**New York State Good Sam Club**

**Saturday, September 24, 2016 Chapter Meeting**

A meeting of the New York Good Sam Club was held at the Herkimer County Fairgrounds, Cemetery Road, Frankfort, New York.

The meeting was called to order by State Director, Steve Sykes at 1:10 PM. The Blessing was done by Rich Ferolito, Chaplain followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and reading the Good Sam Pledge.

**Those present were**: Harold Mitchell (Center State Sams Pres.), Charles Bradford (Easy Going Sams Pres.), Bruce D. Huie (Finger Lakes Sams Pres.), Glen Gasstrom (Instigator Sams Rep.), Rich Ferolito (Mohawk Majestics, Rep.), Keith Alexander (Northern Lights Sams Pres.), Ronalda Dray (Sam’s Grape Stompers Rep.), Betty Nielsen (Seneca Sams Pres.), William & Brenda Sayward (Sippin Sams Pres. & Sec.), Miles E. Burns (Southern Tier Good Sams Pres.), Alfred E. Smith (Sumthin’ Sams Pres.), William DeCota (Super Sams Pres.), Wendy & Richard Nastice (Tri-City Sams Rep.)

**Those absent were**: Adirondack Sams, Apple Valley Sams, Calico Sams, Long Island Campers, and Western New York Sams.

**Tom Killmer, Northeast Regional Director, spoke** about former Director resigned and Steve and Irene Sykes agreed to come on board early. It is all behind us and concentrate on having some fun and working with Steve and Irene. Clubs are structured and treasurer and director is elected. It isn’t a situation that director makes all decisions but directs. It is about having fun and they (director) and we (Northeast Regional Director) are here to make that happen. We are here to lead, to help, and mentor. Any questions? (None asked)

Tom went on to tell of upcoming events:

**North East Rally** at Franklin County Mass. is May 26-29.

**Good Sam Fun Weekend** at Turning Stone is June 2-4. Discount for camping and tell them you are joining the Good Sam Event. Nancy Killmer is making a list of things to do in the area and says it is presented as an event and not like Syracuse. Not a lot of activities planned like bean bag baseball but will have a gathering for cheese, crackers and a campfire. Everyone in the campground is invited and it is a good chance to tell others about Good Sam. A golfing outing is planned for Turning Stone.

**Vermont** June 6-11

**Blue Grass Festival**, family oriented, at Turnbridge, VT 6/22-25. Final deal is not done yet.

**New York State Rally at Herkimer** July 7-9.

**Richmond, Ontario** August 23-27. Monday tours to Ottawa. Final plans will be online.

A list of dates and events will be handed out when finalized and web site and e-mail will be going out. If you have anything going on in your area and is a good time, they can try to make arrangements in the area. Turn it in to Steve and Irene and they will give to me (Tom Killmer). Fantasy Tours is preferred Good Sam Tours – Family Fest in Mass.

**Treasurer’s Report**: Copies of the Treasurer’s Report was distributed. Jim Smith, State Treasurer, went over the Income 2016. Jim states he did not break down but will next year. We took in $17,197.50. Expenses were then explained. Jim bought checks which won’t be an expense again. Popcorn machine – deposit made and we got it back. Jim explained “overpaid $379.92” and has sent three correspondence requesting the overpayment to Mary Ann be sent back which she has not acknowledged or sent back. “refunds $769.00” are refunds from the July Rally no shows. All checks have cleared. In our checking account, the **balance is $9,461.70** as of September 20, 2016.

Glen Gasstrom explained about canceling Fall Fest and keeping at least $10,000 in our account.

 **Refunds**: Betty Nielsen (Registration) spoke and asked about the refund to six or seven people. Why don’t we keep $10 or so? Jim Smith spoke you need to put that on the application. Betty said one person contacted her and she told that person she could not give money back until after the Rally. Glen Gasstrom spoke in the past we did for good will. Steve Sykes said they will redo the application to reflect policy for money back (refund). Also a deadline date will be on for parking chapters together on application. Rich Ferolito made a motion to accept and seconded by Harold Mitchell. All in favor.

**Correspondence**: Nancy Smith, State Secretary, read briefly thank you letter dated 9/7/2016 from Roswell Park Cancer Instutute, Buffalo, NY for $404.00; thank you letter dated 8/25/2016 from Dogs for the Deaf, Central Point, Oregon for $404.00 and thank you note to Center State Sams post marked 8/9/2016 from Frankfort/Ilion Food Panty for box of food. Correspondence was passed around.

**Donations**: Steve Sykes mentioned Halo Fund. Tom Killmer explained this organization and told of wishes for children with a disease or condition of local children. One wish was to swim with the dolphins and they made it happen at Disney World and Seas World. Two candidates now one a girl from Maine born with part of her heart missing. The directors are promoting of Northeast Region and are working with Halo to make children’s wishes come true.

OLD BUSINESS

**Theme for 2017 Rally**: Steve asked for suggestions and we voted.

County Fair (2 votes), Hawaiian Luau (6 votes), Celebrate Your Chapter (3 votes) and

Hawaiian Luau won the vote.

Irene Sykes spoke that you don’t have to decorate your booth, it is up to the chapter. Steve is looking for information for a pig roast. Glen to look into a couple of local places for a Saturday night pig roast.

**Charities 2017**: Steve asked for suggestions and we voted.

Mercy Flight – East (1 vote), St. Judes (6 votes), Warm the Children (3 votes), Halo Wishes – Northeast (4 votes) 100% goes to organization, Operation Injured Soldier (2 votes) Tom Killmer said that the director would have come to the Rally if he was invited, and Dogs for the Deaf (2 votes).

Motion from Keith Alexander was made to do two charities, seconded by Ronnie Dray and carried. **St. Jude and Halo Wishes won for the State Charities**. Concerning “Warm the Children”, they requested *new* warm clothing per newspaper article and monetary donations and not the actual item. Glen made a motion to bring warm clothing to the Rally and seconded by Ronnie Dray. No one opposed. It was brought up that we collect items. Steve suggested that chapters can do “Warm the Children” charity.

**Chapter Duties at The Rally**:

Tom Killmer spoke that the term has changed. Tom explained Samboree changed to Rally and was voted on by the State Directors. Big Rally like Syracuse is called Super RV Show. February 23, 2017 Super RV Show is at Phoenix, AZ, dry camping and application is on line. It was asked to Tom Killmer what about chance of a regional get-together. Tom reports 400 sites with full hookups at New York State Fairgrounds to be done in 2017. Then maybe we can see about a Super RV Show. Maybe in another year or so. Steve spoke Tri-State Rally – there is potential that it might happen. Tom reports the attendance is low and example is Winnebago does regional and vendors come more for bigger rallies. If we did this, we would have separate funds for this. Average rigs for a Rally is 100 rigs, VT had 68, Maine 78. They are getting below 100. It all hinges on attendance. We need to support one another. Chuck Bradford spoke participation on putting on training instead of vendors was great but felt vendors are good too. Steve said tire care at Rally was well received and high reviews and was opposite Samantha Tea. Steve passed around a sign-up sheet of what your chapters want to do at the Rally. Steve is making a list of people that just want to volunteer. A woman spoke that last year no one signed up for Horse Races in 2016. Steve is to review and drop those that no one signs up for.

**Rally 2017**: Date to change to July 7-9 then you don’t conflict with PEI. In 2016, someone showed up at the normal date and we weren’t here.

**Fall Fest**: Steve asked what is every one feeling for the Fall Fest. Motion by Glenn to do Fall Fest if we have funds. Steve said it has been free for chapter Presidents and Staff and says we are going to have to change it. Also brought up to hold application for Fall Fest until *after* Rally so they don’t get mixed up. 201**8** Rally would be July 13, 14, 15. Steve to discuss with fairgrounds. Keith Alexander made a motion to have everyone pay to come in. Seconded by Ronnie Dray. No one opposed. 2017 dates are last full weekend in September.

**Rally Booth Opening Times**: Keith Alexander spoke about opening of booths. Two days is too much. Glen says complaints of not enough open time. Steve to set up hours and will put out a list of hours to be opened and chapters can decide if they want to do more hours. Games at booth have been a hit and majority of chapters feel it is good. Get creative. We have out of state judges so it won’t be bias.

NEW BUSINESS

**Proposed Budget Committee**: We did it wrong where director and treasurer cannot be on this committee. We need a budget committee and do we have volunteers? Glen Gasstrom, Harold Mitchell, and Betty Neilson volunteer and will meet right after this meeting.

**Quarterly Roster**: We have done away with sending to the National but kept local with name, office such as president, vice president, etc. There is a procedure to follow if you

de-charter, we need to know these officers and contact officers in that chapter if they are in agreement (with de-chartering). Tom Killmer gave example of this happening where one person was in disagreement and tried to dis-ban the chapter but rest did not want to dis-ban the chapter. Betty Nielsen asked about membership numbers, if you have to have one. Tom Killmer says you have to be a member of Good Sam to be in a chapter. Membership number is to be on the roster.

**Standing Rules**: Steve would like a three person committee for standing rules. It needs fine tuning. Tom Killmer says we could do it right here by voting. Steve says standing rules say we are to have two State meetings a year, one at Rally and the second at Fall Fest. Tom suggested Skype, e-mail, etc. Steve mentioned five chapters – Adirondack, Apple Valley, Western NY, Long Island, and Calico are not in attendance and then they can’t vote. If anyone has contact with them, please contact me (Steve) with a correct e-mail and/or who is President. Steve to be in Florida and can be reached by e-mail. **sykes41451@gmail.gov** Steve asked about changing wording of Standing Rules to read fourth Saturday in September in the afternoon. Glen made the motion to change and seconded by Rich Ferolito. No one opposed.

Glen questioned timing of Sunday morning meeting at the Rally. Steve plans on changing the Sunday morning meeting to Church Service at 8:00 AM, Closing Ceremony after that then the State Meeting after that.

**Growing Chapters**: Reach out to ones showing an interest. It is directed to Director then they pass on to President of the Chapter. Tom Killmer spoke about two years ago they set-up a complimentary membership to Good Sam and was implemented. It is a tool to get members. Tom has them with him and passed out this application. It takes four to six weeks to get the packet.

**Service Recognition**: Steve spoke about Mary Jane Hale, past State Treasurer for years and years. State did nothing for her. He would like to come up with something to appreciate her work. Nancy Killmer spoke that it was done correctly in the way it was done in getting a replacement for her. Rich Ferolito suggested a carriage clock. A motion was made by Keith Alexander and seconded by Bill DeCota not to exceed $100.00. No one opposed.

**Comp In Previous NYS Directors**: Steve would like to put it back in our policy from the State of New York as a small token. Rich Ferolito made a motion to return the policy of New York to comp in just at State Rallies in July. Seconded by Bruce Huie. No one opposed.

**Adjournment**: Rich made a motion to adjourn. Ronnie Dray seconded. No one opposed. Adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Nancy W. Smith, State Secretary