



VOLUME 31, ISSUE 3

WESTERN AREA FMCA

DEBBIE GOLK - EDITOR

WINTER 2017

President's Message



On September 26, 2017, we held our Annual Western Motor Home Association Governing Board and Indio Captain's meeting in Hanford, CA. It was well attended as we had 47% of our chapters represented. I would like to thank all of the Chapter Presidents, National Directors, and/or their representatives, as well as the Indio Rally Captain's and Assistants that were in attendance. I would especially like to thank all of the first-time attendees that were there.

SUMMARY OF GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Secretary Sharon Roach reported that due to privacy issues, FMCA will no longer accept information from anyone except that individual. You can change your own profile by signing in on the FMCA website (fmca.com).

Our Treasurer, Kurt Simon, reported as of September 26, 2017, WMHA had Total Assets of \$281,408.00. For Fiscal Year 2017 (ending April 30th) total Income was \$317,129.00. Total Rally Expenses were \$293,298.00, with a Rally profit of \$25,886.00. Administrative Expenses were \$19,417.00. After summarizing Income and Profit we had a Net Profit of \$6,469.00.

Senior VP Bob Golk recognized and thanked all the Indio Captains and volunteers who step up to do their jobs, during the rally.

Northern Region VP Steve Shade, Central Region VP Fred Wells, and Southern VP Roy McDaniel all reported on the Chapter visits and Anniversary Certificates they've passed out this year.

Immediate Past President, Dick Gibbs: Dick, for the first time, was at a loss for words and had nothing to say at this time. Can you imagine that? *Personally, I can't thank Dick enough for all that he's done and accomplished for WMHA during his time in office, and for his continued support!*

Membership Chairperson Alice Bernard requests that every Chapter keep her advised as to who their contact person is as that is whom she sends information to.

Nominating Committee chairperson June Davis reported that the committee was in charge to find a Southern Region VP. They have chosen Ed Speakman to fill the position

Old Business: The 2016-2017 Audit, completed at Indio, was accepted.

New Business: The Nominating Committee of June Davis, Marla James, Carole Hazeltine, Rick Riccordati, and Phil Dougherty were elected by acclamation.

The 2017-2018 Budget was explained by Kurt Simon and approved by the Governing Board.

President's Message (Con't)

2018 INDIO PLANNING SESSION

A new three-year contract, with two one-year extensions, was negotiated with the Fairgrounds.

Hand-dipped ice cream and cake will be part of the celebration representing our 30-year anniversary of rallies at the Riverside County Fairgrounds at Indio.

Sandy King and her crew have agreed to come back and paint the stage backdrop and side panel for the Viva Las Vegas theme. Thank you, Sandy.

Other Indio topics: A second tent supplier is being interviewed. Ladies Tea will not have a Fashion Show this year, but instead will have a presentation of a topic of interest. Ladies Tea would appreciate any "Door Prize" donations from Chapters.

The following Captain positions need filling:

Photographer for 2018, Donations Captain, and a Decorations Captain. If you, or someone you know, would like to volunteer for one of these open positions please contact Lon Cross (661-886-5077) or Bob Golk (661-599-3548).

FMCA EVENTS

New benefits announced in November: Connect-On-The-Go mobile hotspot deal with Verison; and Tech Connect Plus, a tech-related benefits package including a Spring mobile hotspot data plan. There is also a new FMCA Roadside Rescue plan with Saferide RV Motor Club.

The 97th FMCA International Convention will be held in Perry, Georgia, on March 15 through 18, 2018.

Come and join us at Indio as we celebrate our 30th Anniversary. See you there.

Happy Traveling,



Lon Cross, F233066
Western Area President

WMHA Senior Vice President's Views



Greetings everyone,

Winter weather is upon us and our activities are stepping up. We attended our Golden State Trackers rally in Bakersfield in September at the River Run Resort. Debbie is the president of this chapter and it was the chapter's 10th Anniversary Rally. Fred Wells, Central VP, presented the FMCA 10th Anniversary Certificate. As a side note, the River Run Resort was celebrating their 10th Anniversary as well. This is a great RV park and very supportive of WMHA. From Bakersfield we headed up to Hanford for our annual Governing Board meeting and Indio Planning Session. Lon has pretty much summarized the highlights of the meeting in his message. I would like to point out that one thing that impressed me was the chapter breakout session. Chapters are really getting involved and there was lots of lively discussion on subjects of chapter interest. We even let the session go longer than scheduled as people were really engaged this time. From Hanford we headed east for a quick stopover at our home and then on to Las Vegas for a Beat The Odds rally in October at Sam's Town. We were there when the horrific shooting took place. We were watching TV in our RV when around 10:00 PM we started hearing lots of sirens all over the place. We, of

Senior Vice President's Views (Con't)

course, had no idea what was taking place. Imagine our shock the next morning when I turned on the news and we learned what happened. Such a terrible event and it put a noticeable damper on the city of Las Vegas. We didn't venture out of the RV park and on the town after that. The rally went on as planned and we had a good time.

The tempo of activities for the upcoming Indio rally is really starting to pick up now as the date draws closer. Right after Thanksgiving we headed down to the Indio fairgrounds to meet with our contractors and the fairgrounds management and also conducted our pre-rally inspection. In the meantime, the rally program is being put together, vendors are being signed up, the seminar schedule is being put together, and our golf cart and rally supply orders are being finalized. Our rally registration numbers are ahead of last year so it looks like we will have a good turnout. Debbie and I are looking forward to seeing everyone there as we once again gather to put on the best area rally in FMCA.

Safe travels to you all,

Bob Golk F316752
WMHA Senior Vice President



Northern Area Vice President's Message



Greetings to All:

We had the Indio planning meeting in Hanford, California, and accomplished a great deal of business. From Hanford a few couples drove to the Beat the Odds rally in Las Vegas.

Unfortunately, we were in Las Vegas during the worst mass shooting in the history of our country. Fortunately, all of our rally members were on the other side of Las Vegas, in Henderson. No one attended the concert so no one got hurt. Across the street from Sam's Town RV Park was a Wal-Mart where much of the merchandise was under lock and key. This was a first-time experience for us. On our drive home from Las Vegas we stopped at Peggy Sue's for lunch. We enjoyed all of the memorabilia that was displayed from the 1950s and 1960s.

I have been busy traveling to visit several chapter rallies. We visited the Gold Diggers in Jackson Rancheria. We attended a delightful Sierra Ramblers rally in Chico, followed by a Safari R US rally in Bodega Bay. We enjoyed seeing beautiful Bodega Bay Head on a gorgeous Fall afternoon. At the Safari R US rally we also experienced a great Elvis Presley impersonator.

Our last rally visit was in Durango, California, where we had a lot of fun with California Capitals and Bay

Northern Area Vice President's Message (Con't)

Area Liners. We enjoyed good company, good food, and good times. Of course, all of the rallies are fun!

Currently we are getting ready for Indio, which will be a great time for everyone. See you all in Indio. Remember it's all about having fun!

Stephen M. Shade, F395353
WHMA Northern Area Vice President



Central Area Vice President's Message



Greetings,

Good news. We have purchased another motor home and another tow vehicle to replace the ones lost in the accident. It is great to be back on the road again and visiting Chapters.

August 23 we visited the FMCA Elks Rally held at the Oceano Elks Lodge. What a great place for a walk on the beach. While strolling on the beach, a very nice young man asked if Joanne and I would like a ride in his dune buggy down the beach. A great ride. Was a fun rally with a great bunch of people.

September 11 we visited the California Coasters Rally held at the Flying Flags RV Resort. A visit to the Mendenhall Museum was arranged by the chapter, as well as a BBQ dinner at the Museum. If you are planning a stay at the Flying Flags RV Resort, a trip to the museum is in order. Attended their business meeting and enjoyed their very busy sheriff. He even levied a fine to my good friend, a recent WMHA president.

September 21 we visited the Golden State Trackers rally held at River Run RV Park in Bakersfield. During their business meeting it was my pleasure to present, on behalf of the FMCA and the WMHA, their President, Debbie Golk, a ten-year chapter certificate.

Central Area Vice President's Message (Con't)

As always the food was good and a good time was had by all.

September 25 we attended the WMHA Board meeting held at Hanford. This is a planning session for Indio 2018. It is always a pleasure to meet with the movers & shakers of the Indio Rally. You all make things work. THANK YOU INDIO VOLUNTEERS!!!!!!

September 28 we attended the Oktoberfest Rally held in Hemet. We have put that on our schedule for next year again. GREAT TIME!

October 10 we attended the rally held at Sam's Town by the Beat Odds Chapter. I was unable to beat the odds. Our visit was marred by the shooting in Vegas.

October 28 Joanne and I celebrated our 60th anniversary. We were surrounded by family and friends.

November 8 we again attended a rally held by the Golden State Trackers. Good fellowship and plenty of fun games.

Hope to see you at Indio.

Guard your health.

Fred Wells F128327
WMHA Central Area Vice President

**Next Byways
Due Date is
February 15, 2018**

Southern Area Vice President's Message



How do you keep an organization going for 40 years? Some think its dedication, perseverance, or determination, and it's all of that and more. I personally think you must love what you are doing. What brought me to such deep thinking? I attended the Western Bus Nuts rally and had the privilege of presenting them with their 40-year award. While interacting with Glen and his crew, it came to me that they really enjoy what they are doing, and that is really what makes a 40-year existence possible. Thanks to Glen for making our outing very enjoyable.

Our Bus Nut outing in Chula Vista was the first of four event trips. From Chula Vista we traveled to Hesperia for a California Chapter outing. This was the first time in several months we had been able to attend an outing and gave us the chance to catch up with old and new friends.

From Hesperia we made our way to Hanford for the board and planning meetings. The meetings were very productive, with a budget being approved and planning for the Indio Rally. I would like to think our Captains for volunteering, and providing input for their needs. It is their involvement that makes our Indio Rally a success.

We then traveled to Golden Village Palms in Hemet for

Southern Area Vice President's Message (Con't)

the California Chapter's Oktoberfest Rally. This is always a very popular rally, and this year they attracted a chapter from Arizona for the first time. Ed and his captains did an outstanding job; everything from the live entertainment to the food was excellent. My congratulations for a job well done. It should also be noted they attracted nine new members from the rally.

I am writing this while attending a Thanksgiving rally in Chula Vista, and Ann and I would like to take the opportunity to wish you the best Holidays ever.

Roy D. Mc Daniel, F322490
Southern Area Vice President



CONGRATULATIONS to the SIERRA RAMBLERS Chapter!!! The 2018 Indio Parade Theme Contest Winners.

\$100 Prize is given to the Chapter that is judged the 2019 Indio Parade Theme WINNER.

Each chapter is allowed to enter TWO theme entries.

Front row seating is reserved for the winning chapter at 2019 Indio Entertainment on Saturday night.

The 2019 Winning Theme will be announced at the 2018 Indio Entertainment on Saturday night.

PLEASE SEE THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE FOR RULES AND APPLICATION: www.wafmca.com

If you have questions, please contact WMHA Secretary Sharon Roach — 408-472-3908.

CHAPTER FAIR/MEMBERSHIP

I have sent out a note to the contact person (and or the President) of your chapter to let them know more about Chapter Fair. It would be of help to me if you would keep me informed on who is the contact person for your chapter. If you are a membership person and/or President of a chapter and are not sure if your chapter has signed up for chapter fair, feel free to contact me either by e-mail: bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com or phone: home: 530-934-7346 or cell 530-519-7346.

The Chapter Fair is a good way to let people know about your chapter. Each chapter is encouraged to have a table with information about your chapter – it does not have to be anything fancy. The main idea is to get the information about your chapter out where people will see it. You should have a member or two at the table to answer any questions. Having the Chapter Fair just after the “First Timer’s” meeting has helped to get more people at the Chapter Fair. If you sign up a new member (someone who has never been in a chapter before) during the Indio rally – Western Area will pay their first year’s dues. This does not include badges, just the dues. This is another incentive for a non-chapter member to join your chapter.

I am still receiving lists of new members to FMCA for the Western Area. FMCA can no longer provide the email addresses on new member lists; there are too many to call and the cost of mailing is to great at this time. If you have friends who have a self-contained RV and do not belong to FMCA, encourage them to attend one of your rallies and to join FMCA. Stress the benefits of belonging to FMCA – one of the main benefits is the FMCAssist program.

Hope that you are getting some new members from all the people who are new to FMCA. Remember, your chapter can get a list of new FMCA members in your area if you contact the office in Cincinnati and request this list. Each chapter can get \$125.00 from FMCA for advertising or mailing to select zip codes. Contact your Regional VP and he will send you the instructional brochure. The Regional VPs are listed on the back of the Byways newsletter or on the WMHA website wafmca.com.

Alice Bernard



FMCA is holding a Chapter Fair during the convention in Perry, Georgia, in an attempt to encourage non-chapter member convention attendees to join existing chapters. All 387 chapters are invited to come and show their chapter’s personality. They will be decorating their allotted table space any way they choose.

We will also be contacting the non-chapter members who have pre-registered for the Perry, Georgia, convention to encourage their attendance. Note that the Chapter Fair will follow the First-Time Attendee seminar.

We would like you to help us encourage the chapters in your area to participate. If you are planning to attend the convention, it would be great if you could be on hand to greet and help guide these members to a chapter that might be of interest to them.

The Chapter Fair will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14, at the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter.

The Ladies Social will be held at the Western Area Rally in Indio on Friday afternoon 1:00-3:00 PM in the auditorium. One of the more exciting aspects of the social is the drawing for door prizes. In that spirit, we are asking that all Western Area chapters (and any others attending the rally) contribute a wrapped (if possible) gift of nominal value. Please label or tag your item with the name of the Chapter or person donating the gift. If your chapter has already committed to contribute one or more gifts, Thank you!

Please drop off contributions at the Crosses' motorhome right across from the Taj Mahal building. If you have questions please email Marla James marlajames@pacbell.net Thank you!

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 need a photographer for the 2018 rally.

We also need a Donations Captain.

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



An Important Message from your WMHA Secretary

Hello Chapter Secretaries,

Many of you have recently been elected as your Chapter Secretary. Thank you for volunteering for this very essential chapter position. You should have received the Annual Chapter Certification Forms from FMCA. It is important for you to fill out these forms and return them to FMCA by December 31. When FMCA receives your completed forms back, then your chapter receives its certification as an active chapter with FMCA for the next year. Please contact me if you need any help filling out these forms.

Hello Chapter Presidents:

Look for the reminder notice in this publication for the 2019 Indio Parade Theme Contest. Looking forward to seeing you at Indio,

Sharon Roach

Sharon Roach, F279409

Secretary, Western Motor Home Association

srwmha@ix.netcom.com

408-472-3908



2019 Parade Theme Contest

Chapters, start putting your ideas together and go to www.wafmca.com for rules and application. Questions? Contact Sharon Roach 408-472-3908





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 Cruisers
California FMCA HMC
California Heartland
California Pacers
California Roamers
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 Kruisers
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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