

Reunion 42 and Make a Check-List

The first thing we have to do is get that airline reservation made, followed by the hotel and **NWSA 42** reservations at The Villages with Jerry Struck. Airline prices are at their lowest for the entire year, so don't delay even another couple of months when they all go higher. You will also be needing ground transportation from **MCO** (Orlando) to The Villages, which can also be made via computer or telephone. There is one shuttle for \$35 per person, or you can rent a car at the airport. Shuttle service is about every hour and 30 minutes, which will take you the 70 miles. Don't delay and then find out when you get to the airport, that the shuttle is full or you will get there *after* the hostility room opens and you miss all sea-stories of the day.

Whether you're going to Florida, Europe, or any other airport in the USA or world, **make a check-list** with an itinerary with dates, times, locations and costs for each item/place you expect to experience. Get this done weeks before your trip. Not only with this help you plan "*a good trip*" but it relieves the stress on "did I forget anything" and you can make copies and send to relatives/neighbors and everyone who is interested in what/where you're going.

Some of the important data this list should include or help you remember are: *Documents and dates*, including **hotel** info (reservation #, hotel phone #, and address), **flight #** with time departing and arrival. Stop your **newspaper**. The postman doesn't know you're out of town, so stop at the post office and stop your mail delivery, or get a neighbor to take it in for **each** day you're gone. Also, tell your *bank/credit card companies* (use the 800 number on the back of the card) and tell them **where** you're going and the **dates**, so they don't shut down your cards when they see charges at distant places. It will ruin your whole day when you are miles from home and you find your credit card doesn't work and you're out of money, and even ATMs don't work! How about your *medications*...have enough to take along on a trip? Tell your *neighbors* when you'll be leaving/returning so they can watch your house. Check your *camera*—want to get some pictures and the camera says NO SPACE. Food in the *'fridge* that will spoil while you're gone—get it out now and get the *garbage* outside before you go. Check door/window *locks* and if you have a "*timer*" you might have to turn on a light each day just before sunset and turn off around 10 PM (kitchen or room that can be seen from the street/porch) that gives passerby's the impression that someone is home there. It's a good idea to "test" that timer a day or two before leaving to make sure it works OK. *Suitcases* weight can cost if they're too heavy/big. Airline X-rays will remove ALL pictures in the camera, so carry the camera in a carry-on bag or purse. The TSA check will not wipe out pictures in your camera.

One item you might want to take along—your *spouse*.