



# *Eastern Area Motorhome Association*



**JANUARY 2012**

## **Eastern Area News from Otho**

### **FMCA NEWS**

Most of you know by now that Brad Koshland, Executive Director for FMCA, resigned his position, effective November 30, 2011. During his 11 months with the Association, Brad worked very hard to accomplish goals he had set for himself and FMCA. Family concerns required his attention. We wish all the best for Brad in his future endeavors.

Because of the economic downturn and major decline in revenue for the Association, the FMCA Executive Board had to make some tough decisions at the meetings in Cincinnati in November 2011. Our declining membership is of major concern at this point. The net loss of members (between 400-600 each month) and the drop in *Family Motor Coaching* magazine ads, have resulted in a large drop in revenue. Although the magazine ads are showing an increase, they are not producing the revenue they were before the economic downturn. I say this as a reminder that we are a member-owned organization. We all have the responsibility to recruit new members as well as to retain our current members. Let me emphasize this point – You may rest assured that FMCA is solvent. We owe no one!

The topic of how to increase revenue and membership is a constant subject between the Executive Board and the staff at FMCA. Many members have posed questions and suggestions as to how to reverse the current trend. If anyone has a viable solution, the Executive Board is more than willing to hear your ideas and act on them if they fall within the guidance of our governing documents and directions given by the Governing Board. Unfortunately, none have given solutions.

I would like to talk about the fine work being done at FMCA headquarters in Cincinnati. We are in a time of transition. After the resignation of Brad Koshland, Jerry Yeatts, Director of Member Benefits, Programs & Services, was asked to assume the responsibilities of Interim Executive Director until such time as someone is hired for that position.

### **Eastern Area Motorhome Association Officers**



**President**  
***Otho Tew,***  
***F152425***

**Senior Vice President**  
***John Reynolds, F171042***

**Northern Regional Vice President**  
***John Breisch, F258217***

**Central Regional Vice President**  
***Jerry Cohen, F259701***

**Southern Regional Vice President**  
***Gaye Young, F284657***

**Western Regional Vice President**  
***Bill Gunther, F43475D***

**Secretary**  
***Mary Hunter, F351247***

**Treasurer**  
***Bob Holliday, F96151***

**Immediate Past President**  
***Judy Czarsty, F79148***

I hope you have been reading the articles about our staff at FMCA. Three have been featured each month in *Family Motor Coaching* magazine so you can get to know the people who work so hard for us all year. Some of them have taken on additional responsibilities due to downsizing, retirements, and resignations. You got to “meet” the first person you speak with when you call FMCA. You read about some of the ones who work in Mail Forwarding, IT department, Chapter Services. The list goes on and on.

## **GREAT EASTERN AREA RALLY (GEAR) 2011**

We have successfully completed our second GEAR at the Winston-Salem Entertainment & Sports Complex, Winston-Salem, NC. I haven't the words to adequately express my gratitude to all of you who worked tirelessly to make GEAR 2010 & 2011 the great successes they were. Rally Masters John & Jayne Reynolds, the Chairs, Co-Chairs and volunteers deserve all the credit. Without you it couldn't have been done. The rally attendees were constantly telling us how wonderful the rallies were organized and commenting on the friendliness of all involved.

Another reason for the success was due in no small part to our vendors and display coach people. We need to tell them how much they are appreciated. Without their support our Rallies would not be as successful and fun to attend.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank the staff at the Complex for their willingness to help us. They certainly added to the success of GEAR 2010 & 2011.

Over 500 family member coaches attended GEAR 2011. I want to take this opportunity to thank the parkers for their efficiency in getting so many coaches off the road safely and parked in a timely manner. Seminars and craft classes were well attended. An impromptu “silent auction” was held to bid on purses created and donated by wives of EAMA officers. The proceeds were given to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina who, for the second year, was the recipient of GEAR 2011 community donations. Eastern Area family members are generous, supportive and caring of those less fortunate.

GEAR 2012 will be held in York, Pennsylvania, October 10 to 14. Put these dates on your calendar. We will be entering “new territory” for GEAR. I am excited about this venue. The York Expo Center is very large, and everything will be in one place, with display coaches just outside the Toyota Arena.

The theme for GEAR 2012 is “The White Rose City.” There is much to see and do in and around York. Rally Masters John and Jayne Reynolds are already at work. Committee chairs and co-chairs are in place, making plans and seeking volunteers for their functions. Of utmost importance is your attendance. We look forward to seeing you in York.

The planning meeting for GEAR 2012 will be held the weekend of May 4, 5 and 6. This a new venue and chairs should plan to attend.

## **EASTERN AREA MOTORHOME ASSOCIATION**

Exciting things have been taking place within the Eastern Area. We know that we are the best area in FMCA. However, we need to spread the word to friends, acquaintances, strangers we encounter in campgrounds and as we travel this wonderful land. Our chapters are diverse – there is one to meet your needs and interests. Invite a fellow FMCA member to visit your chapter. Better yet, invite the non-

members you meet to join FMCA. The benefits can't be beat by any other organization. This will be expanded upon by John Breisch, Northern Regional Vice President, in his letter. John is also the chair of the national Membership/Member Services Committee.

Was the campground where you stayed or had your rally a commercial member of FMCA? If not, tell them about the new Campground Connection. Call me or FMCA for more information.

## **EAMA OFFICERS REPORTS**

### **SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**

With GEAR 2011 now behind us, we want to thank all of you for your help and support to make this another successful Rally. We had just over 500 family coaches, 75 display coaches and many vendors. There was also excellent entertainment. Again there were hot dogs supplied by Bill Plemmons RV. The Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina was delighted with the food and cash that were donated to them. They were amazed at the fact that people from other areas would so generously support them.

We are now busy working on the upcoming GEAR 2012. If you do not already know, it will be held in the White Rose City, York, Pennsylvania, from October 10 to 14, 2012. Jayne and I are again Rally Masters. We have some exciting ideas for this rally and hope that you will all plan on attending. The Toyota Arena is absolutely terrific. We have sent the theme (The White Rose City) and program cover ideas to FMCA's art department for development. York is an historic city with lots of things to do and see.

We enjoyed visiting with chapters in 2011 and thanks for inviting us. Hopefully, we will be able to do more chapter visitations this year. Send us a list of your upcoming rallies and we will visit as many as time will allow.

Winter has finally arrived, bringing snow across the country. After the mild temperatures of the fall, this is hard to handle. Many of you are heading south for the winter. Jayne and I wish you a safe journey and a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah and a prosperous New Year.

John Reynolds F171042  
[johnreynoldssr@reynoldsironworks.com](mailto:johnreynoldssr@reynoldsironworks.com)  
570-279-0756

### **NORTHERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

As we begin 2012, my best wishes to everyone for a happy, healthy New Year filled with safe and memorable travels.

Membership should be the focus of each person in the Eastern Area and FMCA. In order to have a strong and viable organization that can provide the variety of benefits we enjoy, we need to bring in new members. There are hundreds of motorhome owners who have never heard of FMCA or the benefits of membership – they are waiting for YOU to tell them and invite them to join. As you move about the country and encounter fellow motorhome owners, please do your best to recruit them as new members. The staff and officers of FMCA are depending on YOU to help them in this effort.

I'm sure you have already heard that GEAR 2012 will be held in the North Region of EAMA – in York, PA, this coming October. Since this location is in our backyard, so to speak, I'm hoping all of you will begin NOW for your chapter's involvement in what promises to be another great rally. There are numerous ways to become involved:

1. Have the chapter president/designee accept the invitation to participate in the planning meeting at the rally site in early May.
2. Encourage your chapter members to volunteer to serve on one of the many committees. There are duties for all levels of mobility and experience.
3. Participate in the Chapter Fair and the other competitive events planned for chapters and/or individuals.
4. Encourage your chapter members to attend the rally as a group or individually.

I look forward to meeting many of you at York in May and hearing of your chapter's planned participation.

John Breisch F258217  
[jbreich@verizon.net](mailto:jbreich@verizon.net)  
610-678-4288

#### CENTRAL REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

I hope everyone had a great holiday season in 2011. Several members from the Central Region have endured medical problems the past few months. Thankfully, they now seem to be on the mend. This is super and we look forward to seeing them on the road in 2012.

Now is the time to mark your calendars for the FMCA's 87<sup>st</sup> Family Reunion and Motorhome Showcase in Indianapolis, IN, August 27 – 30, 2012. Also mark the dates for GEAR 2012 to be held in York, Pennsylvania, October 10 to 14, 2012. There are lots of fun places to visit between Indiana and Pennsylvania so plan to do some sight-seeing along the way.

I hope to see and visit with you at these rallies.

Jerry Cohen F259701  
[jerryacmlndjrry@aol.com](mailto:jerryacmlndjrry@aol.com)  
757-424-1014

#### SOUTHERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

2011 was a great year for our Eastern Area. GEAR 2011 in Winston-Salem, NC, was successful again with approximately 500 family coaches attending. If you attended, you know what a great time we had with the wonderful entertainment, educational seminars, an array of vendors, fun things like the ice cream social, chapter fair and chapter parade, games and the beautiful show coaches. My hat is off to Otho and Alice Tew, our rally masters John and Jayne Reynolds, all of the Chair people and their volunteers! You are dedicated and hard working. Without you, we could not enjoy the fun times we share. So thank you for all you do for each and every one of us.

2012 is going to be just as exciting with GEAR in York, PA, October 10 to 14! This is uncharted territory for GEAR and we are looking forward to the historical sites, museums, manufacturer tours and

all that York and its surrounding area has to offer. So plan some extra time to tour this area. Many folks joined FMCA in 2011 from the Southern Region. I encourage all of our chapter presidents to utilize the free memberships, invite others to join our FAMILY, and entice them to attend one of your rallies. We need to strengthen our membership, and you are the experienced ones who can share your stories. Presidents, you are the leaders of our chapters, who set the tone of your chapters, who educate your people, and who motivate your folks to enjoy each and every day in our wonderful lifestyle! I thank you for stepping up to the plate and saying, "Yes, I will work for you and I will have fun with you."

Happy 2012 to you and yours!

Gaye Young F284657  
[carolinagirlrver@gmail.com](mailto:carolinagirlrver@gmail.com)  
919-632-2369

#### WESTERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Bill Gunther  
[bill@bonnieblue2.com](mailto:bill@bonnieblue2.com)  
615-394-5911

#### TREASURER

I hope you were able to make the last GEAR in Winston-Salem. We had approximately 500 family coaches and we all enjoyed a great rally and some wonderful North Carolina fall weather. Now all our thoughts and plans are on the 2012 rally, which will be held in York, PA, October 10 to 14. I, for one, am looking forward to visiting that area again and enjoying some fine Pennsylvania fall weather where Harley Davidson is a prominent manufacturer. We are planning a sensational rally and hope that you will be one of 500 or so coaches in attendance. We have quite a few electrical sites, but they tend to go early, so to ensure getting one, it is best to register early.

See you there!

Bob Holliday F96151  
[bodorholliday@comcast.net](mailto:bodorholliday@comcast.net)  
804-739-8657

Once again I'd like to thank my Regional Vice Presidents, who stepped up to take care of some anniversary visits to chapters for me in 2011. My surgery went well and I am fully restored to health. The following chapters will have anniversaries in 2012:

January – 25 years – Eastern Monaco

March – 10 years – Koala Knockabouts  
25 years – Trail Buddies Thousand Trails East

April – 10 years – Happy Tennessee Travelers  
Let's Roll

June – 5 years – Eastern Area Geocachers

October – 15 years – Frustrated Maestros Eastern Sharps and Flats

I plan to incorporate as many as possible of these important events in my travel schedule this year. Each visit to a celebrating chapter is special to Alice and me. We commend you for your longevity.

2011 was a year filled with exciting activities in the Eastern Area. 2012 will be even more exciting. We have been affected by transitions taking place at FMCA. But let me say unequivocally that the Eastern Area and FMCA are alive, well and working hard for you, our members, always with your best interests in mind and heart.

**ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING**

Be kinder than necessary, for everyone is fighting some kind of battle.

Live simply. Love generously.

Care deeply. Speak kindly.

Alice and I hope and pray for your safe travels wherever the call of the open road takes you in 2012.

*Alto Ten*

# FMCA'S 87TH FAMILY REUNION & MOTORHOME SHOWCASE

**AUGUST 27-30, 2012**

**INDIANAPOLIS  
STATE FAIRGROUNDS**

**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE  
AUGUST 17, 2012**

After this date registrations will only be taken at the Holding Area. The Holding Area in Indianapolis will open on Friday, August 24, 2012, at 7 a.m.

## INDIANAPOLIS REGISTRATION FORM

- Seminars • Exhibits • Display Coaches • Coffee & Donuts • Ice Cream Social
- Movie Night • Tours • Entertainment • Ladies Social • Games

### PERSONAL INFORMATION Permanent changes to membership files cannot be made from this form.

MEMBER # (non-member additional \$50) \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CO-PILOT FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (CONFIRMATIONS WILL BE SENT HERE) \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

AREA CODE/HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ AREA CODE/CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS (CONFIRMATIONS WILL BE SENT HERE IF REQUESTED) \_\_\_\_\_  I am/we are First Time Attendee(s)

COACH MAKE & MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ LICENSE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

### CONFIRMATIONS & PARKING CREDENTIAL(S) Parking credential(s) will be mailed to the mailing address provided; unless you request to have it held at will call for pick-up.

- E-mail my confirmation paperwork  Hold parking credentials at will call

### PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PARKING AREA:

- Handicap †  Handicap Full Generator †  Full Generator  No Generator  
 Families with Children  Governing Board  Past National Officer  Current Committee Member

REGISTRATION FEE <small>See reverse side for parking descriptions mailing procedures, parking procedures and additional handicapped information.</small>	FMCA MEMBER		AMOUNT
	Early Bird	After 7/9/12	
General-dry camping, no electric	\$160	\$190	
Additional Fee for 30-amp Electric dry camping	\$180	\$180	
Additional Fee for 50-amp Electric, water & sewer (limited availability call to confirm)	\$240	\$240	
Handicap with Electric † 30-amp dry camping	\$340	\$370	
Governing Board with Electric 30-amp dry camping	\$340	\$370	
Passport – 2 people: No overnight parking	\$150	\$180	
Coach with 1 person deduct \$20	- \$20	- \$20	
Additional Fee for Non-FMCA Member	\$50	\$50	
Each Additional Guest	\$25 each	\$25 each	
• Early arrivals welcomed. Please see the reverse side for details.		<b>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE</b>	

### PAYMENT INFORMATION

Make checks payable to Family Motor Coaching, Inc. in U.S. funds. All major credit cards accepted.

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN TO:**  
 FMCA  
 Events Department  
 8291 Clough Pike  
 Cincinnati, OH 45244

† A copy of your state issued handicap certificate must be sent to the National Office. Handicap information on back must be filled out to receive handicap or handicap electric parking.

**GUEST** 19 years and younger and/or immediate family are free, others are \$25 each.

1.GUEST/AGE \_\_\_\_\_

2.GUEST/AGE \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CONTACT US REGARDING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING IN A TOWABLE

### CANCELLATION POLICY

Refunds will be made only upon written request and only if request is received by August 17, 2012. Badges and confirmation materials must be returned with cancellation request. All cancelled registrations are subject to a \$10 handling fee. Electric cancelled on or prior to July 9 2012, will be refunded in full; electric cancelled after July 9, 2012, and on or before August 17, 2012, will be refunded at 50%. Absolutely no refunds for electric cancelled after August 17, 2012.

**REGISTER BY Mail • Phone 800-543-3622 | 513-474-3622 • Fax 800-543-4717 | 513-474-2332 • Online www.fmca.com**

## PARKING DESCRIPTIONS

**CARAVANS** – Scheduled caravans of 10 coaches or more will be parked on Saturday and Sunday, August 25 and 26, 2012. Caravan leaders please call 800-543-3622 to schedule an arrival time.

**FAMILY PARKING** – Family parking will be located at the Indianapolis State Fairgrounds. Parking will be at the discretion of the parkers. Tram service will be provided.

**GENERAL PARKING** – Use of generator is only permitted from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

**HANDICAPPED PARKING\*\*** – Reserved for those with qualifying medical needs. Limited space. First registered/first served basis. Use of generator is only permitted from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

**HANDICAPPED W/ELECTRIC\*\*** – Reserved for those with qualifying medical needs who must operate equipment relative to treatment of their condition. Limited space. First registered/first served basis. Electric available at 9 a.m. on Sunday, August 26, 2012, until 9 a.m. on Friday, August 31, 2012. (\$180 additional cost)

**FULL GENERATOR** – Generator permitted 24 hours per day.

**NO GENERATOR** – Space is limited.

**FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN** – Generator 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. only.

**PASSPORT CAR PARKING** – Includes entertainment, exhibits and seminars. No overnight parking on event property. Passport coaches cannot be accommodated at the fairgrounds. Passport car parking will be open only until 11 p.m., August 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30, 2012. Public parking will be open only during exhibit hours, August 27, 28, 29, and 30, 2012.



### HANDICAPPED OR HANDICAPPED ELECTRIC PARKING

**You Must Complete The Information  
Below In Order To Be Considered**

NAME

MEMBER NO.

NAME OF DISABLED PERSON IN COACH

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DISABILITY (OPTIONAL)

My state issued handicap certificate is:  On File  
 Enclosed

This information will be shared solely with on-site emergency service personnel to better prepare them in case of a medical emergency.

**\*\* A copy of your state issued handicap certificate must be sent to the national office. Your confirmation package cannot be mailed until certificate is received.**

## EARLY ARRIVALS

If you arrive prior to your date of admittance, as identified on your “date of entry” credential, dry camping will be available beginning on Friday, August 24, in the Holding Area.

## MAILING AND PARKING PROCEDURES FOR ALL PARKING AREAS

FMCA will begin mailing confirmations as soon as May 28, 2012. Mailed confirmations will contain “date of entry” credentials. Mailed registrations received after August 17, 2012, will be held and processed as gate registrations.

If it is impossible for you to furnish an address for receipt of your confirmation material, they will be held for you at Will Call located at the official Holding Area from 7 a.m. – 5 p.m., Friday, August 24, through Monday, August 27.

Registered family members will be assigned parking dates of Saturday, Sunday, and Monday; August 25, 26, and 27, 2012. Families should arrive at the convention on the date stated on their “date of entry” credentials. If you arrive at the convention on a date following your assigned date of entry, you may have to wait in the Holding Area to be parked.

Families registering on-site will be parked on August 27, between noon and 5 p.m.

If you have friends or relatives with whom you would like to park, make plans now to register with them. Families who register together and mail their registration forms to FMCA in the same envelope are guaranteed to receive identical “date of entry” credentials. You must arrive together to park together.

Family Reunion parking is considered any lot secured by FMCA. Members of FMCA’s parking crew will be in the Holding Area from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. to park coaches. Tram service to all parking areas will be available beginning Sunday, August 26.

If you are traveling as an individual, a group, or a caravan, confirmation “date of entry” credentials must be displayed on your motorhome to facilitate your entry into the grounds.

All members are asked to display their membership number on their coach or in their windshield.