

Florida Van Council Newsletter



January 2026

www.floridavancouncil.com
Working for the betterment of Vanning

Next FVC meeting/ eVANT

Date: January 10th, 2025

Time: 12:00

Place: [River Forest Group Camping](#)

45700 River Forest Blvd, DeLand FL 32720

Google Maps Plus Code: [2J76+25 DeLand, Florida, USA](#)

(For our digital readers simply click an above link)

Schedule:

11:45am Officers to Meeting area

12:00 Noon Meeting begins

1. Minutes of last meeting
2. Roll call and Roster update
3. Treasurer's report
4. Newsletter report
5. Van-in updates & reports
6. Van-in proposals
7. Old Business
8. New Business – Open Discussion
9. 50/50 – Adjournment

Following Meeting --- March 7th , 2026

Next Newsletter Deadline is Mid February

Cover: *FriendsGiving 2026*
Doe Lake in the Ocala National Forest

Florida Van Council

presents



Vanners in the Forest X

January 9 - 11, 2026

River Forest Group Camping Site, Deland, FL

Kids 16 and under need to be in their campsite after 10 PM

Gate Opens at 3:00 PM Friday
Check Out BEFORE 11:00 AM Sunday



Vans \$50 before Jan. 2 \$60 at gate.
2 Adults, Kids under 16 free. Additional adults \$10 ea.
Day guests \$5 each Info: Linard (754) 224-8292

Friday Night: Chili Cook-off or Soup

Saturday Noon: FVC Meeting

Saturday Evening: Pig Roast/Covered Dish

GPS Info: (Latitude, Longitude)

29.01287, -81.39076

29°0'46"N, 81°23'27"W

45700 River Forest Blvd. Deland, FL 32720

Directions: From Deland, Florida, drive West on State Route 44 to the first intersection after crossing the St. Johns River. Turn Right on County Road 42, and the entrance to the campground is on the right.

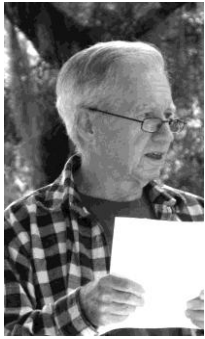
Make checks payable to the FLORIDA VAN COUNCIL, INC, c/o Linard Morris, 12931 SW 10th Ct. Davie, FL 33325 e-mail morr465@bellsouth.net

Name _____ e-mail _____
Phone _____ Cell _____ Total amount enclosed \$ _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____
Club/Affiliation _____ No. of Adults _____ Children _____

I hereby release Florida Van Council, Inc. and its members from any and all injuries, theft or damage which might occur to me, my family, attending guests, vehicles and property. I will be responsible for persons entering with me. Anyone under the age of 18 must have a parent or legal guardian sign this release. Florida Van Council reserves the right to refuse entry to this event.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature if under 18 _____



FLORIDA VAN COUNCIL

Minutes of the November 22, 2025 meeting at the Doe Lake Group Camping Area in the Ocala National Forest are as follows:

Judith called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM. Minutes of the June 7, 2025 meeting were read and approved.

There were 6 clubs present and THREE Excused Absences (out of 10 clubs total) during roll call.

It was noted, with great sadness, that SpookyTooth passed away early this morning.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Linard gave the treasurer's report and noted that the 2026 FVC dues are due now.

NEWSLETTER REPORT:

Gnarly gave the newsletter report and again noted the rising postage costs for mailing out the newsletter. Linard suggested that maybe we should charge \$5 more on the dues for FVC members who want the newsletter sent by mail to help with postage costs. Gnarly suggested that we table the issue for now and bring it up again at each FVC meeting in 2026 and see what we think about it as the year progresses.

Agnes asked if Gnarly had a copy of the flier for Broward's Laid Back Hillbilly Weekend, as it wasn't in the current issue. He noted that he did, but, sometimes glitches do occur in the production of the newsletter.

Deadline for inputs to the next newsletter is early December because the January FVC meeting is on the 10th..

VAN-IN UPDATES:

FVC

January 9 - 11, 2026 – FVC Meeting and eVant at River Forest. Same as last year.

Broward

March 6 – 8 – Broward's Laid Back Hillbilly Weekend – Same as last year, but the fire will be in a new location.

VAN-IN PROPOSALS:

None

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Konehead and Friends eVant - Kone had a stroke and was physically unable to host the eVant. Gnarly thanked everyone who chipped in and did their part to make sure the event was a success. The Band and Music Man organized a collection to help Kone with medical expenses, etc. and raised \$739.

Judith noted that Coop made the dash plaques for the Konehead eVant and was owed \$188.65 for same. A motion that the FVC pay that bill was carried by a unanimous hand vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was a discussion of possible new locations for the June meeting that weren't as hot as Endless Summer. Two locations seemed worth pursuing:

Trails End RV Resort in Floral City
Robinson Ranch in Dunnellon

We'll address each location at the January meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cale noted that he had invited the local campground host to join us for the potluck dinner in the main hall.

A motion that the FVC host the October 2026 "Konehead and Friends" event in case Kone isn't fully recovered by then was carried by a hand vote. Gnarly was the contact point with Dave, the campground manager, this year and Dave said the FVC would be welcomed back at Robinson Ranch in the future.

Gnarly noted that he had made it very clear to Dave that he was representing the FVC only, not representing or supporting any other event, such as Freeze For All.

NOMINATION OF FVC OFFICERS FOR 2026:

Nomination for FVC Officers for 2026 was re-opened:

Since the last meeting, Judith decided she wanted to run for FVC President. No other nominations were offered, so none of the FVC officer positions were contested.

That being the case, the FVC Officers for 2026 are:

President - Judith Pilon
Vice-President - Cari Patton
Secretary - Scribe John
Treasurer - Linard Morris
Newsletter Editor - Gnarly

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Russ noted that he had visited Kone at the rehab place and he has made great improvement, but his left arm is swollen real bad. He is, however, wheeling around like crazy in his wheelchair. Russ didn't have the address info handy, but noted that anyone who wanted to visit Kone should text Quinton to get the location details.

Sidewinder made a motion to adjourn and the 49-minute meeting was concluded at 1:04 PM

Respectfully submitted,
John M. Cunningham
Secretary

Keeping Vannin' Alive



Check out: JJLightning on YouTube

We are also JJLightning on Facebook

Over **600 Van Videos**
And more Coming!

Showing the World we are still at it!

John Koterba (OOP) & Jo

FLORIDA VAN COUNCIL

CLUB ROSTER – January 10th, 2026

PRESIDENT: Judith Pilon
817 Wildabon Ave.
Lake Wales, FL 33853-3458
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e-mail judpilon@gmail.com

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(407) 678-3281
e-mail scribejohn@gmail.com

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551 South Brevard Ave, Apt. 316
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Quinton White (386) 846-0531
e-mail Qwhite555@gmail.com

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Davie, FL 33325
"Sidewinder" (386) 397-1616
e-mail loisannskoko1950@icloud.com

3 Coastal Vans of Daytona
683 S. Center
Ormond Beach, FL 32174
Russ Stumpf (386) 673-2149
e-mail rtwvan@lampabay.fl.com

9 United Truckers
2624 Old US 421 Hwy East
Yadkinville, NC 27055
Dean Cavanaugh (813) 597-9238
e-mail 212point809@gmail.com

4 Fore Play Vanners
3701 Southview Dr.
Brandon, FL 33511
Magoo Hartman (813) 267-9794
e-mail bhartman4012@gmail.com

10 Vans of Ft. Liguordale, Ltd.
7940 SW 90 Terrace
Ocala, FL 34481
"SpookyTooth" (954) 695-5786 (cell)
e-mail quallersr@bellsouth.net

5 Homegrown Kustoms Van Club, FL Chapter
10260 Oliver Avenue
Hastings, FL 32145
Taz Newth (904) 413-6091

11 Independents

6 HUT Slut Tours
551 South Brevard Avenue, Apt. 316
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931
Cari Patton (321) 693-3988 Cell Phone
e-mail HUTSLutTours@gmail.com

FVC President



Hi Fellow Vanners,

Here again, I am as your president. I hate that we don't have enough people interested that we have to recycle offices. Please consider taking an office next year.

I was really happy to make it to Friendsgiving in November. I really appreciated all the help you all gave me carrying all my stuff all over. I could not have attended without all of your help. Once again, we had really great food, and plenty of it. We vanners sure do know how to feed ourselves. In Koneheads absence I conducted the meeting. The meeting was short but productive.

I attended the Museum of Vanning fundraiser. It's a shame more of us don't attend. It's like going to a Council of Councils or a Nationals and seeing all of our northern friends. Joe is now the curator. There is a board that oversees the Museum. If you have never been there you need to make an effort to go.

Next up was Coastal Vans of Daytona Christmas party. It was nice to see some of the old members of Coastal. Henry knuckles came down from Atlanta for the party. As usual there was lots of great food and a really fun gift auction.

Next stop was a visit with Konehead. He is improving. His hand is still really swollen; however, he is moving much better. He was doing leg exercise's while I was there. His speech is still not great but it is improving. He is scheduled to go home the beginning of January. He will have the help of his brother.

That about wraps of the year. Hope to see all of you at Vanners in the Forrest. Don't forget your covered dishes.

Judith





FVC Vice President

Dear FVC,

This has been a year filled with fun and excitement, illnesses, accidents and losses of the heart. As we face a new year with more challenges and unknowns ahead, let's reflect on the positive and the things for which we have to be grateful. For those of us who still have good health, for those of us who have financial security, for those of us with blessings of family and friends, give a care for those who may be without as much. Many are adjusting to a new way of life without family members or with health complications. We don't know what some of our friends are having to endure so be gentle. Be kind. Be a helpful hand and heart where you can. We are all a lot closer to doing without, than becoming a billionaire.

I am grateful to be back up at the big kids table and hope to help steer us into another great year of Vanning! I plan to get out on the road, representing more in the coming year, as well.

Hugs and kisses,

Cari





FriendsGiving
2026





2026 Vannning Museum X-mas Party



FVC Treasurer



Hi Vanners!!

The year has come to an end. I hope your year was great. We had a few eVant's this year.

You may say what eVant's? Well, if you didn't come to the meetings. You missed quite a few. Deland in January, Sidewinders in March, Endless summers in June, Konehead and friends in October (not a meeting), then Doe Lake in November. So, you can see the calendar is packed with things to do. Just get out and enjoy Florida's great outdoors. You never know what tomorrow will bring. We aren't getting any younger. So, get out your calendar or phone and mark down the eVant's coming up and pre-reg while you are at it!

Speaking of eVant's. We have Vanners in the Forest coming up January 9 and the 10 in beautiful Deland. Friday night is soup night. So, bring some soup to share with others if you like. Not mandatory. We have power in the pavilion to plug in a crock pot. Saturday night is the main meal. Bring a covered dish with something in it. We will supply the meat. Make plans to come out and play and enjoy life. Flyers are in the newsletter or online. This is primitive, so generators are ok. This time of year, is usually nice and cool. We will have a fire for sure. I hope to see you there.

Next up will be Broward's Hillbilly Weekend on March 6-8 at Sidewinders in north Florida. Come and enjoy the fresh air, lots of eating and fun. Sidewinder has a new pole barn, and it is not small! We will do soup and Sidewinders famous venison chili. Feel free to bring some soup to share. Probably we will make some grilled cheese sandwiches also (yum yum). On Saturday morning, we do breakfast. Then Saturday evening it's time to eat again. Bring a covered dish to share and we will supply the meat. Chicken, pork and some venison to top it off. All this for \$26.00!! So, mark your calendar, make plans now and pre-reg please. It helps to know how many people we need to feed. This is a semi primitive with limited power. He also has about 100 something acres he leases to get lost in. So, get the pre-reg form out of the newsletter or online and send it in.

Maybe even better, come to the DeLand eVant and pay there. I hope to see you there.

On a sad note. We lost another great member and good friend in November. Rich Qualters also known as Spooky Tooth from Ft. Liguordale vans. Our sympathies go out to Maggi and his family. He will be missed and remembered for sure. Lots of great times and laughter will always be in our memories. RIP Rich until we meet again.



On a good note, Pam with be retiring the first of the year. It seems I can't keep her working. She has been counting the days. So, dues are due. Come out and play with us.

Linard

FVC Newsletter Editor

Howdy all!

Friendsgiving sure was nice, even if it meant not being with some family & friends unable to attend. Spookytooth will remain in my heart as long as I live. Hope to see you around the fire again soon Kone!



The loss of Greg Biffle and his family certainly is an exclamation point this holiday season of how short our lives really are. We all have lost so much over the past years. If I haven't mentioned it to all you Vanners lately, I love you!

I sense some real nice fires coming up, so please hit me up with a hug...you don't have say a word, I get it and agree. If y'all are just not capable of a hug, bring a shot, I'll understand & toast ya right back. ☺

Cya 'round the fire,

Gnarly

Vanning Around the World

Please send all flyers: Judith Pilon 817 Wildabon Ave. Lake Wales, FL or e-mail.

Judpilon@aol.com or 407-484-2234

Price is for a Van and 2 adults, children under 17 are free unless otherwise noted in the event listing.
Extra persons means adults.

2026

January 8-11

FL "Vanners in the Forest. River Forest group camping in the Ocala National Forest 45700 River Forest Blvd. Deland FL just west of the Rt 44 bridge on Rt 42. cost for Friday and Saturday is \$50 by Jan 2nd gate \$60. day pass only is \$5. Cost for Thursday will be determined on the amount of people who show on Thursday. Pig Roast and Covered dish on Saturday night. Chilli cook off on Friday night So being a dish to share. not arrivals before 3 PM Thursday and exit by 11 AM Sunday no electric in the camping area. electric in the picnic area only. Generators are OK . send Checks to Florida Van Council c/o Linard Morris 12931 SW 10th Ct Davie, FL 33325 Call Judith 407-484-2234

[Click here for flier](#)

January 16-18

VA Freeze Out 2026 Holiday Travel Park Virginia Beach VA

January 22-25

FL Freeze for all 18th by Orlando Street Van at Robinson's Ranch 19730 SE 127th Terrace, Dunnellon FL Event fee is \$50. plus \$25. per night camping

February 19-21

KS Council of Councils by HOVC @ Margaritaville Hotel 1491 N 98th Tr. Kansas City, KS Margaritaville Hotel Kansas City, Kansas \$185. plus tax per night including resort fee Call 1-913-340-1800 for reservations. Jen Ipsen-Tebow or Jlpsen@margaritavillehotelkansascity.com mention HOVC and Council of Councils. Rates are good Thursday – Saturday. This is a new hotel. The restaurant has reasonable prices. There is a shuttle that goes within 2 miles. You can go to numerous restaurants, a casino's and shops. It's in a huge shopping area. There is no airport shuttle. Check out facebook events page, or council of councils webpage or HOAVC.org

March 6-8	FL	Broward's Laidback Hilly billy Weekend. Primitive event 16298 SE 95th Trail White Springs FL Saturday bring a covered dish, we will supply the meat, Friday Soup night Huge campfire each night. From 1-75 take FL136 Exit 439 toward White springs. Go several miles to US 41 turn left. go to the blinking light and turn Right and cross the tracks and turn right on SE 142nd Blvd. follow it around to the big log house. Info Linard 945-472-0461 pre-reg \$26. gate \$36 mail to Linard Morris 12931 SW 10th Ct. Davie FL 33325
March 14	IL	Let's get Snowed #41. by Downstate Illinois Van Council at Comfort Inn 201 E. Ashland St. Morton IL for reservations at hotel call 309-263-5116 and mention DIVC 6 PM till Midnight. \$25. per person info Debra 309-360-1696
April 8-12	Va	Acme Van Run @Shads' park 26709 Troublefield Rd. Stony Creek VA show-n-shine Hot wheel races Chillin & Grillin more to come as available
April 10-12	OK	Van Fair South XLVII at Burns Run West Campground. 825 West Bruns Rd. Cartwright OH 903-965-4990 Pre reg by 3/31 \$40. gate \$45. extra people \$5. trailers \$15 . send to Lone Star Van Club 111, VZ County Road 3204 Willis Point TX 75169 info Z 817-891-4375
April 24-25	IN	Bluegrass Vanners 50 years of vanning @Ripley County Fairgrounds 525 W Branch St Osgood IN gate \$50. pre-reg \$45 send to Bluegrass Vanners 1214 Mt Holly Rd Fairdale KY 40118
April 27-May 4	CA	Gypsy Vanner River Run #11 15.5 Mile Mountain 99 Kernville CA Corral Creek Lodge 760-376-3601
May 1-3	IA	Vanniversary 51 by Central IA Vanners at Colfax Iowa 359 n. Walnut St. pre reg by 4/15 \$50 gate \$55. info Sue 515-266-8564 mail to Central Iowa Vanners C/O Bonnie Ritz 11549 Rutledge Rd. Ottumwa, IA 52501
May 8-10	OH	Spring Back Mt. Vernon, OH. more to come as available

Broward's Laidback Hillbilly Weekend

Primitive eVANt

Old time, no frills, get together

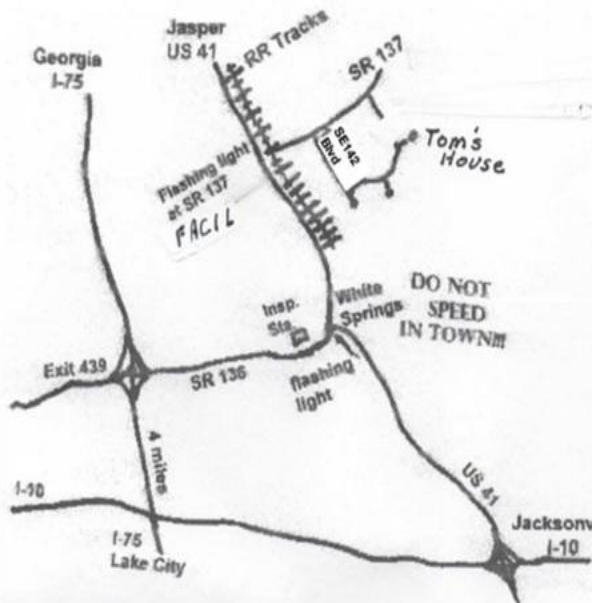
March 6 - 8, 2026

16298 SE 95th Trl
White Springs, Florida 32096

Saturday: Bring a covered dish, we
will supply the meat

Friday: Soup night

Evening campfire gathering



\$26 per van pre reg

\$36 at gate

Just let us know your coming; so we know how much meat to get!

From I-75: take FL-136 exit, EXIT 439 toward White Springs; Left on US 41 past Steven Foster Memorial; at blinking light turn right on SR137, cross railroad tracks take first right on SE 142nd Blvd.; follow around to the big log home.

Info: Sidewinder 386-234-5114- Linard H. 954-472-0461 M. 754-224-8292 - Lew 321-624 2265

Make checks payable to: Earl Morris

Mail to: Linard Morris; 12931 SW 10th Court; Davie, FL 33325

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I release South Florida Vans, Broward Chapter, it's members and Tom McCumber of any responsibility for any injury, accident and/or theft which might occur to me, my guests, my vehicle and/or property. I will be responsible for all persons entering with me. Anyone under 18 must have a parent or legal guardian sign this release.

Sign _____ Date _____



May 22-25	IN	Mid West vans presents Wasteland Weekend 51st International truck-in @ Jasper County Fairgrounds Rensselaer IN
May 22-25	NY	Lost in a Nightmare. Lost Memorial weekend at Washington County Fairgrounds Greenwich NY Pre-reg \$45. van and 2 adults. gate \$50. trailers up to 15 feet \$15. 16-26 \$25. over 26 ft \$30. moter homes with van \$75 pre gate \$85. moter home without van \$65 pre, gate \$70 extra days \$10 each. send to and make checks to Pat Martell 109 Beach Rd. Dingmans Ferry, PA 18238 call Frank 203-305-4261
May 22-25	IN	Mid West Vans Ltd. 51st International truckin "Wasteland Weekend" at Jasper County Fairgrounds Rensselaer IN More to come as available
June 4-7	Canada	VanFest 29. Alymer Ont Canada, Sweetwater Conservation area. 47719 Conservation Line early camping .go to Vanfestcanada.com/events/vanfest-28 to pre-reg limited electric. more to come as available
June 19-21	OH	Ghost Vanners in the Sky by CBS vanners at Tri County Sportsman League, Mudsock, OH Make checks to Marcus Welling send to Marcus 20867 TR 164 Coshocton, OH 43812 Rt 36 to West to RT 258 right turn to Dog Road. Electric medical use only. Vendors, live music, games
June 26-28	NY	Salt City Vans Down on the Farm \$50. pre reg by may 21 gate \$55, \$15, extra people \$20 trailers early arrivals \$15 per day Chenango Fairgrounds Norwich NY
June 25-28	NS Canada	MVC's Big 50. New Ross, Nova Scotia more info as available
July 23-26	Ont Canada	Vanmania 8.0 TV & Movies. by C'o;d School Vanners 17 shore Rd. Quinte West Ontario



July 29-Aug 2	OH	53rd Van Nationals "Vanning to Mt Olympus" 899 Everett Hull Rd. Cortland OH 44410 Van and 2 adults pre-reg \$65. gate \$85. camping trailers pre-reg \$30. gate \$40. early arrivals Monday and Tuesday camping \$25 per day. campers \$20. per day, extra people \$50. mail to NOVC PO Box 270 Bolivar, OH 44612 info Bill Swinehart 330-365-0266 or Matt Esie 740-502-2840 NOVC on Face book
August 7-9	IL	CITA presents Tropic-van-a Spring Creek Campground Montrose IL vans and Panels only no walk-ins send to CITA 102 Illini Ave, Allenville, IL 61951 more to come as available
Aug 13-16	Ont Canada	Bogie Bash 26 by Bogie Munster vans European Vacation Burnstown Ont. more info as available
Sept 4-7	SD	5th Annual Giddy-Up Go! by Dakota Street Vans 47268 291St St Beresford SD Donation by 8/15 \$75. gate \$85 /3 nights, \$65/2 nights some power available as well as rustic outdoor showers Pot luck dinner Saturday night, van cruise Saturday and public show Mail to Lex Linton 2808 S. Lyndale Ave Sioux Falls SD 57105
Oct 5-11	VA	East Coast Vanner Nationals End of the year main event at Shads' park 26709 Troublefield Rd. Stony Creek VA

Visit the

Museum of Vanning



www.vanningmuseum.com

Editor's Note:

Current and past member roster (Names only) can be found by checking the FVC website at this address:

[FVC Members - Florida Van Council, INC.](http://www.floridavancouncil.com/fvc-business/fvc-roster/fvc-members/)

(<http://www.floridavancouncil.com/fvc-business/fvc-roster/fvc-members/>)

Please contact Treasurer Linard if your name is missing...Newsletters only go to members on this list – Only \$20 per year to be on the list

-past years to 2019 are also viewable-

Florida Van Council

Membership and newsletter application _____

Membership Year

Club – If you are not a member of a club write “independent”

Name

Handle

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Email

Newsletter - send by Email ONLY *check box*

☐

- All members may vote at meetings and hold an office.
- If you renew your membership after December 31 it will be an additional \$1.00 (\$21)

Fees

\$20 (1 year Jan. – Dec.)

\$15 (1/2 year July 1 – Dec. 31)

- It is your responsibility to notify the FVC of any address or phone number changes or you may not receive your newsletter.

*** Please make all checks and money orders payable to:

Florida Van Council, Inc.

and mail to:

FVC Treasurer:

Linard Morris

12931 sw 10th ct

Davie, FL 33325

Keep on Vanning. It doesn't get any better than this!