

April 25, 2015 State Meeting – Informal morning session

Meeting was opened at 9:30 a.m. by Harold Copas, State Director. Carolyn Schaefer, Chaplain, gave the opening prayer. The Pledge was said as was the Good Sam pledge.

It was raining very hard and was hard to hear what some people said. No recording due to the rain on the roof.

No one is hosting the State Meeting. Lunch is on your own as is the evening meal.

The Business meeting will be at 1:00 p.m.

Harold introduced Dave & Patty Morgan, our Regional Directors. They are from Kentucky.

Dave spoke – They are happy to be here with us. Discussion at the December meeting of Regional Directors centered on how to help chapters grow and attract new Chapters. He discussed the program to provide a free one-year membership to new Good Sam members. Applications were available for each Chapter to take and use to attract new members. Good Sam is changing the name of the Samboree to Rally. Rationale is that people know what a Rally is but not what a Samboree. In 2016 this will become official. This is another way to help us grow. RV.net is owned by Good Sam and RV Forum is under it. This is a good place to address questions to Marcus and to interact with other people who camp. The new Michigan State Director is a female. (Did not hear her name.) There will be an election for new State Directors in Indiana, Kentucky, and Illinois. Indiana has someone in the wings, the Kentucky Director is staying, and Illinois needs someone to step up. If we do not elect a Director at our June State Meeting the organization will go dormant. The State Treasurer and local Chapters will stay in place, we will retain our money, but we cannot have a Rally in 2016 without a State Director. More help/delegation is needed to make organizing the Rallies easier on the Director. The Director should be the facilitator instead of doing it all. Harold is State Director until December 31, 2015.

Free membership – People cannot already be a member of Good Sam to use this. Jean Skelly of Prairie State Sams signed up 17 people in five (5) hours at a booth that was setup at a community event. She had easels with pictures of events, brochures, Chapter scrapbooks, website information and talked to people about the advantages to belonging to a Chapter. They had 25 hits on their website within 24 hours of the event. National will give \$1000.00 to each state to help with promotion costs. Contact Harold for more information.

2015 Samboree/Rally –

- Harold posted a list of volunteers needed for the Rally. Please sign up.
- He has two seminars scheduled. Do we want one on concealed carry?
- There was a discussion of the meals. Becky is very cost efficient in the meals she coordinates. What do we need? Carolyn S. suggested we try to get a sponsor for the meals. It has been tried before and not worked. If anyone has a contact who is willing to sponsor a meal, let Harold know.
- There are forms on the front table and on the State website (illinoisgoodsam.org) for the awards we give at the Rally as well as registration forms for the Rally.
- We will choose the theme for the 2016 Rally at our June State meeting in Springfield at Double J Campground on June 27. Some people are going early to visit Springfield. You will get the same special camping rate for early arrivals.
- There was discussion of moving the Rally from the Labor Day weekend.
- Golf carts have been ordered and the insurance had been paid. If anyone wants a personal cart contact Harold.
- There will be a staff meeting each morning at 8:00 a.m. as well as a quick wrap-up meeting on Monday morning. This seemed to help with issues last year and provided valuable feedback.

- Will Steve & John provided entertainment on Thursday night? Yes.
- The Flea Market will be held in the main building again. That seemed to work well and provided access to ur vendors also.
- The main 50/50 will be a drawing on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday night. This will allow more people to win.
- Games – we need some in-state people to run these. The out-of-state people would welcome someone to shadow them this year so they can run them next year.
- The Pet Show will be limited to cats & dogs.

Will Rogers Good Sams from Oklahoma received the National Chapter of the Year Award.

There is an Armed Forces Vacation Club (www.afvclub.com).

Harold received a note from Jim Howard. Sandy is under hospice care. Prayers are requested.

Open positions – Patch Packer and Photographer. See Harold for details.

The minutes posted on the State website are unofficial.

The new Director will set the State By-laws (SOP) for posting on the website. Each Chapter does not need to have By-laws but should have a SOP to guide how you run your Chapter to benefit your members.

Someone asked if we could get a list of who in Illinois belongs to Good Sam so we can do some recruiting for Chapters. We have gotten thses in the past. Dave Morgan said it is a privacy issue and lawyers are working on whether this can happen.

Should we raise the fees for the 2016 Rally? Discuss in June.

Harold introduced Jeanette (State Secretary), Bob (new State Treasurer, and the assistant State Directors.