



Eastern Area Motorhome Association



Eastern Area News from Otho

May 2011

FMCA NEWS

FMCA's 85th Family Reunion and Motorhome Showcase is behind us. You have been waiting for the official attendance numbers: 2,707 family members, including live-in vendors; 264 display and demo coaches; and 14 towables. All vendor spaces were sold. The weather was very cooperative with sunny days and only one night of rain.

Nighttime entertainment was off to a good start with movie night on Tuesday evening. Mac Frampton was welcomed back on Wednesday night. Lorrie Morgan, who had to cancel her performance in Bowling Green due to inclement weather, graced the stage on Thursday night. A former Miss North Carolina (47 years ago, she said!), Jeanne Robertson, regaled us on Friday night. If you missed the Pedal Boat Races each day at noon, you missed a great time of laughter and cheering on your favorite team. The winners on the final day were Judy Czarsty and Jerry Yeatts, who got a surprise when someone turned on the water fountain just as they pedaled by.

Now our focus is on Madison, WI, for the 86th Family Reunion and Motorhome Showcase, August 10 – 13, 2011. An exciting time is planned for your enjoyment. Some family parking will be in a county park overlooking a lake.

This is FMCA's summer convention and annual Governing Board Meeting, which will be held on August 10th. The National Officers will be elected. In nomination are:

- National President – Judy Czarsty and (by petition) Charlie Schrenkel
- National Senior Vice President – Ross Boyer and Allen Rein
- National Secretary – Wilma Jean Alexander and Vicky Ferrari
- National Treasurer – Dan Couch and Wil Young

National Area Vice Presidents, who are elected by their Areas, will be installed in office at the Annual Membership Meeting.

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
William Gunther, F43475D

Secretary
Mary Hunter, F351247

Treasurer
Bob Holliday, F96151

Immediate Past President
Judy Czarsty, F79148

There has been a lot of misinformation going around about **FMCAssist**. To the contrary of what you may have heard, our members have been covered at all times. Effective January 1, 2011, **FMCAssist** replaced **MEDEX** as our medical evacuation program. The initial carrier for **FMCAssist** was **Travel Guard**. Because of complications with them covering our members in some states, effective April 1, 2011, **On Call** was contracted for this coverage. The emergency telephone number, **877-202-4176**, will remain the same as before. New cards will be issued to that effect. I want to reassure you that **at no time** were you without coverage.

The 50th anniversary for FMCA is coming up in 2013. A 50th Anniversary Committee has been formed (and has already met) to spearhead the planning for this momentous occasion. Lots of exciting ideas have been offered about how to best celebrate. Any thoughts you or your Chapter might have would be welcomed by the Committee. Contact me at otew@fmca.com.

EASTERN AREA MOTORHOME ASSOCIATION

2011 has already been an exciting year. By the time you read this *Newsletter*, Alice and I will be in Cincinnati, OH, for Executive Board and Committee Meetings. We have visited three chapters this year, two of which were anniversary rallies - the Blue Ridge Pioneers and the Carolina Cruisers, each celebrating their 20th birthdays. Also celebrating anniversaries in 2011 are GMC Tidewater Crabs (35th) in May; Travelin' Tarheels (20th) and Tennessee Ridge Runners (35th) in June; GMC Colonial Travelers (35th) in July; 20th Century Wagontrainers (45th) in October. We haven't received information regarding Dogwood, Country Cousins, IPTAY Chapter of Clemson, each celebrating 15 years, or Executive East Pioneers and Mountaineer, who will be celebrating 35 years. Alice and I plan to visit with each of them. As soon as I get the rally information from those chapters, I can add them to my schedule. I congratulate each chapter for the years they have spent as FMCA chapter friends and having fellowship and fun together, which is what FMCA is all about.

The Eastern Area needs to step up its efforts to recruit new members for FMCA. I have challenged each of the Regional Vice Presidents to see who can recruit the most new FMCA members within their region. The Vice President whose region has recruited the most new FMCA members this year will get a nice dinner. The chapter within that region who has recruited the most new members for FMCA will get a trophy.

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT/RALLY MASTER GEAR 2011

Hope everyone had a good winter. Now that "Spring has sprung" it is time to jump in our RVs and start traveling again. Jayne & I have just returned home after a great winter in Florida. On the way home, we attended the GEAR 2011 planning session in Winston-Salem. We are the Rally Masters again this year and another great Rally is planned for everyone. Please let your chapter members know that there is limited electric. You need to register early if you want to have electric.

Gaye Young, the Southern Regional Vice President, has challenged the other Regional Vice Presidents to see who can recruit the most new members for FMCA. I encourage you to use your 5 free memberships to help your Regional Vice President to win the contest and gain new members for FMCA.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all in October in Winston-Salem. If you would like a visit from us and you have not sent us your Rally schedule, please do. Have safe and happy travels.

John Reynolds, Senior Vice President
johnreynoldssr@reynoldsironworks.com or ghiapa@aol.com
570-435-5146

TREASURER

We have just completed a very successful planning session for the upcoming GEAR 2011 in Winston-Salem in October. It was great to again walk the grounds of this fine facility and remember the many good times we had at last year's GEAR 2010. The thing I like most about this facility is it is so compact – it's easy to get from one seminar to the next, etc. So we are hoping you will “pack up your troubles in your old kit bag” and come on out to Winston-Salem to have some fun with the rest of us!

Bob Holliday, Treasurer
bodorholliday@yahoo.com
804-739-8657

NORTHERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Spring is here – the North is again turning green and growing. It's also time to GO Recruiting On Wheels for FMCA! Each chapter can help by giving away the 5 free memberships each chapter president received in December 2010 or January 2011. Enlist your chapter members in identifying potential recipients for these free memberships and then continue to recruit so you can receive your prize package through the “A Dozen Does It” program. Keep the EAMA regional recruitment challenge in mind – help the Northern Region capture the prize.

Encourage your chapter members, especially your National Director, to attend the summer FMCA 86th Family Reunion and Motorhome Showcase in Madison, WI, where the election of National Officers will take place during the Governing Board Meeting. Resumes of the candidates will appear in the June issue of *Family Motor Coaching* magazine so your members can advise your National Director which candidates they want them to support in the election. If neither your National Director nor Alternate National Director can attend, please elect a temporary delegate to represent your chapter. In the event no one from your chapter can represent you, please let me know.

GEAR 2011 promises to be another event I hope many of you plan to attend. The venue is great. There are competitive events for individuals and chapters – games, Chapter Fair and Chapter Parade - as well as a variety of volunteer opportunities for everyone willing to help.

John Breisch, Northern Regional Vice President
jbreisch@verizon.net
610-678-4288

CENTRAL REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Grab your pens and planners and mark October 19th – 23rd for attending the GEAR Rally in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. We just attended the Planning Rally and almost everything is in place for a great rally. There will be lots of vendors, coaches on display and for sale, an ice cream social, free hot dog lunches, seminars, daily church services, evening entertainment, free coffee and donuts in the morning to get you started, games and even a parade. In plain English – there will be “LOTS TO DO.”

Winston-Salem will have 300 electric sites so register early to reserve your electric site. Let's see if we can register more coaches than the 600 who attended last year. See you in Winston-Salem!

Jerry Cohen, Central Regional Vice President
jerryacmlndjrry@aol.com
757-424-1014

SOUTHERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Are you ready to SPRING into action? Our world has come alive and colorful with all of the flowers in bloom, trees budding and lots of adventures just waiting for you to experience. So get the cobwebs out of your coaches and hit the road! By attending chapter and area rallies, you will be introduced to some fun and exciting folks!

This August we will be traveling to Madison, Wisconsin, for the “Family A’Fair.” Load up the kids and grandkids for FMCA’s 86th Family Reunion and Motorhome Showcase. Don’t forget the “young at heart” or the “big kids”!

“Autumn in North Carolina” is a destination you will not want to miss. Join us in Winston-Salem for fun-filled excitement October 19th – 23rd.

Congratulations to the Carolina Cruisers, Blue Ridge Pioneers, Travelin’ Tarheels and IPTAY Chapter of Clemson on your anniversaries! You have much to celebrate on your successful years of fun, family and friendships. May you have many more to come.

I look forward to seeing you soon at one of your rallies. *Have fun wherever you roam!*

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

WESTERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

I regret to inform you that Western Regional Vice President Bob Gregory has resigned due to personal reasons. William Gunther has been elected to fill the unexpired term.

GREAT EASTERN AREA RALLY (GEAR) 2011

GEAR 2011 will again be held at the Dixie Classic Fairgrounds, Winston-Salem Entertainment & Sports Complex, Winston-Salem, NC. The theme will be “Autumn in North Carolina.” The Planning Rally at Winston-Salem with John & Jayne Reynolds, Rally Masters, Chairs of the various events, and several chapter presidents was April 15 – 17. We were very fortunate with the weather during this Rally. While we had rain and wind on Saturday, many places in North Carolina were devastated by heavy rain, wind and even tornadoes. Put October 19 – 23, 2011, on your calendar. Be sure to register by phone or email. We’re excited about the way it is all coming together for entertainment, seminars, crafts, etc.

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Each chapter secretary should have received the Chapter Services Publication *Keeping in Touch Spring 2011*. I would like to reference a few articles from that publication.

Membership record: Please encourage your members to check their membership records. Make sure all the information is correct concerning your name, co-pilot, F#, address, telephone number and email if applicable. This can be done by going to fmca.com, click on Membership drop-down menu, click on Update Membership. You can call FMCA at 800-543-3622 or send email to membership@fmca.com.

Chapter contact information: Potential new members can contact your chapter in a multitude of ways. If your chapter’s contact information is incorrect, it discourages a potential new member. I get email all the time from people telling me they tried to contact a certain chapter but either the phone number or email address was incorrect.

Please review the *Keeping in Touch* publication and bring to your chapter membership all the pertinent information found there.

It is important for each chapter to make sure their National Director or Alternate National Director will be able to attend the annual Governing Board Meeting on August 10, 2011, at the summer convention in Madison, WI. If neither of them will be able to attend, it is most important that your chapter elect a temporary delegate to represent you. The chapter secretary received a form from FMCA that lists your National Director and Alternate National Director. This is where the temporary delegate will be listed by your secretary. Check for correctness and return to FMCA in the envelope provided no later than July 20, 2011.

The chairman of the Membership/Member Services Committee assigned me to lead a Task Force for the “A Dozen Does It” program. Also on the Task Force are my wife, Alice, and Dory Talbott. WE NEED YOUR HELP! Each of you can be a recruiter. In 2010, the “A Dozen Does It” program was launched and has been extended through 2011. As of April 13, 2011, **25** of **51** chapters in the Eastern Area have recruited a total of **65** new FMCA members. We can do better! Please review the attachment about the “A Dozen Does It” program.

In our travels Alice and I have tried at all times to faithfully represent FMCA and the Eastern Area. People ask me how my position as Eastern Area Vice President fits into the infrastructure of FMCA. I remind everyone that the **F**amily **M**otor **C**oach **A**ssociation is member-owned, not owned and controlled by an impersonal company. I’m also asked questions about the employees who work at Clough Pike and Round Bottom Road. I refer them to the new series of articles in *Family Motor Coaching Magazine* that feature three employees each month. I also encourage members to take advantage of the two nights free camping at the Round Bottom Road campground, which is one of your Member Benefits. Take a tour of FMCA headquarters on Clough Pike to meet the people whose voices you hear when you call 1-800-543-3622.

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 2011.



Have you or your chapter taken the challenge?



Help keep FMCA's 2011 member recruitment effort rolling by introducing new families to FMCA.

It only takes a dozen with A Dozen Does It.

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

- Recruit a member
- Sign your name on the "How did you hear about FMCA" line of application
- Receive a postcard and reward
- Write a chapter name on the postcard and drop it in the mail
- Five free membership certificates per chapter to jump start the program



THE REWARD FOR YOU For each new member who joins, the recruiter will receive a \$10 coupon that can be used to pay FMCA dues, or to buy FMCA or Camping World merchandise.

THE REWARD FOR YOUR CHAPTER

Recruit 12 new member families, and your chapter will receive a Chapter Prize Package filled with gifts you can give away at future rallies (shown above).



The "A Dozen Does It" program began January 1, 2011, and continues until December 31, 2011. The \$10 recruitment coupon will not be awarded to recruiters who sign up a new member using one of the five free membership certificates. Members working as volunteers at RV shows are not eligible for credits toward the Chapter Prize Package. Prize limit is two Chapter Prize Packages per chapter. Visit www.fmca.com for complete program details.