

Illinois Good Sam  
**Morning Session** – Informal  
April 30, 2016  
Champaign Sportsman Club  
Mahomet, IL

The morning session was opened by State Director, Carolyn Schaefer, at 9:10 a.m. We opened the Pledge of Allegiance followed with Wayne Morris, our new State Chaplain, gave the opening prayer.

Carolyn stated that the Chamco Sam Chapter are hosts for the meeting and they will be serving lunch and will also be serving biscuits and gravy in the morning.

Carolyn stated that we will be talking this morning about some changes this year at the State Rally. Maybe some of changes will not work but we can always go back.

Carolyn introduced the State Staff. Carol Froeschl is filling in for Jeanette Gawronski, as secretary for today's meeting. Also introduced the Chapter Presidents. Two chapters are needing a President, Second Chance and Illinois Military Sams.

Bob Myers, State Treasurer, is serving two years, last year and this year, and has to be elected on the odd year so we have to have an election at this meeting. Carolyn asked if there were any nominations from the floor for State Treasurer. There were no nominations from the floor. Election will be in the afternoon meeting.

Carolyn stated that the State Staff white shirts are starting to look worn and need to be replaced. Carolyn is requesting that one color shirt be selected and that each staff person would purchase two shirts and the State would purchase two shirts (one shirt for each day of the rally). These shirts would be worn during the day and our red shirts for evening. It is suggested that instead of polo shirts that t-shirts be purchased. It was suggested that the ladies would prefer v-neck shirt instead of t-shirt. Carolyn received prices for the shirts from Weiskamp in Champaign. Price includes t-shirt and screen printing: t-shirts 25-49 cost \$7.72 each or 50+ \$5.95. Carolyn will check to see if the cost of a v-neck shirt will cost more. Cost of polo shirts were 25-49 \$15.02 and 50+ \$13.25. Question was asked if State Treasury had the money. Harold Copas, Patch packer, stated he had money \$2,919.00 from the sales of patches and etc. that would cover the cost of the two shirts for the state staff. Harold recommended that the patch packer funds pay for the two shirts that they State would buy. It was suggested a very bright color be selected.

Carolyn stated that the 50/50 drawings will be for 4 nights (Thurs-Sunday) and the money from the 50/50 drawing help purchase additional gifts/prizes we give away from the stage.

All prizes will be given out on Sunday, except local restaurant coupons will be given out on Thursday night after the entertainment.

Written forms for the Man & Woman of the Year, Chapter of the Year and Bud Guymon award have to be in by Friday at noon at the rally. Judges for these awards will be judged by out of state people attending the rally. The Man & Woman of the Year award will be given out on Friday night. The winners of last year award and this year winners will be host each night and would be greeting and welcome people as they come into the building.

New game coordinator will be Jim Howard.

Memorial forms – if you have someone that has passed away in the chapter and want to have their name on a plaque, these forms need to be turned in by August 1<sup>st</sup>. Name of the person to Carolyn and Check to Illinois Good Sam and \$10.00 send to Bob Myers.

Carolyn, Bob Myers, Lynn Myers and Harold Copas went to Henry fairgrounds and talked with Jovanna and Rob, President of the fair board, on April 21<sup>st</sup> to negotiate fees for the fairground. Bob Myers stated that the contract was up this year. Since members attending the rally have dropped down under 100, we negotiated that we would pay \$600.00 for use of the fairgrounds and a flat fee of \$3,880.00 for camping. Last year we paid \$4,880.00 for camping. This will be the contract for the next two years and the fair board will be voting on this agreement at the fair next meeting. Early arrivals per night fee will be \$17.00 a night with \$15.00 will go to the Fairground board. Discussion followed on how many Comps will be given out at the Rally. 8 comps will be given out to those people who come early to help clean and set-up for the Rally. Determination as to who will receive comps will be decided later.

Plans are being made to have an Anniversary Party to celebrate 45<sup>th</sup> years of Good Sam Club. The party will be Saturday afternoon from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. with Patty Jayne and Lynn Myers from Chamo Sam Chapter in-charge of the event. Past Directors will be invited to attend.

Carolyn announced she is working on the schedule for the Rally.

A request was made that a format be set up by the State on incentives that will bring in new members to our chapters and to get the members to attend the Rally.

Discussion was on raising the amount the 3 prizes that the Chapter bring to the Rally. The suggestions was to raise from \$10 to \$15. The three prizes, two for evening give away and one for the blue light. Following discussion, it was decided to keep the amount at \$10.00 per prize.

Entertainment for the three night will be: Friday, Matt Barber; Saturday, Gary Bomwitz; Sunday, Gary Scheira. Carolyn stated that she already has one group for entertainment for next year rally that was suggested by Harold Copas.

Fred Stern, Wagonmaster, is in charge of Parking. Information from the Regional meeting on parking is only show the attendees where to park, not to help plug in their electricity or any other help in setting up their site. If they need help, they should ask someone in their own chapter.

During a State meeting or Rally, if there is an accident, contact the State Director as soon as possible so an accident report form can be filled out. This is to protect the State if anything should come up later.

Vendors will be at the Rally on Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. As of this date, only two vendors have committed. Carolyn has talked with several others vendors and they will be called again before August. Let Carolyn know if you have any suggestions on vendors. No vendors for engraving yet.

Harold Copas, patch packer, has been doing this job for 10 years. Badges and pins are not selling. Harold stated that people are going on-line to purchase items but Harold can sell items at a lower price like shirts for \$15 and go on line you will pay \$24, v-neck shirt sells for \$12 and on-line sells for \$15. On-line items are \$4 - \$8 more plus shipping than what patch packer can sell to members because we buy in quantity. Harold stated that if everyone is going to buy on-line, there is no need to have a patch packer. All items are on sale at this time. After the Rally, Harold Copas will no longer be the patch packer and the group can decide if they want to continue with the patch packer position.



Harold Copas, RV Rally Coordinator, will be coming to the Rally on Sunday before the Rally starts. Those coming to help volunteer to set-up should come Sunday afternoon. There will be a meeting Sunday night for assignments for set-up that will begin on Monday morning. Everyone attending the Rally will be asked to bring their own lawn chairs for events. A few chairs will be set-up only for guest invited to attend an event.

Dump station – need 2-4 member to help at the dump stations to help move things along. Have a hose, hand to person, they connect, dump, disconnect and hand hose back to the person and move your rig out. No cleaning your tanks at this time. One person has volunteer but need others to volunteer.

Signup sheets are out for doing popcorn each night, judging of games and pet show.

Discussion for suggestions for theme for the 2017 Rally, Suggestions were: Hawaiian theme, Bring in the Clowns, Down on the Farm, Christmas theme, On the Road Again. Vote for 2017 will be in the afternoon meeting.

Carolyn attend an RV show in Springfield and asked each dealer for a prize for the Rally. Only heard from one of the dealers. Dealers will be contacted again. Carolyn asked that members contact dealers in their area for prizes. If anyone does donate, please get the name and address of the dealer so a thank you note can be sent to them.

Regional Meeting: suggestion if a special event is near you, like a dinner theater, ask if can get a special price on tickets for bringing a group and it include camping fees also. This is to help promote Illinois Good Sam RV camping.

The next State meeting was scheduled at the State Rally but some people want to meeting before the State Rally. Discussion was the next State meeting will be July 30<sup>th</sup>. Would be just a day meeting. Place TBA. The September 16-18 State meeting needs host for date and a place for the meeting.

Comps for past directors will be discontinued. We will only give comps to current State Directors in our Region.

Craft Classes – need people to volunteer to teach crafts at the rally. If you know of anyone, let Carolyn know. Comp for out of our Region, if they are current Directors – example, Sharon Waddell, Missouri Good Sam.

Chapter Raffles and flea market will be at the same time—all on Saturday 9:00 -10:00 a.m.

Awards ceremony will be on Sunday afternoon at 12:30 – 1:30 and then on to the Blue Light special. Since we don't have any teenager, this will be the last year for teens. If chapter want to do Blue Light special for a charity, they can be in charge.

Suggestion to promote Good Sams that chapters, when going out in public, all wear a Chapter shirt or vest to promote Illinois Good Sam and maybe get new members.

Carolyn suggested that chapters get involved in getting vendors, entertainment, etc. for the Rally. Each chapter be in charge of one part of the planning of the Rally.

One State position still open is Representative which used to be Ambassador.

State membership cards –State has 500 cards and when these are gone, the State will no longer give out membership cards.

Carolyn plans to visit each chapter this year. Carolyn and John attended Prairie State 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary party and has camped with Rock Valley at Oregon IL and went to Bureau Valley Sams campout.

For Celebrating 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a gift for people that attend. Bob and Carolyn suggested a bookmark/magnifier as the gift.

Hospitality – John needs help Monday morning to get coffee maker out and set up. Hours for hospitality will be 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.

State has 13 chapters. A notice was given that another chapter might be folding.

Scholarships – over \$1,000.00 in scholarship fund. A young man has applied whose Grandmother camped. Jeanette will find out where he will be attending college in the fall and give him a \$500.00 scholarship. Money goes to the college. Scholarship information is on the website.

Wayne and Jackie Wolf were presented with a plaque from Illinois Good Sam for their years as chairman of the hospitality room at the state rallies from 1998-2015.

Carolyn thanked Harold Copas for his encouragement and answering all her questions. Bob Myers for answering her questions. Thank you to Carol Froeschl for taking the minutes for this meeting and also for typing the State Officer and Chapter Presidents booklet. Thank you to all that has helped me in trying to make the State Rally in September a success. Bob Myers announced he had copies of the financial report.

Lunch is being served in the large room at 12 noon.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Carol Froeschl, Acting Secretary