

"Minutes" of Ramblers' Membership Meeting April 28, 2009

There were 29 Ramblers in attendance at the Crystal River State Park Visitors' Center on Tuesday, April 28th. A very nice buffet breakfast preceded the meeting. Karl opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and asking for a "raise of hands" for each year members joined since the club began in January 2006. It was reported that there are currently 96 members. Karl discussed a list of safety suggestions and concerns.

Periodically during the meeting, door prizes were given away by a drawing and there were so many that almost everyone won a prize. One of the door prizes was 2 tickets to the Hernando Symphony Orchestra's May 31st performance at Hernando Beach Club donated by Jim Davis who is a member of the orchestra. (see attached flyer)

Cathy Knox read a "Year in Review" which was a recap of each activity (hiking, biking, kayaking) by month. She then passed around a copy so members could mark the ones that were favorites.

Next the Treasurer's report, which was prepared by Chris West, was read. It was reported that we have close to \$1000.00 in the treasury and that at our Executive Committee meeting held at Karl's house, the officers and coordinators proposed giving \$100 to each of the following:

Crystal Preserve State Park (corporate membership)

Friends of the Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge

Friends of Fort Copper State Park

\$25 to The Withlacoochee State Trail (membership)

It was motioned, seconded, and voted to proceed with these donations/memberships.

Karl then discussed the slate of officers. Karl has agreed to continue as President, Cathy Knox as Secretary, and Chris West as Treasurer. He asked for a volunteer to be Vice President and Bob Lewis agreed to take that office. It was motioned, seconded, and voted to elect this slate of officers.

Next, Karl reported that the following activity coordinators agreed to remain in their current positions:

John and Coreen Schempf - Biking

Karl Seidman and Jan Hitchcock - Hiking

Karl reported that we are going to try something new for kayaking. Carol passed around a signup sheet for kayak leaders for each month. Two members will be

responsible for selecting a location, day, etc., and a notice will be send out each month.

Karl asked for a volunteer to be the AVA (American Volkssport Association) coordinator for the club and Buffy DeMatteis, who has a lot of experience as an AVA member, volunteered to help keep us up-to-date on AVA issues and responsibilities.

Karl thanked Theresa Schmidt for handling the AVA boxes at CRPSP and the Crystal River YRE (year-round event) trail. Karl handles the AVA box for Fort Cooper State Park.

Next Karl introduced a new member, Darrell Snedecor, who has agreed to develop a new website for the Ramblers. As soon as this is up and running, we will send out a link and instructions.

Karl asked for some technical support for using the club's new GPS and John Schempf agreed to provide that.

Cathy Knox asked for volunteers to help with a Ramblers' information table at the Citrus County Lifestyle and Recreation Expo on May 9th (see flyer attached) and we have volunteers for 10 AM -2PM

The meeting was adjourned and 11 members went for a 2 hour kayak paddle on the Salt River and several members went for a hike.

One of our former members, Smith Edwards of Walden Woods and Vermont, a.k.a the Old Ridge Runner (trail name), is hiking the Pacific Coast Trail and has an online journal which you can read by clicking on the following link. There is a map and a day-by-day report of his travels which you can access by clicking on the drop-down menu on the upper right or clicking "next" on the upper left.

http://postholer.com/journal/viewJournal.php?sid=a44e3a1c9c05a2090d8576beb353d2cb&entry_id=6372