



# We Wan To Go WANDERER



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Volume 15, No. 03  
March 1, 2017

## We-Wan-To-Gos Celebrate Pie Day

Bill and Karen Pearce hosted a noon luncheon at their church, the Berwick Congregational in Berwick, IA, on February 18.

To celebrate National Pie Day, it was a 'pie potluck' and members brought either a fruit pie such as apple, cherry, or chocolate or a meat pie like a chicken or turkey pot pie.

The We-Wan-To-Gos had eight units there out of 29 for 28%. Those attending were:

1. Gary and Donna Adams
2. Roger and Kathy Cox
3. Dave and Cathy Good
4. Julie Hanel

5. Dick and Linda Pawlowski
6. Bill and Karen Pearce
7. Butch and Val Peters
8. Bill and Jeanette Sheeder

Also present were prospective members Tom and Sue Gay of West Des Moines attending there very first official WIT and We-Wan-To-Go function.

Bill and Karen gave a short overview of their church's long history from the mid 1800's to present to include moving the church to its present location by horse power at the turn of the century. They also created a special We-Wan-To-Go gift basket and entered it as a drawing prize won by Dick Pawlowski.

## Winter Texas WWTG's Met Twice In February

For those in the Texas Rio Grande Valley in February, there were TWO functions to attend.

First, there was an Iowa Winnie Hawks 'Gathering' on Thursday, February 2 at 11:00 a.m. at Mr. Gatti's pizza, in McAllen, TX. This is an annual event always planned for the first Thursday in February at Mr. Gatti's. Those We-Wan-To-Go members there were:

1. Lyle and Marrlee Airey
2. Bill and Pat Consolver
3. Randy and Karen Corning
4. Roger and Kathy Cox
5. Greg and Vickie Galeazzi
6. Stan and Stella Huber
7. Chet and Pat Mower
8. Richard Nichols
9. Dick and Sonia Page

Honorary members there were Sharon Hill and Lucretia Smith as well as former We-Wan-To-Go member and Past President Jerry Southward. Jerry now lives in Huston and is a member of the Bluebonnet Travelers local Chapter there.

The second WWTG south Texas function was held on Wednesday, February 8 at Darrell and



WWTG members dine on delicious, scrumptious pies!



We-Wan-To-Go's at Darrel and Judy Walkers



**WWTG members participated in the 2017 Winnie Hawks ‘Gathering’ at Mr. Gatti’s in South Texas**

Judy Walker's home in McAllen. Attendees were:

1. Lyle and Marrlee Airey
2. Bill and Pat Consolver
3. Randy and Karen Corning
4. Greg and Vickie Galeazzi
5. Stan and Stella Huber
6. Chet and Pat Mower
7. Dick and Sonia Page

Also attending were honorary members Pat Dolecheck, Sonia Maxwell, and Lucretia Smith as well as prospective members Mike and Kathy Clausen. Other attendees were Darrel and Judi Walker.

According to Sonia, they enjoyed good food, friendship, and conversation.

**March Birthday Wishes Go Out To:**

- Butch Peters..... 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Dave Good..... 12<sup>th</sup>
- Steve Farni..... 12<sup>th</sup>
- Bob Rauenhorst ..... 19<sup>th</sup>
- Carol Gammon ..... 26<sup>th</sup>



**March Anniversary Wishes Go Out To:**

Butch and Val Peters..... 16<sup>th</sup>



**The *Fletcher* is located in the old Ankeny Dahl’s Food Store on North Ankeny Boulevard**

**March Luncheon Will Be At Ankeny’s *Fletcher***

On March 18, Roger and Kathy Cox will play host and hostess to a noon luncheon at a new restaurant in north Ankeny called ‘*The Fletcher*’.

It’s located at 1802 N Ankeny Boulevard, Suite 100. This is actually located in part of the old Dahl’s Food Store. Please see the map below.

The restaurant is named after Mr. John ‘*Fletcher*’ Ankeny who founded the city on April 22, 1875.

Please RSVP by calling Kathy at (515) 681-3001 or e-mail her at [kcoxcrnh@aol.com](mailto:kcoxcrnh@aol.com).

**Winter Texans Plan To Meet On March 8**

Winter Texan We-Wan-To-Gos will meet on Wednesday, March 8 at the Riverside Club located at 214 E. Chimney Road

in Mission, TX. The agenda is to cruise the Rio Grande River on a one hour boat tour departing the restaurant at 12:00 p.m. The trip costs \$10.00 (cash only). Then a meal is planned afterwards when the boat docks at around 1:00 p.m. The restaurant is known for their oversized, tasty tenderloins.

Sonia needs to make boat trip reservations so *immediately* let her know if you plan to attend. Contact her at (515) 360-1031 or [dspage41@gmail.com](mailto:dspage41@gmail.com).



### Layoffs, Reduced Hours At Winnebago Industries

Winnebago Industries has made reductions at its recreational vehicle plant in Forest City, employees said.

**This article appeared in Forest City's Globe Gazette Newspaper on February 16 this year**

Two employees told the Globe Gazette they had been informed of layoffs and reduced hours at the plant.

They did not know how many employees would be affected.

Winnebago Company spokesman Sam Jefson did not return four Gazette phone messages left on his cell phone and office line seeking comment.

Forest City Mayor Barney Ruitter and City Economic Development Director Beth Bilyeu were unable to confirm the reports either.

Residents in North Iowa and Forest City in particular have voiced concerns in recent months about the recreational vehicle manufacturer's future since new CEO Michael Happe was hired on December 21, 2015.

Happe chose to continue living in the Twin Cities instead of relocating to Forest City, prompting concerns about his vision for Winnebago going forward and how Forest City fit into those plans.

A press release sent out after Happe's hiring said the company would expand its corporate footprint in the Minneapolis-Saint Paul area but the expansion would not have a significant impact on the company's corporate headquarters in Forest City.



Like other manufacturers in the region, Winnebago has struggled to hire and maintain its workforce in North Iowa.

### Why Winnebago Shares Grew 60% in 2016

Shareholders of Winnebago Industries were rewarded with a 64% increase in stock price last year.

**This article appeared on February 13 by Daniel Miller of the Motley Fool**



One of the largest developments for Winnebago during 2016 was its acquisition of Grand Design. It was a great move to help diversify its business strategy as it had

previously generated a vast majority of its revenue solely from motorhome sales but will now generate nearly 40% of its sales from unmotorized travel trailers and fifth-wheel "tow-ables" products.

Not only does the acquisition better position Winnebago business-wise, it was also instantly accretive to the bottom line, and cost synergies for the combined businesses are expected to be about \$7 million over the next three years.

Winnebago's fiscal 2017 first quarter performance, which took place in calendar 2016, was a strong performance, with revenue up 14% compared to the prior year and operating income rising 44% - both results topped analysts' estimates.

"We are off to a strong start in 2017 as we continue to implement our plan to transform Winnebago, competing more effectively in the market and delivering increased profitability." said President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Michael Happe in the earnings press release.

Investors should expect another strong year for Winnebago but management also expects it to be a bridge year as the company continues to increase investments in information technology to improve operations. Winnebago will also prioritize deleveraging its business following the acquisition of Grand Design, with the goal of bringing its 2.5 debt-to-Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) level down to roughly 1.5 by fiscal 2018.

## Winnebago Appoints John Murabito To Board

Winnebago recently announced the appointment of John Murabito to its Board, effective April 1. He will also sit on the Human Resources Committee and the Nominating Committee.

Murabito is now the Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer of Cigna Corp., a global health insurance company with annual revenues of \$39 billion.

"We welcome Mr. Murabito to the Board and look forward to the insight he will provide to further our newly refreshed vision for Winnebago," said Michael Happe, President and CEO.

He received an M.A. in Industrial Relations from the University of Iowa, and a B.A. in Economics from Augustana, in Rock Island.

## 2017 - 2018 Chapter Leadership

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## Upcoming We-Wan-To Go Events

Updated: 02/07/17

\* Indicates a change

### March 18 ..... Noon Luncheon

Location: ..... The Fletcher, Ankeny, IA

Hosts: ..... Cox

### April 28-30 ..... Campout

Location: ..... Outback Campground and Resort,  
Tama, IA

Wagonmasters: ..... Barnhill, Gammon, Munoz, Page, Winn

### May 19-21 ..... Iowa Winnie Hawk Spring Meeting

Location: ..... Antique Acres, Cedar Falls, IA

Assignments: ..... Parking, registration, and greeters

Theme: ..... "Remember When"

### June 16-18 ..... Campout

Location: ..... Little Wall Lake State Park,  
Jewell, IA

Wagonmasters: ..... Airey, Elliott, Farni, Harberts, Pearce

### July 7-9 ..... Iowa Winnie Hawk State Rally

Location: ..... Franklin County Fairgrounds, Hampton, IA

Assignments: ..... Breakfast, meals, and beverages

Theme: ..... "Fabulous Winnebago"

### July 17-23 ..... Grand National Rally (GNR)

Location: ..... WIT Rally Grounds, Forest City, IA

Assignments: ..... Row party tables and table covers

Theme: ..... "Welcome to Fabulous Winnebago"

### August 25-27 ..... Campout

Location: ..... Diamond Lake Park, Montezuma, IA

Wagonmasters: ..... Cox, Good, Nichols, Rasmussen, Sheeder

### September 21-24 ..... Iowa Winnie Hawk Fall Meeting

Location: ..... Southern Iowa Fairgrounds, Oskaloosa, IA

Assignments: ..... Setup, Cleanup, and decorations

Theme: ..... "Autumn Fun"

### October 13-15 ..... Campout

Location: ..... Green County Fairground/Milwaukee  
Depot, Jefferson IA

Wagonmasters: ..... Adams, Corning, \*Mower, Pawlowski,  
Peters, Wendt