment in Bergen, NY.. I apologize for not knowing the names of those that went to dinner but it sounded (and looks) like they had a great time!

(Jack & Ginger) decided to make a homemade pizza by using a pizza stone on their grill. It looked **DELICIOUS** and left my mouth watering! And, from what I heard, it tasted as good as it looked!

While some had gone to dinner, others had cooked their own dinner at the campground. One couple



The group arrived back to the campground in time to enjoy one of Ed's “**masterpiece**” campfires! Thank you “Middle” Dick (Elliott) for all the firewood – it sure kept us warm! I almost forgot to mention that while Keith & Nancy



Our Newest 4 Legged Member - Morgan Nelson

were out to dinner, it looked like Oliver was flipping through the television channels – must be he forgot what station the Animal Planet was on! During the campfire, Dave Swanson (from FCRV and also a member of our group) challenged our camping group to a game of Bocce Ball on Saturday. Of course, we took the challenge!

Saturday morning soon rolled around as we were all treated to a breakfast of donuts and other goodies. Thank you for hosting the campout Keith & Nancy!



A short (??) meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM . Carol E led the group in a prayer.

New Business included:

- The newest members, **Dave & Carolyn Nelson** were introduced.
- President Chuck commented on the upcoming **Fall Fest** and stated that 3 – 4 units from WNY Sams will be going. He stated that if anyone is interested in attending, they should talk with Carol E. He also stated that a vote will be taking place at the **Fall Fest** meeting as to where the State Charity funds will be distributed for both 2015 and 2016. He asked for WNY Sams input so that he could share our input at the meeting. Discussion followed on possibility of Operation Injured Soldiers. Pam stated that she had gone to a **Red Hat** meeting recently and there was a representative there from Women Injured Soldiers out of Niagara Falls but she is unsure as to how much of the donations actually go towards the soldiers vs administrative funds. Following much discussion and thoughts for possible motions, a **MOTION** was made by Jack that we give money to the veteran organization (female and male support groups) that returns the highest percentage of monies to the veterans. Seconded by Debbie and Ginger. Discussion followed that we should place a limit on the acceptable percentage and it was agreed that the organization would need to give at least 75% of the monies to the veterans. Also, if the Women Injured Soldiers puts 75% or more back to injured veterans, we could split the monies evenly between OIS and the female group. If not all goes to OIS. Motion was put to a vote and carried.
- Diana questioned what charity the WNY SAMS charity donation would be going to for 2015. After some discussion, a **MOTION** was made by “Little” Dick that we give our charity monies to **Camp Get Away** again. Seconded by Jerry and Marge. Carried. Question was raised by Sandy if it would be possible to have our August campout close to the Camp Get Away facility so that we might be able to help with their activities, etc. Discussion followed and it was agreed to find a campground nearby so that those who are interested in volunteering can do so. “Little” Dick also commented that Batavia VA is always looking for volunteers to help with activities if anyone is interested.
- President Chuck brought a shirt with him in our Chapter color that he is able to purchase for anyone interested at a cost of \$15 each with or without pockets. The shirt would not need to have our logo put on it as we have the magnetic name plates with our Chapter logo on it.
- It was reported by President Chuck that Tom and Nancy Kilmer (Regional Directors) are starting to look at Regional Rallies and are looking at the possibility of having it next year at Turning Stone. More information to follow.
- Question was asked about the **Christmas** Party in December. Linda and Marge stated that they have not had a chance to get together yet. However, Marge had talked with Camping World and requested the use of the room for the 1st or 2nd Saturday of December. She will check back with them and let the group know.
- Dean and Bonnie thanked everyone for all the assistance they gave them after Dean’s incident at the Canandaigua KOA. (We didn’t do anything that the two of you wouldn’t have done for us – you were both in our thoughts and prayers and we are just so happy to see how well you are doing, Dean!)
- “Little” Dick asked if there were any campouts scheduled yet for 2016. The Wagonmasters informed the group that they are requesting 16 sites for next year’s campouts. Tentative campouts at this time are: **May** – Woodstream; **June** – Westfield KOA is a possibility but not definite; **July** – Samboree; **August** – Camp Get Away; **September** – Sleepy Hollow; and for **October** they are going to see if Southwoods is available.

- A request for a **Treasurer's Report** was made but was unavailable. Discussion raised by President Chuck that the Chapter needs to get a more active Treasurer that is going to be at the campouts/meetings. **MOTION** was made by Nancy that Keith be made Treasurer. Seconded by Sandy and carried.
- Diana reported that she will not be seeking re-election for the Secretary position and that a replacement is needed.
- **MOTION** for adjournment was made at 10:06, seconded by Chuck M and carried.

Following the meeting, Nancy and Keith led the "interested" participants in a "tye dying" adventure. Don't forget Rich, everyone needs to model their garments at the October campout!



The Bocce challenge took place with WNY Sams beating FCRV! And, later in the afternoon, there was a shared game of Beanbag Baseball – women vs. men.



Not really sure who won the beanbag games – I believe the men won the first game and the ladies won the 2nd game?



There was also some afternoon entertainment at the Bradfords campsite prior to the Beanbag Baseball game. Unfortunately, neither myself nor my contributing photographer got a picture of the "crawling" that took place during the activities. No names mentioned President Chuck!



Following the Beanbag Baseball games, it was decided by a few that dinner preparations should begin. Even though a “protest” was made that not all our members were present as they planned on a **6 PM** mealtime, the potluck meal began shortly after 5:00. Corn on the cob and salt potatoes were provided while everyone brought a meat to grill and their dish to pass



Following dinner, a screen was put up for an evening movie (animated) called “**HOME.**” (After a hive-minded alien race called the Boov conquer the Earth, they relocate the planet's human population -- all except for a little girl named Tip (Rihanna), who's managed to hide from the aliens. When Tip meets a fugitive Boov called Oh (Jim Parsons), there's mutual distrust. However, Oh is not like his comrades; he craves friendship and fun. As their distrust fades, the pair set out together to find Tip's mother, but, unbeknown to them, the Gorg -- enemies of the Boov -- are en route. Unfortunately, due to the incimate weather, there were only about 12 people present.



Sunday morning rolled around with breakfast and a social gathering before everyone left for home.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the members hiding out on the Paparazzi over the weekend! That's right, “Big” Dick & Sandy's **BIG GIRL** and **BABY GIRL** were recently featured in the August 15th edition of the electronic version of **RV TRAVEL.COM** . The article can be found at [I tried to get some autographs but were told they were \\$5 each and that I would have to speak to Sandy who is their manager.](#) The article follows on the next page.

From Dick and Sandy, near Buffalo, New York

We have traveled with our two indoor cats for the past 11 years.

This is **Dizzy aka Baby Girl** curled up in her driver's seat bed (right). She is of the Ragamuffin breed with white markings and whiskers that make her look like she is wearing a tuxedo. She is 11 years old and we have raised her since we got her from an animal shelter as a tiny kitten. She is a normal cat and weighs about 12 pounds. Baby Girl is the "diva" of the two. She is very talkative and will let everyone know when she wants something. She will let strangers pet her and give her all the attention she wants. She also is known to do back flips and jump at invisible objects for seemingly no reason at all — that is how she got the name "Dizzy."



This is **Stormy aka Big Girl** curled up in her passenger seat bed (left). We also got her from an animal shelter. At that time she was a very tiny, all-black kitten of unknown breeding whom we originally named Little Bits. But as she got older she grew and grew, and it was not until she was over a year old that we and our vet finally realized that her breed was of Maine coon and Burmese mix. Note how she almost hangs over both sides of the seat. That is because she now is 11 years old and weighs in at almost 25 pounds. She is not fat — just a really "Big Girl". She is fast and very strong for her size and loves to play. She is very laid back and is sometimes skittish around strangers. But she also loves attention once things settle down.

The Big Girl is totally black — even her whiskers and the pads of her feet. Only when her eyes are open does she appear in a dark place. When eating, she scoops one piece of dry food at a time out of her food bowl and eats it off the floor. When drinking, she reaches into her water bowl with her paw and drinks out of her paw. Her fur is as smooth as a mink.

Our cats travel with us all the time. They have been from Key West, Florida, to Fairbanks, Alaska, and from Booth Bay, Maine, to Washington state — across 49 states and six Canadian provinces, some many times over. They are a pleasure to travel with and provide us with a lot of entertainment. We get quite a few visitors on the road when they learn we have a 25-pound cat!



Almost forgot ... during the weekend Mike had a football "pool" for the **Buffalo Bills** game on Sunday. Lucky winners were: Ed, Chuck M, Debbie and "Little" Dick & Judy. **Congratulations** to all the winners and **THANK YOU** Mike for taking charge of this! Since I am not a big football fan, definitely made the game more interesting to me.

NEXT campout is at the **Genesee Country Campground** for the weekend of 10/16 – 18/15. The **Craft** project will be a “Cookie Sharing” basket – interested participants were asked to let me know by no later than 9/27 so that the kits could be purchased at a cost of \$18 each. At this point in time, we have 10 ladies signed up to do the basket! Ladies, I will be sending an email sometime next week letting you know what you should bring with you.



TILL WE MEET AGAIN