

## THURSDAY NIGHT, 6 OCT, 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SPECTRE REUNION PICNIC/ICE BREAKER

By Dick Vancil



Once again, we gathered at the Hurlburt Picnic Grounds to meet, greet, and fellowship with the men and women of Spectre. It was an absolutely gorgeous evening for our picnic and the turnout of the faithful was gratifying to see. We had about 115-120 in attendance with many staying late to visit and reacquaint with long-time friends.



Your board members brought the "Spectre Store" to the picnic area for the first time on the Thursday night mixer evening and had a large selection of the Spectre memorabilia to choose from and purchase. MarthaAnn, Chuck, and Andy "manned" the store and religiously collected Florida Sales Tax on every purchase while surreptitiously collecting current member's information to update the membership roles. Their efforts on

day-one of the reunion resulted in the sale of over \$1000 worth of Spectre merchandise. Well Done! They weren't finished; you will hear more about their success as the reunion goes on.

It was decided that the music was not needed this year and while Stormin' Norman wasn't spinnin' his usual collection of great music, folks seemed to appreciate the sounds of their own merriment and larger group conversations.

Besides the great company, beer, and refreshments, we had some of the world's finest Thai food. The food was Exotic Oriental spiced chicken wings and country ribs. The salad was Somtom which is shredded green papayas with a few shredded carrots with lime juice and Thai peppers, and pork fried rice. The absolute stars of the evening were Larry and his wife Jit Hickey, Chanwin and Dew Amphay, Annie, and Wade Williams, culinary student from OATC. This group of professionals provided outstanding food for everyone and plenty of it. Our hats are off to Larry and team. Great Job! As is the custom, the food and drink were all free to the attendees and everyone graciously left generous "tips" which were very appreciated by the workers and may entice them to help us in the future. Our "Thanks" to all.



As with all good things, they must come to an end. It was a great social and got everyone primed for the next three days of reunion activities. Many of the attendees pitched in and help close up and put away the store and straightened the place up making the cleanup crew's (Shell, Pat, Norm, Larry, Roger, and Dick) work much easier the next morning.

All-in-all an absolutely OUTSTANDING evening of great friends, fine food, and camaraderie.

