

BRITISH  
AMERICAN  
CONNEXION

President : Vincent Wallace

V. President: Ian Cairns

Treasurer : Derek Johnson

Secretary : Jean Wallace

**FEBRUARY 2009 NEWSLETTER**

The club is now into the second month of 2009 and sadly we have lost a few members from our group.

Pat Bird passed away in December after a lengthy illness and Bob Hawke died in January.

The membership extends sympathy to the spouses.

Also, a number of members have not returned to the club this year. The President has e-mailed them but only Ellie Price has responded saying she is now involved with other groups so will not be returning.

The club has had two outings so far this year:

Our lunch aboard the cruise vessel "Majesty" in January was thoroughly enjoyable with entertainment by a Hawaiian guitar player and a girl who demonstrated the rudiments of the dances from that part of the world.

Our next trip was to the Brook House for fish 'n chips in February. All who attended seemed to enjoy this late lunch/early dinner.

Jean Wallace would like to invite the ladies of the club to a Coffee Morning at her house @1736 N. Bogey Pt. in Terra Vista, Citrus Hills on Tuesday, March 17 from 10:00am to 12:00 noon. She says that although it will be St. Patrick's Day don't expect anything "green". (RSVP 746 4157 by 12<sup>th</sup> March)

**OneCarOne (UK car rental company)**

Great low rates. Instant confirmation/ Unlimited mileage/ 24hour emergency road service/Collision damage waiver. Free delivery/ Free upgrade to the Corsa Manual. 100 locations across England, Scotland and Wales covering all major and regional airports. It's the UK's largest British owned independent vehicle rental company with one of the largest fleets and a variety of vehicles. The price quoted is the price you pay.

This article was found on the British Florida.com web site.

P.S. Most UK car rental companies will not hire a car to anyone 70 or over. It would be prudent to check with the individual rental company when making a reservation.

The Committee is pleased to confirm that our new web site is up and running due to all the good work and technical skills of Doug Matthews. Thanks Doug.

Here are some useful additional websites:

[www.BritishFlorida.com](http://www.BritishFlorida.com)

[www.ujnews@ujnews.com](mailto:www.ujnews@ujnews.com)

[www.ukinusa.fco.gov.uk](http://www.ukinusa.fco.gov.uk)

### NATURE NOTES by Brian Pasby

The reason that some plants can survive the freezes like the one we just had, is that the cells contain antifreeze, just like your car's radiator.

The tropical species lack this for obvious reasons. The plant's antifreezes are usually sugar and/or protein related molecules dissolved in the cell sap. They prevent the initial formation of an ice crystal nucleus which would initiate rapid formation of ice crystals all through the cell. It is not the cold per se that kills, but the tearing and destruction of the cell structures by the ice. Spring is upon us though. The Wild Plums, Redbuds and Red Maples are all in bloom.

12<sup>th</sup> February was the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin, perhaps the most famous of British scientists. His "theory of evolution" is the foundation of modern biology and is accepted by the majority of educated people in the world, including most major religions. This was not the case when it was first put forward.

### BARBARA asks:

Did you know?

The Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park now has 2 Red Wolves. The three male wolves were born at the Brevard Zoo.

In 1980 the last red wolves in the wild were found in Texas and captured for breeding programs to prevent their extinction. After 4 pairs of red wolves were released at the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in N.C. the first litter of red wolf pups was born in the wild in 1988. Gradually the number of wild red wolves has grown. Our park now joins several other parks and zoos to aid in the comeback of these beautiful animals. (The hope is to release the three wolves eventually with some females to one of the re-introduction sites, like ARNWR.)

### RECIPE OF THE MONTH from Brenda Thorne

8 slices bacon  
1 tomato, seeded and chopped  
½ onion chopped  
3oz shredded extra sharp cheddar cheese  
½ cup mayonnaise  
1 tsp dried basil  
1 box Publix ready to bake rich and flaky rolled pie crust.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Lightly grease a small muffin pan. In a skillet over medium heat, cook bacon until crisp. Drain on paper towel. Crumble bacon into a medium bowl and mix

With tomato, onion, cheese, mayonnaise and

basil. Lightly roll pastry out and using 2" pastry cutter to create rounds Press cut pastry into lightly greased muffin tin.

Fill with bacon mixture. Bake for 10 – 12 minutes in preheated oven or until golden brown.

PS. Brenda uses Oscar Meyer fully cooked bacon. You can substitute Swiss cheese for the cheddar

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Club Meeting at Beverly Hills 7:15pm – 9:00pm
		Talk from traffic officer from Citrus County Sheriff's Department
March	17 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Morning at Jean Wallace's house 10:00am – 12:00pm
		Picnic at Rainbow Springs (date to be determined at February meeting)
	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Club Meeting at Beverly Hills
April	25 <sup>th</sup>	Pool Party – Doug n Judi's 5526 N. Pecos Terrace, Pine Ridge
		This will be in the form of a Pot Luck and bring a beverage.
	27 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting at Homosassa Library 5:00pm – 7:00pm
May	25 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting at Beverly Hills
		A trip to Pine Island Beach date to be decided
June	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Club Meeting Homosassa Library 5:00 – 7:00pm