



Eastern Area Motorhome Association



Eastern Area News from Otho

January 2011

FMCA NEWS

The past three months have been very busy. In October, the Great Eastern Area Rally 2010 in Winston-Salem, NC, was very successful. There will be more about GEAR 2010 and 2011 later in this Newsletter.

In November, the Executive Board met in Cincinnati, OH, with many important items on the agenda, one of which was the selection of an Executive Director for FMCA. After interviews with all the candidates, Mr. Bradford Koshland was selected to fill the position of FMCA's new Executive Director. Mr. Koshland retired from the New Jersey State Police after 28 years. Before coming to FMCA, Mr. Koshland worked for the state of Florida, Department of Business and Professional Regulations, Division of Real Estate as Bureau Chief of Enforcement. He is an avid motorhomer and a member of the Bay Travelers Chapter of the Eastern Area of FMCA.

The Board of Directors approved inviting owners of non-motorized self-contained RVs to attend FMCA's 85th Family Reunion and Motorhome Showcase at the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter, in Perry, GA, March 14-17, 2011. The reason for the invitation is threefold. Number one - to introduce them to our motorhome lifestyle. Maybe it will interest them enough to purchase a Class A, B or C motorhome and, by extension, join FMCA. Number two - to show that FMCA is not an elitist association but one that enjoys having a good relationship with all RVers. We hope this will improve our image with the rest of the RVing public. Number three - to increase revenue for our convention.

The Executive Board approved extending the "A Dozen Does It" program. Each chapter president again received 5 free memberships to FMCA to help our recruitment efforts. Your chapter may not have been able to reach the goal of 12 new members for FMCA in 2010. This will also give you another opportunity to win a nice prize package for your chapter.

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
Bob Gregory, F296139

Secretary
Mary Hunter, F351247

Treasurer
Bob Holliday, F96151

Immediate Past President
Judy Czarsty, F79148

Be sure to check out pages 103 - 119 of the January 2011 issue of *Family Motor Coaching* magazine for the benefits of your FMCA membership. You will also find the details of the new FMC Assist. Please cut out the new cards on page 107, put your F# on them, and slip them into your wallet along with your other insurance cards. You can also check out the article on pages 36 - 39 of the December 2010 issue for details.

FMCA will hold only one convention in 2012. No decision has been made concerning further years.

Most of you are aware that Charlie Schrenkel has resigned from the position of National President due to health issues. Charlie has worked very hard for FMCA, always keeping the betterment of the association and members uppermost in all that he did. His leadership will certainly be missed by everyone associated with FMCA.

For continuity and in keeping with FMCA's Bylaws, Judy Czarsty, National Senior Vice President, has assumed the position of Acting President. Judy is Immediate Past National Vice President of the Eastern Area.

GREAT EASTERN AREA RALLY (GEAR) 2010

The Great Eastern Area Rally (GEAR) 2010, held in Winston-Salem, NC, was a huge success. I want to thank all the volunteers. An event such as GEAR could never happen without dedicated people like you. There were over 600 family coaches registered, 71 display coaches and 29 live-in vendors. The staff at the Winston-Salem Entertainment & Sports Complex were thrilled to have us there and amazed to see how smoothly our parkers took care of the many coaches arriving on the grounds. Their assistance and co-operation were appreciated and contributed to the success of the rally.

Representatives of the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina were at the rally each day to accept the donations of food and money for their organization. They were overjoyed at the generosity of the attendees who gave of their bounty to help those less fortunate. I am including the letter of appreciation that was sent to Jake and Betty Kessler and the Eastern Area.

Those of you who attended entertainment each night were treated to some of the best performers ever to grace a stage. Maria Rose and her husband, Danny Elswick, kicked off the rally on Wednesday night, The Williamsons on Thursday night, Red Hot and Country Roundup on Friday night and Sarah Getto on Saturday night. Sarah's father, Michael, took care of all lighting and sound.

EASTERN AREA MOTORHOME ASSOCIATION (EAMA)

The annual membership meeting of EAMA was held on Saturday morning, October 23rd. I want to thank the chapter presidents who took the time to attend. Officers for 2011 were elected. They are as follows:

Senior Vice President – John Reynolds
Secretary – Mary Hunter
Treasurer – Bob Holliday
Northern Regional Vice President – John Breisch
Central Regional Vice President – Jerry Cohen
Southern Regional Vice President – Gaye Young
Western Regional Vice President – Bob Gregory

The Chapter Presidents Ambassador Program will continue in 2011. The Planning Meeting for GEAR 2011 will be April 15th - 17th in Winston-Salem, NC. Please plan to attend and put the dates on your calendar now. We will have to work very hard to surpass the success of GEAR 2010 but we can do it! It isn't too early to spread the excitement to your friends, chapter members and fellow motorhomers.

Following is a list by month of the chapters who are having important anniversaries in 2011.

MARCH

45 Years – 20th Century Wagontrainers (3/2)

APRIL

20 Years – Blue Ridge Pioneers (4/13)

20 Years – Carolina Cruisers (4/6)

30 Years – GMC Colonial Travelers (4/20)

MAY

5 Years – Ives Runners (5/13)

JUNE

15 Years – Dogwood (6/8)

20 Years – Travelin' Tarheels (6/8)

35 Years – GMC Tidewater Crabs (6/12)

35 Years – Tennessee Ridge Runners (6/12)

SEPTEMBER

15 Years – Country Cousins (9/28)

OCTOBER

15 Years – Iptay Chapter of Clemson (10/18)

DECEMBER

35 Years – Executive East Pioneers (12/11)

35 Years – Mountaineer (12/11)

My sincere congratulations!! The longevity of these chapters speaks well for the family, fun and friendship to be found among the FMCA membership. It's an extended family. Certainly, members can enjoy motorhoming without joining a chapter. But knowing you have places to go on a regular basis, friends to see again, acquaintances to renew gives added incentive to move your motorhome from the yard or storage.

I want to thank the chapters who send their newsletters to me. It lets me stay in tune to what is happening and any possible needs you might have. Sending them by e-mail works best for all of us – you save on postage and I receive them no matter if I'm on the road or home.

It has been suggested that we have a newsletter competition among the chapters in the Eastern Area. Some areas already do this. I'd be glad to receive your comments.

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT/RALLY MASTER GEAR 2011

My wife, Jayne, and I hope you and your chapters had a great holiday season.

GEAR 2010 was a successful rally and I was very pleased with the turnout. From the comments afterward, I know everyone had a good time.

Planning has already started for GEAR 2011. I'm working with the FMCA Art Department on a theme and artwork for the program. The dates for the rally are October 19th through 23rd. It will again be at the Dixie Classic Fairgrounds in Winston-Salem, NC. The Chairs and Co-Chairs are signed up and I know that they will do a great job.

Jayne and I would like to visit your chapter. Please let me know the dates of your rallies so that I can put you on my schedule.

Safe travels and best wishes to you in 2011.

John Reynolds
EAMA Senior Vice President
johnreynoldssr@reynoldsironworks.com
570-279-0756

EAMA TREASURER

What a great rally we just completed in Winston-Salem! Hope you enjoyed this event as much as those of us involved in organizing and planning it. The facility was designed for our size group. So much so, we are going back in October 2011.

We aren't resting on our laurels. As a matter of fact, we are already planning the rally with you in mind. Hopefully, when you work out your travel schedule for 2011, you will plan to be in Winston-Salem on October 19th - 23rd for GEAR 2011.

Bob Holliday
EAMA Treasurer
bobdorholliday@yahoo.com
804-739-8657

EAMA NORTHERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

I hope all of you had an enjoyable Holiday Season and have traveled safely to your winter destination. As we begin 2011, I'd like to call your attention to several benefits we all enjoy as FMCA members. Please pay special attention to the article in the January issue of *FMC* magazine on page 103, and in the December issue on page 36. It tells you of the new FMC Assist program that replaces MEDEX on January 1, 2011. Remove the cards and put them in your wallet with your other medical insurance cards.

Another new benefit provides a \$10 gift card when you join or renew your Sam's Club membership. The certificate required to do this is available for downloading on the FMCA Web site, and also appears on page 89 of the January issue of *FMC*.

Please share this information with your chapter members via your newsletters, Web sites, etc. Keep recruiting new members for FMCA.

Have a healthy and safe winter.

John L. Breisch
EAMA Northern Regional Vice President
jbreich@verizon.net
484-529-3503

EAMA CENTRAL REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

GEAR 2010 can be summed up in one word – “SUPER”!! Thanks must start with the Eastern Area VP, Rally Master, Chairs and Co-Chairs, Volunteers and, most importantly, their spouses. Their time and efforts made this one of the most enjoyable rallies I have attended. If you missed it, now is the time to mark GEAR 2011 on your calendars. GEAR will again be in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, on October 19th - 23rd, 2011. Remember, if you want electric service, register early as that service will sell out quickly.

I hope each of you in the Eastern Area had a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season. I hope to meet many more of you this year.

Jerry Cohen
EAMA Central Regional Vice President
jerryacmlndjrry@aol.com
757-641-1014

EAMA SOUTHERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

WOW!! What an amazing year 2010 was! From January through November, there were 341 new members to join FMCA from North Carolina and South Carolina. GEAR 2010 was a huge success. If you missed it, plan on GEAR 2011 to be held October 19th - 23rd in Winston-Salem, NC. It promises to be just as exciting.

Many thanks from Jerry and me to the presidents and their chapters in NC and SC who welcomed us to your rallies. We felt like a part of your families and the love you share with each other. It illuminates the true FMCA families we are. I appreciate each of you for your hard work and accomplishments.

As we look forward to 2011, the "A Dozen Does It" program continues. You will receive 5 new free memberships and the opportunity to win another great prize package for your chapter. Invite others to join FMCA and your fun-loving chapter family.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to Otho and Alice Tew for their long and continuous hours of work and dedication to the successfulness of our Eastern Area.

Happy New Year!

Gaye S. Young
EAMA Southern Regional Vice President
carolinagirlrver@gmail.com
919-632-2369

EAMA WESTERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

The most beautiful Season of the year is a memory. It was a time for family, friends and thinking of others. It is my uppermost thought that our Eastern Area FMCA families were physically able to enjoy the special times together. Please include some time this year for your friends and fellow RVers. They are part of your extended family.

Being reelected as the Western Regional Vice President is humbling and definitely a challenging responsibility for me this year. Thank you for your trust in me to lead the Western Region.

Plan the new calendar year so that you can attend some of your chapter rallies, GEAR 2011 and International Conventions. You'll be glad you did.

Drop me a line or phone call. Help me help our Western Region.

Bob Gregory
EAMA Western Regional Vice President
Bobgreg734@aol.com
270-847-0215

Alice and I hope and pray each of you had a joyous Christmas season. Best wishes for a happy, healthy and safe New Year.

Please encourage your members to register early and attend FMCA's conventions in 2011. The winter convention, FMCA's 85th Family Reunion and Motorhome Showcase, will be in Perry, GA. The summer convention will be in Madison, WI.

As I finalize this newsletter, Alice and I are in northern Virginia to attend my youngest brother's funeral. My oldest brother passed away in January 2010 and my next oldest brother in the summer of 2006.

Alice and I hope and pray for your safe travels wherever the call of the open road takes you in 2011.

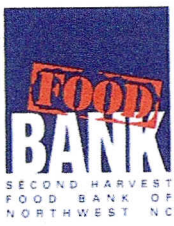
Alto Ten

ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING

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

Live simply. Love generously.

Care deeply. Speak kindly.



3655 Reed Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27107-5428
www.hungernwnc.org

November 10, 2011

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Executive Director

GEAR
c/o Mr. & Mrs. Jake Kessler
107 Falls Road
Milton, DE 19968

Dear Betty and Jake:

On behalf of Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the incredible results you were able to achieve through the "A Case Where You Can Help."

When we first began talking about the GEAR event coming to town almost a year ago, I had no idea what to expect. I have to admit that driving into the Dixie Classic Fairgrounds and seeing the GEAR event in action was astounding. I enjoyed every minute I had the opportunity to work with you both and the time I was able to spend with the individuals that make everything happen for GEAR. I especially appreciate the hospitality you showed by inviting my husband and me to one of the entertainment events and I wish we could have seen more. I am very appreciative of your hospitality to my daughter by showing her around the event.

Through your hard work and the generosity of the participants of GEAR, you have accomplished something to be quite proud of. I am going to break down for you the individual areas so you can see what we are so thankful for:

Monetary Donations: \$1326.00 equal to 9282 meals

Donated Food Poundage: 1969 lbs. equal to 1640 meals

Total Meals: 10,922

This number of meals will feed 130 families of four 3 nutritious meals for one week. This is quite an accomplishment for your organization to be proud of and one we are extremely thankful for. I will never know how GEAR, Jake Kessler and Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina happened to come together, but we are so thankful that we did and that you have done so much to help make Hunger a solvable problem in our area through your generosity.

I look forward to seeing you again next year. Once again, thank you for the opportunity to have worked with you to feed our hungry neighbors.

Sincerely,
Debbie
Debbie Clark

We deeply appreciate your leadership, compassion and generosity. The food and funds you have generated are a blessing to our food bank and all we serve. Please accept our Sincere Thanks. Clyde



Serving in partnership with nonprofit agencies in the following counties:
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Guilford, Iredell, Randolph, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, Watauga, Wilkes, Yadkin

