

# Sam O'Gram

## Fall 2012 Issue

Illinoisgoodsam.org



[www.goodsamclub.com](http://www.goodsamclub.com)

### **Ask Yourself this.....**

What kind of chapter, would My chapter be,  
If all the members were just like Me.  
You can thoughtfully ask Yourself that question.  
If not, perhaps it's a swell suggestion.  
You can sit by the fireside, Smoking your pipe  
Find fault with officers, censure and gripe.  
Or you can be one who is always on call.  
Both ready and willing to carry the ball.  
To your fellow members you soon will be known,  
as a true loyal worker,  
or else as a drone.  
You can pass on to new members, or you can refuse  
to take any part beyond paying your dues.  
You can stand on the sidelines, or jump in and play.  
Attend any campout or just stay away.  
You can visit his home when a member is ill,  
or leave all the calling to Frank, Joe or Bill.  
Whatever your talents some job you can do.  
So, say to yourself as the past you review  
What kind of chapter would my chapter be  
If all of the members were just like Me!

The above poem was read at the Michigan Samboree by Sambassador Don Woodard. It is something we should all take to heart.

## Prairie State Sams

Sue Janssen, Secretary

Over Labor Day weekend nearly 150 Good Sam families camped at the Marshall-Putnam Fairgrounds in Henry, IL. for the annual Illinois Good Sam Samboree. The highlight of the weekend was the announcement that Prairie State Sams Good Sam Chapter won Chapter of the Year for 2012. This is quite a prestigious award, and this chapter has now won it four times. The picture includes those from the chapter that were in attendance that weekend: Larry & Milly Laux, Joliet; Harold & Peggy Copas, Crescent City; Terry & Vicki Regnier, Watseka; Dennis & Sue Janssen, Paxton; Gerald & Mary Lou Hebert, Bourbonnais; Jim & Evaline Landry, Bradley; Bob & Ginger Moore, Crescent City and Richard and Jean Skelly, Kankakee.



Also that weekend Terry Regnier, was awarded the Bud Guymon Award for Illinois Good Sam. This award is given to a Good Sam member in recognition of their volunteer work outside of the Good Sam organization. Past winners of this award in our chapter are Richard Skelly and Harold Copas.

## Prairie Ramblers

Robin McNamara, Secretary

The Prairie Ramblers are sad to announce that we have lost yet another member. On July 18th, Mike Hoover passed away losing his battle with cancer. We loved Mike and miss him terribly.

On the brighter side of life, we have had 6 couples express an interest in joining Prairie Ramblers. We may be a small group, but we are mighty. We are a family!!

With our camping season all too quickly coming to an end, we are in the throws of planning our annual Thanksgiving dinner. This group is very good at cooking. Of course, Christmas is quickly approaching and plans are already in the making for the annual party.

A bit early, but HAPPY HOLIDAYS  
EVERYBODY!!!!

Travel safely and we will see you down the road.

## Rock Valley Sams – Judy Bonnell

A group of the Rock Valley Sams Chapter went to Shipshewana, Indiana, September 17th-20th camping at the Flea Market Camp Ground. It was a walking distance to everything. A good time was had by all as we attended the flea market, a cheese factory, eating at the restaurants, and shopping in all the downtown stores.

Some attended the Antique Auction where there were 10 auctioneers selling at the same time. What chatter!

We also visited the RV Museum in Elkhart. We enjoyed looking at all the beginning to the present camping styles of campers that have evolved over the years. And we think we have it bad on some of our outings.

We are already thinking of possible ideas for next year.

## **CHAMCO SAMS CHAPTER**

Carol Froeschl

The Chamco Sam Chapter of Champaign IL July campout was at the Prairie Pines Campground, Rantoul, IL. Members worked on the Welcome Bags for the State Samboree in Henry. Nine members will be attending the Samboree. Chamco members will be doing the registration at the State Samboree. Members welcomed Bob and Lynn Myers as new members of the Chamco Sams Chapter.

The July State meeting was in Mahomet, IL. with Chamco Sams as hosts. Our members prepared and served lunch at the meeting.



Lunch is served!

Chamco members made a variety of homemade desserts for the lunch. The chapter also was responsible for making coffee, serving donuts and helped with the potluck dinner.

Only seven members were able to attend the August campout at Comlara County Park in Bloomington. After the campout, 5 members traveled to Henry IL to attend the State Samboree.

Chamco members Carolyn Schaefer and Joyce Guymon gave an interview on radio station WDWS on the Jim Turpin Show talking and raising awareness about “Dogs for the Deaf.” Carolyn is an ambassador for Dogs for the Deaf.



Our September campout will be at Mascoutin State Recreation Area just South of DeWitt, IL. Chamco members will be making decision on where the chapter will be camping for 2013 season. We will also have elections of board officers. Another great summer of camping with friends and fellowship.

Our last campout of the season will be our October campout at the Champaign Sportsman’s Club and will be our annual dinner where the Board members furnish a variety of soups and members bringing veggies and desserts to share. Many of our members are Snowbirds and Winter Texans and will be leaving soon. Those not going south will meet in November for lunch at Ryan’s Family Steak House.

### **Bureau Valley** – Rosemary Egan

We start and finish the camping year at Geneseo. During the year we have camped at Starved Rock, Utica; Fisherman’s Corner, Hampton; Shady Creek, Muscatine; Thomson Causeway, Thompson and Lake Le Aqua, Lena. We found all these places had interesting places to go and visit. Of course, we always look up the ice cream places! We had fun, sometimes we ate out, but most times we went back to the campgrounds, grilled and had potlucks. We have had three new couples join our chapter this year and feel we’ve had a very enjoyable summer of camping. We’re planning to have our Christmas party before the snow birds leave for their warmer climates.

### **Tri-County Travelers** – Phyllis Aten

Camping in July was a test of our endurance and stamina. We were at Fisherman's Corner and we were hard pressed to stay outside and be sociable or stay in our rigs and be cool. We chose to be outside with four box fans blowing hot air on us while we followed the shade. Some of us found the energy to visit the lock and dam, John Deere Museum and the American Picker's shop in LeClaire.

Our August campout was held at Nauvoo State Park. We were lucky that the Pageant was being held at that time. It was very enjoyable along with the other shows they have. As everyone knows the Mississippi was very low this summer, but I think the dark green Lotus plants with their milky white blossoms were more plentiful and beautiful along the shore than in previous years. I walked up close to take a picture and the scent was heavenly. A freezer of homemade ice cream made by the Rowe's topped off the weekend.

Four couples from our chapter went early to Henry to help get the buildings and grounds ready. Our chapter filled the welcome bags on Wednesday and later was in charge of door prizes. We also decorated the stage and placed nine centerpieces that Phyllis and Neil made on the tables in hospitality. Sue and Phyllis helped Judie with the Ladies Social. So we were pretty busy, as were a lot of other chapters. While there we learned of the sudden death of our member Tony Schick. He was the former State Membership Chairman. A week later another member, Charles Lovejoy passed away after a short illness. Past and longtime member Leroy Klinedinst died on September 11 after a long illness, he was 89. He was a former Assistant Director, very active in our chapter and a loyal member of our parking crew.

Last but not least we congratulate Sam & Sue Sylvester of Tri-County Travelers on receiving Man & Woman of the Year at the Samboree.

### **Forest City Sams** – Jeanette Gawronski

We continue our monthly camp-outs and meetings. We always seem to have so much fun and never run out of things to discuss or good food to eat. We are discussing developing a cookbook since all of our campers are great cooks. We always have a campfire no matter how high the temperature. Some of the youngsters, no matter their age, want a campfire. We will be meeting in homes or restaurants over the winter months.

Five of our units attended the Samboree with two other units attaching themselves to us. We enjoyed getting to know our new friends who were first timers...

In September the camp hosts, asked to help them with the end-of-the year potluck for the Steward Bluff Forest Preserve campground. On Friday night we showed a movie, *RV*, for the campers to enjoy. On Saturday night, after the potluck, Steve McKillip set up his Karaoke equipment and the fun went on until 10:30. Bill, the camp host, is ill so our chapter helped set-up the area for the potluck and other activities and we tore down the area including a very large pavilion.

We will be hosting the Fall State meeting and are looking forward to the visitors enjoying our area of Illinois. The leaves are starting to turn and it is a beautiful Fall.

There is still at least 6 weeks of camping left and some of us are looking forward to a few more campouts. Some of us try to camp from late March to the end of November. Some camp all winter in Texas and Florida. Life is always better at a campground with good friends.

## **Happy Campi ng.**

**NEEDED:**  
**Publicity Chairmen**  
**Wagon Master**  
**Patch Packer**  
**See either Jim or Judie**

Plan ahead,  
potential dates for 2013 State Meetings  
April 26-28  
July 19-21  
October 4-6  
Mark these dates and plan your chapter weekends accordingly,  
so someone in your chapter is able to attend the meetings.

*Attention One and All*

*2013 Paid*



*Hats Galore*

*Samboree Registrations*



*Received by*

*June 15*

*Will be in a drawing*

*to receive your \$70.00 Basic fee refunded.*

*At the Samboree*

## 2012 Island Paradise Review

Only a few evaluation sheets were turned in – none were signed.

We would like to address a few of the comments.

Everyone is friendly - GREAT! This was good news.

Many new friends and old ones are found at a Samboree, this is one of the most exciting things about a Samboree. Many friends from many states.

Yes, Illinois Good Sam and Marshall/Putnam Fairboard are proud of the electric and convenient water spigots.

Announcements – are aim is to keep them short and only what is necessary which is why our program book is a little longer than most states.

Garbage pick-up: yes it was different this year. The procedure was listed in the program book. Because it was new perhaps we should have announced it at least once. It worked much better both for the set-up/tear down crews and the daily garbage pick up.

As of this printing, it will be done the same way in 2013. Put your securely tied garbage in front of your unit by 8:00A.M. and it will be picked up.

Sorry the puzzle was picked up during the Sunday evening meal. Because of the heavy rain it was unavoidable in order to seat everyone. Picnic tables, the original plan, were not an option. We will try to find a separate place for the puzzles.

We don't plan any event for Monday morning, allowing everyone to leave at their leisure. Early or late, whichever works best for you. We will give the idea of having an activity on Monday morning, some thought. Any suggestions??? What would you like?