



Volume 31 Issue 2

Western Area FMCA

Debbie Golk - Editor

Spring 2017

President's Message



FMCA's 95th Convention, held in Chandler, Arizona, was a huge success. By the numbers: there were 2,627 rigs in attendance (this is the highest count since the 2014 Perry, GA Convention); 832 First Timers; 528 rigs from California, and 120 attending the Western Area Gathering. This was an exciting event for everyone as we had never been to this facility before. Members had a great time attending seminars, making purchases at the vendor building, and having fun exploring the surrounding areas.

New at Chandler, and two-days prior to its start, was a workshop called "RV Basics" where every RV owner can get acquainted (or re-acquainted) with their RV's operation, its systems, and bells & whistles. Instruction was given by Walter Cannon from the RV Safety & Education Foundation, Gary Bunzer the RV Doctor, and Mac McCoy of Fire & Life Safety. The workshop was a great success and a similar workshop will be offered on July 10 – 11, 2017, two days prior to the start of the Indianapolis Convention.

With one convention down and another emerging, the 96th International Convention at Indianapolis, Indiana, will be held July 12-15, 2017. Click the link to go directly to the registration form <https://goo.gl/f8C3HF>. This convention is an election year for the offices of National President, National Senior Vice President, National Secretary, and National Treasurer. The elections will take place during the Governing Board meeting on July 12 in Indianapolis.

Please call Events Services or email convention@fmca.com if you are a Governing Board member in order to receive Governing Board parking credentials when you register. Chapter secretaries, by now, should have received a roll call sheet for this meeting requesting verification of their chapter represen-

tatives. The packet for this meeting is expected to be mailed by mid-June.

Also of importance at the Governing Board meeting will be the vote on the revision of FMCA's governing document allowing all RVers to join FMCA. I care deeply about FMCA, its members, and its future. My recommendation for its adoption is made with this commitment first and foremost in my mind. FMCA is not about the equipment; it's about the people.

If your chapter is unable to find a delegate to attend this Governing Board meeting, you can contact either Bob Golk or myself, as we know of several people who are going to Indianapolis and would be glad to join your chapter and become your Temporary Delegate.

RVillage has set up an area on their site dedicated to all FMCA Chapter Wagon Masters. This site will be used for the exchange of ideas between Wagon Masters regarding issues of locating chapter rally sites, obtaining Trail Bosses, and what makes for a memorable rally. George Overman who manages this site can be contacted at ccfmcageorge@gmail.com.

This is the first Byways newsletter published by our new editor, Debbie Golk. Please take a moment to congratulate her on her new position. I would also like to thank Sandy King for the many years of service she gave WMHA as its editor and Decorations Captain. May your travels always be filled with Happiness!

Please save the date of January 10-14, 2018 for **Viva Las Vegas** the next Indio Rally.

HAPPY & SAFE TRAVELS...

**LON CROSS, F233066
NATIONAL VP
WMHA PRESIDENT**

WMHA Senior Vice President's Views

Greetings everyone. Springtime is here and for us the rains have abruptly stopped. The hills are green and some wildflowers are in bloom. Also, lots of bugs, which make a mess out of anything you drive. In February, Debbie and I traveled to Arizona to a little-known town of Bouse to visit some friends who relocated there some years ago. What is unique about visiting these people is they have several acres and when building their property they put in 2 full-hookup, pull-through RV sites. We enjoyed very nice weather and a campfire each night under the stars along with the yelps of the nearby coyote pack that roams the area. After a few days we packed up and headed up to Laughlin, NV, for a Beat-The-Odds rally. This time we decided to take the east shore route north through Havasu City since we have not been there for about 30 years. The growth and changes were unbelievable as you may have guessed. Once in Laughlin at the Riverside Resort, we settled in for the rally. Last year I mentioned that I won the slot tournament. Well this year it was Debbie's turn as she got 2nd place with a nice cash prize that paid for our entire trip. This is a fun group of people, all of whom are also members of their own respective chapters but like to get together twice a year in a gambling town. We sat home for the rest of February and March but will shortly be heading up to Lone Pine for a Golden State Tracker's rally. Lone Pine is one of our favorite destinations because of the scenery and the movie history there. One trip through Alabama Hills and you will never look at an old western movie the same way again. A movie may say they are on a ranch in Wyoming but you will know just over the hills in the background is the town

of Lone Pine. Even the classic Lucile Ball/Desi Arnez movie "The Long, Long Trailer" was partly filmed here on the winding road up to Whitney Portal.

I want to briefly mention the Governing Board meeting and the important vote coming up in July that Lon talked about in his message. It is important that your chapter send a delegate to represent your chapter in the vote. We want all chapters represented, as this is a very important vote that will impact the future of FMCA. I would not want to see the outcome decided by just a few chapters – we need everyone's vote.

Finally, we have some Indio positions that still need to be filled: Decorating Captain, Photographer, and also a Bingo Caller. I'd like to point out that you do not necessarily need to be an artist for the Decorating Captain position as there are plenty of artists on the crew. We need someone to lead the crew and run the decorating effort. I have seen how the designs are made and they happen with the use of a computer so you are not sitting at a drafting table trying to come up with a design. Former captain Sandy King said she will assist the new captain in learning the ropes and the decorating crew already knows what to do. Keep in mind the decorating crew's work is done before the rally starts. Once done you are free to enjoy the rally until it is over, at which point the crew dismantles everything. So please consider taking on this rewarding position.

Enjoy the spring time and safe travels,

Bob Golk, F316752
WMHA Senior Vice President
(661) 599-3548

Northern Area Vice President

Greetings to all.

My wife and I have been a few places since the last time that I wrote this letter. We drove to Chandler, Arizona. On our way we stopped and spent some time in Goodyear, Arizona. We met with some friends, enjoyed dinner together, and learned about Goodyear, Arizona, and the Phoenix area. From Goodyear, we traveled on to the Chandler rally. We saw many people that I had met from different chapters. We had a Western Area get together that was led by Lon Cross. There were over two hundred people from different chapters at the meeting.

While I was in Chandler, Arizona, I had a long talk with Charlie Adcock and Jon Walker. What we discussed was very informative about the future of FMCA.

On our drive home from Arizona we stopped at Indian Waters for a night. Then we traveled on to Pismo Beach where we stayed at the Elks. While we were at the Elks I helped our friend make bigger RV spaces.

The new motorhome is doing well, but I am still trying to figure out all the buttons and things. Soon I will visit several chapters. This month I will visit Safari R Us and Sierra Ramblers. In May, I will visit Crafty Crafters. Hope to see you all in Indio in January, 2018.

Safe travels and have fun. That's what FMCA is all about.

Stephen M. Shade, F395353
WMHA Vice-President Northern Area



Central Area Vice President

Greetings,

Another interesting slice of life since I sat down with pen and paper has occurred. Joanne has had a knee replacement. The surgery took place in Scottsdale, Arizona. Needless to say, without my faithful co-pilot/navigator to guide me, the coach has been idle. Our daughter and son-in-law in Mesa, Arizona, had to put up with us for a month until we were able to return home. It is wonderful to have family.

Joanne is still doing outpatient therapy and is progressing nicely.

We feel the same about our FMCA family and we are eager to get back on the road. In about two weeks we plan on attending our Golden State Tracker's rally at Boulder Creek near Lone Pine.

To all my Central Area Chapters: Try to have your National Director attend the Governing Board Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 12, 2017. If your National Director cannot attend and the Alternate National Director cannot attend, your Chapter President can elect a member of the Chapter as a temporary delegate. Your chapter secre-

tary should have the necessary paperwork. If I can be of assistance please feel free to contact me.

This will be an important meeting for the Family Motor Coach Association. Your chapter representative will be voting on bylaws amendments regarding the future of FMCA. It is important to ensure that your chapter is represented at the Governing Board meeting.

Per our National President Charlie Adcock: "FMCA is evolving with the changing times and the membership focus needs to be on the RV lifestyle experience, and education, and not on the equipment."

Guard Your Health,

Fred Wells, F128327
WMHA Central Area VP

Southern Area Vice President

There is a golden opportunity on the horizon. In July at the FMCA convention an all-important vote will be taken. This vote will allow the membership to vote on opening the door for all types of RVs to become eligible for membership in the Family Motor Coach Association. When this was first talked about I had the pleasure of discussing the possibility of opening up membership to all RVs with many of the chapter presidents. Many were in favor of letting all RVs become members but did not agree with the way it would have restricted their membership. Under the current proposal there would be no restrictions on membership, which I fully support.

If implemented, this would not only allow an increase in membership for FMCA, but think about what it could do for our chapters. Many of us have friends and neighbors that have other types of RVs that we could invite to join not only FMCA but our chapters. While I fully support and recommend we proceed with the changes, I would suggest each chapter makes sure their national representative is aware of their desires and attends the convention to vote.

On a personal note, Ann and I have been grounded for the past several months. Ann is currently undergoing chemotherapy and recovering from an artificial hip separation. Her last chemo treatment is scheduled for the middle of May. We would like to thank each of you for all the good thoughts.

While we have been restricted to home base and getting cabin fever, I can say this is the best time of year in the Antelope Valley. The heavy rainfall has brought out the wildflowers, and in particular, the poppies. If you are looking for something to do consider a visit to the poppy preserve located approximately 8 miles west of Lancaster.

For all who are getting ready for summer travels enjoy and be safe.

Roy D. Mc Daniel, F322490
Southern Area Vice President
Western Motor Home Assoc.

• NEED A TEMPORARY GOVERNING BOARD DELEGATE? •

Is your chapter unable to send a delegate to the Governing Board Meeting at FMCA's 96th International Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana? You can contact either Lon Cross or Bob Golk as they may know of people going to Indianapolis who wouldn't mind being your chapter's Temporary Delegate. NOTE: Temporary Delegates must belong to or join your chapter.

MEMBERSHIP/ CHAPTER FAIR

I am happy to report that several chapters signed up new members at the Chapter Fair (and during the Indio rally). The new members that some of the chapters signed up had never been members of any FMCA chapter, so WMHA paid their first-year dues. Most of these people were new to FMCA and are eager to become active members of the chapters that they joined. It is not too early for your chapter to start thinking about having a table at the Chapter Fair next January.

I continue to receive the lists of new members to FMCA for the Western Area from the National office. There are usually about 80 or 90 new members and if they have an e-mail address I send them a welcome e-mail to WMHA and FMCA. I do receive some requests back from these people wanting to know about the chapters in their area. If your chapter is not getting these lists of members who are in your area you should contact the National office and request that you receive the list so you can also contact these people to let them know about your chapter.

I received a question on what the job description is for a membership person in a chapter. That depends on the chapter – you might want to have your board and/or some of your members (including your current membership person) get together and set up a suggested job description for the membership person. This would be a help for the person who is doing this job now and also when or if you have a new person take this position. If I can be of any help just let me know and I will help you if I can.

Alice Bernard

Need a Western Area Badge?

Anyone who is interested in a Western Motor Home Association badge please contact Alice Bernard by phone: 530-934-7346 or cell phone 530-519-7346 or e-mail: bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com

The price of the badge is \$11.50 (Which includes your name and F number). The hangers are \$2.75 each. The hangers can be for your city or your job or your chapter. You may have several hangers if you like.

Help Wanted

Positions available at Indio:

We need someone to take the captain position for the Decorating Crew. This is a very fun position and Sandy King is willing to help with the transition.

We are also in need of a photographer and a Bingo Caller.

Please contact Bob Golk at 661-599-3548 if you are interested.

FYI
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Attention Chapter Newsletter Editors: If you would like to be considered to win an award for all of the hard work that you do on your chapter's newsletter, please make sure that you submit your issues to me dgolk@bak.rr.com. Winners will be announced at Saturday night's entertainment at Indio.

FMCA'S 96TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & RV EXPO

JULY 12-15, 2017

INDIANA
STATE FAIRGROUNDS & EVENT CENTER
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

After June 28, 2017, registrations will be taken only on site. The Holding Area and Will Call in Indianapolis will open on Sunday, July 9, 2017, at 8 a.m.

INDIANAPOLIS REGISTRATION FORM

Seminars • Exhibits • Display Coaches • Coffee & Doughnuts
Ice Cream Social • Entertainment • 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 _____ I am/we are First Time Attendee(s)

COACH MAKE & MODEL _____ LICENSE NUMBER _____ STATE _____ COACH LENGTH _____

CONFIRMATION & PARKING CREDENTIALS Parking credentials will be mailed to the mailing address provided, unless you request to have it held at Will Call for pick-up.

Mail my confirmation paperwork Hold parking credentials at Will Call

REGISTRATION FEES

See reverse side for parking descriptions, mailing procedures, parking procedures and additional handicapped information.

FMCA MEMBER

EARLY BIRD RECEIVED BY 5.12.17
RECEIVED AFTER 5.12.17

AMOUNT

	EARLY BIRD RECEIVED BY 5.12.17	RECEIVED AFTER 5.12.17	AMOUNT
Registration Fee	\$195	\$225	
Additional Fee for 30-amp Electric Only*	\$175	\$175	
Passport – 2 People: No overnight parking	\$175	\$205	
Coach with 1 Person Deduct \$20	-\$20	-\$20	
Additional Fee for Non-FMCA Member	\$50	\$50	
Each Additional Guest * * *	\$25	\$25	
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE			

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

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PARKING PREFERENCE:

- General Full Generator No Generator
 Handicap * * Handicap Full Generator * * Governing Board/PNO/Committee

* Additional Fee is for electric only. A limited number of 50-amp sites are available. Call for availability.

* * Please send a copy of your state-issued handicap certificate 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 CONTACT ME ABOUT SERVING ON THE PARKING TEAM
 PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING IN A TOWABLE RV (ELECTRIC REQUIRED)
 PLEASE SEND INFORMATION ABOUT FMCA ENERGIZED ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR INDIANAPOLIS

CANCELLATION POLICY

Refunds for registration fee will be made only upon written request and only if request is received by June 9, 2017. Badges and confirmation materials must be returned with cancellation request. All cancelled registrations are subject to a \$20 handling fee. Electric cancelled on or prior to May 12, 2017, will be refunded in full; electric cancelled after May 12, 2017, and on or before June 9, 2017, will be refunded at 50%. Absolutely no refunds for electric cancelled after June 9, 2017.

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

PAYMENT PLAN AVAILABLE
Call for details.

PARKING DESCRIPTIONS

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 will be available at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2017, until 9 a.m. on Sunday, July 16, 2017. (electric fees apply)

FULL GENERATOR – Generator permitted 24 hours per day.

NO GENERATOR – Space is limited.

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 10 p.m., July 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, 2017. Public parking will be open only during exhibit hours, July 12, 13, 14, and 15, 2017.

Parking will be located at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Parking will be at the discretion of the parkers.

CARAVANS – Scheduled caravans of 10 coaches or more will be parked on Monday and Tuesday, July 10 and 11, 2017. Caravan leaders please call 800-543-3622 to schedule an arrival time.

By registering for this event I understand that I must carry valid insurance on my personal mobility cart and/or personal golf cart during the event.



HANDICAPPED OR HANDICAPPED ELECTRIC PARKING

Please Complete The Information Below To Assist On-Site Medical Personnel

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.

**** Please send a copy of your state-issued handicap certificate to the national office.**

MAILING AND PARKING PROCEDURES FOR ALL PARKING AREAS

FMCA will begin mailing confirmations as soon as May 19, 2017. Mailed confirmations will contain “date of entry” credentials. Mailed registrations received after June 28, 2017, 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 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday, July 9, through Wednesday, July 12.

Registered family members will be assigned parking dates of Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, July 10, 11, and 12, 2017, and 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 before or after your assigned date of entry, you may have to wait in the Holding Area to be parked.

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.

Convention parking is considered any lot secured by FMCA. Members of FMCA’s parking team will be in the Holding Area from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to park coaches. Tram service to all parking areas will be available beginning Tuesday, July 11, 2017.

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.

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 Sunday, July 9, in the Holding Area.

•TEMPORARY GOVERNING BOARD DELEGATES NEEDED•

Are you going to FMCA's 96th International Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana and would like to become a Temporary Governing Board Delegate?

Contact either Lon Cross or Bob Golk to add your name to the list.

(contact information is on back page of newsletter)

Looking for Western area photos?

Flickr Photo Tutorial

There are several ways to get into Flickr to see many RV photos.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/12765661@N06/>

or

<http://www.wafmca.com/> (look for link to photos)

Once in Flickr Photostream, click on Sets, (Do Not use Photostream)

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/12765661@N06/sets/>

then click on the Set you wish to see. (Sample)

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/12765661@N06/sets/72157625715483763/>

Double Click on the photo you want to see or download:

(Sample)<http://www.flickr.com/photos/12765661@N06/5362080447/in/set-72157625715483763/>

Right Click on the photo—Click on All Sizes, and decide the size you want.

(Sample)<http://www.flickr.com/photos/12765661@N06/5362080447/sizes/o/in/set-72157625715483763/>

Then click on Download the Original Size

I would then click Save As, and give it a name and location to Download. (I put them in a Folder on my Desktop called "Photos" and make a new Subfolder called (?) "Indio")

Once Downloaded, you can choose to either; keep it, e-mail it, print it, or save on CD to have printed somewhere else.

CHAPTER RECRUITMENT BENEFIT

• LET FMCA ASSIST YOUR CHAPTER •

Each chapter is entitled up to \$125 in recruitment funds from FMCA per year. There are three options to choose from (Brochures, Mailings, and Advertising). You can do only one of the three options per year.

Contact your Regional VP for COMPLETE details...

...START PLANNING NOW...

**Western Motor
Home
Association
Chapters**

Alpine Coach NorCal
Alpine SoCal
The Ambassadors
Apollo Amigos
Beat the Odds
The Big E
California
California Capitals & Bay Area
Liners
California Coaches for Christ
California Coasters
California FMCA HMC
California Heartland
California Pacers
California Roamers
California Southwinders
Colorado River Ramblers
Crafty Crafters
Cruisin' Condos
Delta Sierra Coachers Club
Discovery Club Of California
Dolphins, The
Frustrated Maestros
GMC Forty Niners
GMC Pacific Cruisers
Gold Diggers
Gold Dust Travelers
Golden Spike
Golden State Trackers
Komfort Krusiers
Midweek Wanderers
Monaco Nor' Cal
Monaco Romers
NorCalRex
Northern California FMCA Elk
Outdoor Resorts Palm Springs
Overland Trailblazers West
Rexasaurus'
Rockwood West
Roamin' Catholics, Southwest
Safari of So Cal
Safari R Us
Sierra Hi Rollers
Sierra Ramblers
Southern California FMCA Elk
Southwest Country Coachers
Southwestern Bus Nuts
Thousand Trails West
Western Bus Nuts
Western GM Coach

Western Motor Home Association, Inc.

Executive Board 2017

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Kurt Simon F166058 Cell 530-305-0265
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Dick Gibbs F278983 Cell 661 203-9180
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APPOINTED OFFICES 2017

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Next Byways Deadline - July 15, 2017