



Eastern Area Motorhome Association



Eastern Area News from Otho

April 2009

FMCA NEWS

FMCA's 81st International Convention in Perry, Georgia, on March 16-19 was well attended. There were 2,774 Family units and 505 Commercial coaches for a total of 3,279. The Indoor/Outdoor exhibitors represented 361 companies. They were well pleased, considering the current state of the economy. I was assigned by FMCA President Connie Pool to monitor the Indoor Vendors. It gave me the opportunity to talk with them about their concerns and how we, as an Association, can better serve them. I found them to be very positive and understanding. Of the few complaints, there were none that couldn't be resolved.

In an effort to hold down Convention expenses, the Convention Committee did a great job of implementing the cost-savings measures as directed by the Governing Board and Executive Board.

FMCA's 82nd International Convention will be held in Bowling Green, Ohio, July 20-23, 2009. It is important for each Chapter to have a voting delegate at the Governing Board Meeting. If your National Director or Alternate National Director will be unable to attend, you have the option of electing a temporary delegate to represent your Chapter. The name of the temporary delegate must be submitted to the National Secretary, Joann Durbin, in care of the National Office, no later than June 29, 2009, twenty-one days before the meeting. The Governing Board approved revisions to policies and procedures in St. Paul, Minnesota, which clarified that the Temporary Delegate is not considered a chapter officer. Therefore, a member of your chapter can be elected as a Temporary Delegate to serve at the

Eastern Area Motorhome Association Officers



President
Otho Tew,
F152425

Senior Vice President
William Mallory, F256138

Northern Regional Vice President
John Reynolds, F171042

Central Regional Vice President
Jerry Maloney, F280841

Southern Regional Vice President
Nick Paul, F307260

Western Regional Vice President
Eddie Baker, F292384

Secretary
Gaye Young, F284657

Treasurer
Bob Holliday, F96151

Immediate Past President
Judy Czarsty, F79148

Governing Board meeting without the need to resign a chapter officer position in another chapter.

At this Convention the election of the four nationally elected officers will take place. It is important that you learn all you can about the candidates who will be running for the positions of President, Senior Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Their resumes will appear in the May issue of *Family Motor Coaching*. They are the ones who will be guiding our Association for the next two years.

Among the important items for the Governing Board to consider are the Budget, Bylaws changes and other issues.

Great Eastern Area Rally (GEAR)

June 4-7 is fast approaching. The Great Eastern Area Rally (GEAR 2009) in Richmond, Virginia, can be viewed on the Eastern Area Web site www.easternarea.net. Check it out for yourself. There is a Registration Form available. View the list of Entertainment, both Day- and Night-time, plus the amenities for your comfort and enjoyment. You can register on-line at fmca.com.

The economy has been a struggle for us this year in planning GEAR 2009. I have cut costs in every function to hold expenses down while at the same time keeping the high quality of the event that you have come to expect. I still need your help to make GEAR a success. Early registration has been extended to May 3rd. Please make your Chapter members aware of the extension.

Eastern Area Motorhome Association (EAMA)

The EAMA Annual Meeting will be held during GEAR 2009 on Saturday, June 6th at 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM. It is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

Chapter Presidents

If you are unable to attend the EAMA Annual Meeting, you must submit the name of your representative to the EAMA Secretary, Gaye Young, seven days prior to the Meeting. The Secretary has notified the Board of Directors with the date of the Meeting and of the Bylaws change that will be presented for your consideration. There will also be an election of EAMA Officers.

It is important to keep your Chapter Officers' names and Chapter contact persons up-to-date with FMCA. Be sure to include your e-mail address. Please help save on postage costs. Chapter Officers can now choose to receive future mailings (including this newsletter) by e-mail. If you choose this option, you will receive e-mail notifications that contain a direct link to the information on FMCA's Web site. Some mailings will still require U.S. Postal Service delivery. However, FMCA would like to send as many mailings as possible electronically. To take advantage of this service, you will need to do three things: 1. Make sure you have created an FMCA.com Sign In account; 2. Verify that your e-mail address in your FMCA membership record is correct; and 3. Notify FMCA's Membership Department that you would like to "opt out of receiving officer mailings by USPS". Call 513-474-3622 or 800-543-3622 or send an e-mail to membership@fmca.com. Please be sure to include your membership number

in your e-mail message.

The following Chapters will be celebrating anniversaries in 2009:

APRIL

5 Year Anniversary

Foothills Travelers (4/24/09)

MAY

5 Year Anniversary

Keystone Travelers (5/15/09)

Tennessee Travelers (5/1/09)

15 Year Anniversary

Bay Travelers (5/7/09)

JUNE

20 Year Anniversary

Eastern Suncatchers (6/19/09)

JULY

15 Year Anniversary

Mid-Atlantic Pals (7/22/09)

40 Year Anniversary

Capitol (7/23/09)

Dixie Traveliers (7/23/09)

Penn Coachmen (7/23/09)

OCTOBER

10 Year Anniversary

Converted Coaches of the Eastern Area (10/9/09)

Alice and I would very much like to visit your Chapter and help celebrate your anniversary. I have spoken with some of you about the conflict of our schedules. Please let me know the dates of your rallies so that I can schedule another time. I would also like to receive your Chapter Newsletter. You can E-mail it to me: otew@fmca.com or oatew@earthlink.net. Alice and I enjoy reading about your Chapter's functions, the fun places you have been, and the great cooks.

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 2009.

Otto Lee