



Volume 28 Issue 4

Western Area FMCA

Sandy King - Editor

Fall 2014

President's Message



This is my first article in the Byways as your President. Charlotte and I want to thank everyone for your support & confidence when you elected me as your President. I was installed as National Vice President Western Area in Redmond, OR.

At the Governing Board meeting in Redmond, the most important action taken was reinstating the FMCAssit program as a member benefit with no increase in dues. Everybody that has a motor home should join FMCA just to get this benefit; once they join they will find out how much fun it is to participate in chapter activities. We are asking each member to just recruit one new member, if that would happen we could double our membership in one year.

On Sept. 29th we had our Annual Western Motor Home Association Meeting in Hanford, CA and it was well attended. All the Officers were introduced by Alice Bernard. I thank all the National Directors, Chapter Presidents or VP's, and Indio Captains who attended. Those of you that did not attend I hope you will make this meeting a priority to attend next year. Judy Jackson presented the 2014 - 2015 budget that passed as presented after a line by line discussion. Under new business a Bylaw change motion was made to change the way we elect Regional VP's, in the past all Western Area National Directors had a vote on all three Regional VP's the change would be as follows **(added)[The Senior Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected by the Corporate Board of Directors. The Regional Vice Presidents shall be elected by the Corporate Board of Director members from the Chapters in their region.]**

Warren James made a presentation on the new Western Area Web site. The new site will have a "Looking Back" button where we will have a list of Presidents & the years they

served, a list of Grand Marshalls, list of Rally Themes, pictures of the stage area. In some cases we may not have complete information in all areas, so if you can add needed information please send it to me. Warren is working to get the new web site up but he still has some work to do on it before we take down the old site. Please go to <http://test.wafmca.com> and take a look. If you have any suggestions let us know.

We then had time for Regional Workshops. All who were there introduced themselves and then they had a roundtable discussion about how each Chapter handles the common problem of getting members to volunteer to be Chapter Officers & Trail Bosses. Some Chapters are having more trouble than others. No conclusions were made except that everyone agreed that we need more sharing of ideas between the Chapters.

After lunch the afternoon was spent planning our Indio Western Area Rally. Each Regional VP meet with His Captains to develop their needs list so that we will have everything they need to do their job at the rally. Each Captain presented his needs for supplies, golf carts, radios & misc.

All volunteers will have electric when they come into their parking area. All volunteers must display their volunteer sign in their windshield when they come into the Arrival Area. The arrival area opens at noon on Sunday Jan 4th. Don't forget to keep recruiting new members for FMCA, and your Chapter, new members are the life blood of every organization.

Dick Gibbs F278983

Western Area President

WMHA Senior Vice



On September 29, 2014 we held our Annual Western Motor Home Association meeting in Hanford CA and it was well attended by Chapter Presidents and Vice Presidents, National and Alternate National Directors, Indio Captains, and several First Timers. We appreciate all that attended and hope that we have more next year.

At the meeting the 2014-2015 Budget was presented by Treasurer Judy Jackson. After

a line-by-line discussion the Budget was passed as presented. Judy did a great job and we thank her for the time it took to prepare for the meeting. Warren James, Assistant Web Master, presented details about the new WMHA Website. He explained that some new buttons had been added. One new button is where you can go to look back on past WHMA events. Another new feature will be the ability for each Chapter to add their own newsletter to the website, which will eliminate the middleman. While the new web site is still being worked on you can go to "test.wafmca.com" and view the progress (constructive comments are excepted). The new website should be up and running by the end of this year. Nice job Warren, and we thank you for the many hours you have spent working on this project.

We then broke into Regional Workshops, which was lead by the respective Vice President. Each Region was asked the same set of questions. We received some very interesting

comments. This information is being compiled and will be shared with ALL Chapters.

The afternoon session was spent planning for the WMHA Rally in Indio. Some of the items discussed were that we will continue to park motor homes nose out to accommodate towable's, Chapter Party Areas will be charged for the number of electric plugs being used (\$60/plug), the continuation of the Chapter Officer Party, and that the Roadtrek International Chapter will be Hosting the very popular Pet Talent show after Ice Cream on Saturday. And, as in the past, all volunteers will have electricity available when they come into their parking areas.

During the breakout meeting the Captains presented their "Needs and Requirements" list. If you haven't yet submitted your list please do so. Send it to me at lon-cross1225@att.net. Thank you.

The Arrival Area opens at noon on Sunday Jan 4, 2015. Please help us remind everyone that when you arrive make sure you display your "Volunteer Sign" on the inside of the drivers windshield.

I wish everyone a wonderful Holiday Season and hope to see you in Indio,
Travel Safe,

Lon Cross WMHA Senior VP

Northern Area Vice President

As everyone knows we had our business meeting for the Western Motor Home Association in Hanford on September 29 2014. The 2014-2015 budget was discussed and passed. The Area VP's held a meeting (separately) to discuss several different topics. They have been compiled into one list and sent out to all chapters. There are many great ideas. Any fed back would be great. Would also like to know your thoughts on these topics.

With Indio right around the corner we spent the afternoon discussing Indio 2015. I also met with my Captains to get any last minute needs and to answer any questions they may have had. If anyone does have any last minute needs let me know. I would like to say THANK YOU to all my captains for getting their needs list to me before the meeting. It made a big difference. THANK YOU

By the end of the year our new website should be up and running. There are many new features. Chapters now have the ability to add their newsletters to the website. Until the website is finished go to test.wafmca.com and check it out. A big THANK YOU goes to Warren James for all his time and

hard work. THANK YOU WARREN

We would like to remind everyone how important it is to show our support for FMCA. Without our support there would be no FMCA. That is why it is so important that each and every one of us physically and financially support FMCA. If we don't get the support needed we could lose out on things like the FMCAssist program. Which has already proven to be beneficial to us?

Looking forward to seeing everybody at Indio.

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

And I will say it again SUPPORT, SUPPORT, SUPPORT.

Lee Clemons

Vice President Northern Area, WMHA F.M.C.A.

lee2675@msn.com Cell# 209-992-6097

Central Area Vice President

Things are really starting to get busy for me and my wife Debbie (your WMHA Secretary) as we prepare for our big rally down in Indio this January. Following the Executive Board meeting back in June we just finished the Governing Board meeting and Indio Planning Session in Hanford. Lon has covered this meeting in detail in his message so I won't repeat. However, there was one detail he left out – rain! In the 6 years we have been going to Hanford it has never rained but this year it did, not only in the morning but in the evening as well with temperatures a good 15° below average. The weather was so nice that I had our chapter break out session outside under the shade of a large tree. We had a good round of discussions and I thank all of those in attendance. The results of the 3 regional chapter breakout sessions have been compiled and sent out to the chapters for their information to use as desired.

Following Hanford, Debbie & I joined the Beat-The-Odds chapter for their fall gathering up in Pahrump, Nevada for some relaxing fun. The rally was expertly put on by the hosts and was well attended. Debbie and I had a great time with a great bunch of people and yours truly even won a little at the slot tournament. Now we are off to attend a rally with the Mid-Week Wanderers and to present them their 20

Year Anniversary certificate. Congratulations! Following that we will be joining up with the Golden State Trackers for a rally in Bakersfield then it is down to Indio for a pre-rally inspection. Like I said, it is getting to be a busy time for us.

One topic brought up during the chapter break-out session was a request for more chapter visits by the respective VPs. This is something I had promised to do but I do need your rally schedules so I can plan out the visits, so please send them to me as soon as you have your schedules finalized. Also, keep sending me your newsletters as I enjoy reading them.

Safe travels and enjoy the cooler fall weather.

Bob Golk

WMHA Central Area Vice President

Southern Area Vice President

On the weekend of September 24th. I attended the California Pacers 25th Anniversary Celebration. One of the things they did was to invite alumni and extend an invitation to rejoin the chapter. Edwin Burrows, and his committee held an outstanding rally. I was privileged to present them with a certificate honoring their achievement.

At the Western Motorhome Association Board of Directors meeting in Hanford, I had the opportunity to meet with chapters in the southern area. We discussed several items, and a report has been submitted to the Senior Vice President for consolidation with the other two areas who held similar meetings. Once this has been accomplished, the results will be distributed to the chapters. I also meet with the captains for the Indio rally to receive their input on what support they will need. Should any of the captains have any

further needs please let me know. I am looking forward to the Indio rally and working with the captains in January.

FMCA has developed a new membership application, which I will be receiving a supply of shortly. Once I have received them, I will mail out some to each chapter.

The holidays will have come and gone before the next newsletter so I would like to wish you all the best of the holiday season. I look forward to seeing you in Indio.

Roy Mc Daniel

, Southern Area Vice President


Motorhome Owners to Strike Gold in California

Family Motor Coach Association (FMCA), known in the industry as the host of motorhome rallies that set the standard for others, has fittingly chosen “California Gold” as the theme for its next Family Reunion and Motorhome Showcase.

Cincinnati, Ohio (PRWEB) September 30, 2014

FMCA's "California Gold" event will be held March 26 to 29, 2015, at a facility that is widely recognized as a premier entertainment venue — Fairplex, home of the Los Angeles County Fair, in Pomona, California. More than 2,000 motorhomes are expected to gather at this 480-acre complex for [FMCA's](#) 91st Family Reunion and Motorhome Showcase.

Dotted with palm trees and fountains, the beautifully landscaped venue boasts park-like settings and state-of-the-art facilities.

The 85,000-square-foot Conference Center — which offers the perfect balance between high-tech features and comfortable, inviting accommodations — will serve as an activity hub. Among other events, it will provide space for the more than 120 seminars that will be offered, covering a broad array of motorhome lifestyle topics. The center's high-speed Internet access and closed-circuit LED screens will facilitate these sessions.

Top motorhome manufacturers and dealers from across North America will display the latest models of vehicles to meet any need or desire, and will roll out the red carpet as attendees tour motorhomes in a variety of sizes and floor plans.

Carpeted, climate-controlled indoor exhibition halls will house more than 300 booths packed with a variety of RV-related products and services.

In addition to touring exhibits and attending seminars, motorhome owners will be treated to three nights of top-notch entertainment and a variety of special activities. Among them will be [pickleball](#) games on climate-controlled indoor courts. This action-packed game combines elements of tennis, badminton, and Ping-Pong and is popular among RVers, especially in RV parks in the Sunbelt.

Attendees also will be given the opportunity to embark on group tours of local sites and attractions.

With everything going on right at Fairplex, motorhome owners may not want to leave. In addition to all of the activities FMCA will be hosting, Fairplex offers two on-site restaurants, McKinley's Grille, inside the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel, and the Finish Line Sports Bar & Grill, near Fairplex gate 12.

And at the edge of Fairplex stands the NHRA Motorsports Museum, which houses an array of vintage and historic racing vehicles, and chronicles more than 50 years of American motorsports.

While the convention is organized for Family Motor Coach Association members, the organization also invites members of the public to attend and provides various admission options. For those who want to view only the motorhome exhibition, admission costs \$7 per day; children 12 and under are admitted free with an accompanying adult, as are those with an active military ID. Those who would prefer to take in the exhibits and also attend seminars and entertainment may purchase a Daily Passport, which is available for \$65 per person (\$55 for FMCA members).

RV owners are invited to take part in all of the activities and also to bring their RV and stay with the rest of the group at Fairplex. All motorhome parking will be on hard surface, and attendees will be able to opt for 50-amp (limited quantity) or 30-amp electric hookups, or to “dry camp.”

Portable water and dump station facilities are available at Fairplex, or roving trucks will provide these services for a fee to those who want to keep enjoying the activities and not stop for housekeeping issues.

The price for non-FMCA members is \$255 prior to February 3, 2015, and \$275 after that date; this non-member fee automatically grants a one-year FMCA membership or Family Motor Coaching subscription to the RV owner. The FMCA member price is \$205 for early-bird registrations and \$225 after February 3. (An additional fee is charged for electric.)

Registration for the "California Gold" event will be available soon at <http://www.fmca.com>.

Family Motor Coach Association welcomes all motorhome owners to [join](#). Dues are \$50 for the first year and \$40 per year thereafter. Those who do not yet own a motorhome but are interested in learning more may sign up for a subscription to Family Motor Coaching magazine for \$30 per year.

About Family Motor Coach Association • Enhancing The Motorhome Lifestyle

Family Motor Coach Association (FMCA) is an international organization for families who own and enjoy the use of self-contained, motorized recreation vehicles known as motorhomes. The association maintains its national headquarters in Cincinnati, Ohio, and currently has nearly 80,000 active member families. FMCA offers its members a number of benefits, including a subscription to its monthly magazine, [Family Motor Coaching](#); an emergency medical evacuation/repatriation and travel assistance program; trip routing; group rates on motorhome insurance; discounted rates for RV tours and caravans; and a tire purchasing program. Perhaps the most important benefit of FMCA membership is the camaraderie and friendships that develop among people enjoying the common interest of motorhome travel and recreation. The organization can be reached at (513) 474-3622 or (800) 543-3622 and on the Web at FMCA.com.

MEMBERSHIP – CHAPTER FAIR

We just attended the WMHA Governing Board meeting and Indio planning in Hanford, good meeting. We had a fairly good turn out and a number of items were accomplished. I mentioned to the gathering about membership items and also Chapter Fair.

If your chapter has not contacted me about having a table at Chapter Fair or updating your chapter information in the brochure we hand out at the Chapter Fair please do this by December 1, 2014 so I will have all the current information to inform interested people. If you would like to have a table at Indio let me know also. As I mentioned in my last message we are doing something a little different with Chapter Fair this year – we would like the chapter members who are setting up information to come in at 11:30 or 12:00 and set up their table before the First Timers and then either go to the First Timers meeting or step outside until it is over so that there will not be noise in the area. If you have not attended a First Timers meeting you might enjoy hearing what they are telling our First Timers.

We appreciate all of your members who are taking part in Chapter Fair and encouraging people to join chapters.

Alice Bernard

INDIO & POMONA VOLUNTEERS

If you are planning on the Indio and/or Pomona rally and have not signed up with your chapter to volunteer at either of these rallies and would like to volunteer please contact me. I am the volunteer coordinator for Indio and my Husband (Bud) and I are also the volunteer coordinators for Pomona.

For Indio a number of you have already been contacted by someone in your chapter to do a certain job, but if not please contact me.

For Pomona we will a number of volunteers and there are still a few captain positions that need to be filled. If you are interested in being a captain please contact Dick Gibbs (cell- 661-203-9180) or Lon Cross (cell – 661-886-5077) and let them know you would like to help. If you would prefer to e-mail either Dick or Lon their e-mail addresses are on the back of this newsletter.

If you wish to volunteer for either Indio or Pomona please contact us by e-mail: bernardfrog-farm@yahoo.com or by cell phone 530-519-7346 or you can contact us by snail mail at: P.O. Box 704 Wil-lows, CA 95988.

We would like to thank you in advance for volunteering at either of these rallies.
Bud & Alice Bernard

Looking for Indio 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.

For questions contact:

John Stocksdale wb6abw@hotmail.com

2016 THEME CONTEST

INDIO RALLY

**OPEN TO ALL WESTERN AREA CHAPTERS & INTERNATIONAL CHAPTERS
OF ROAD TREK, ALFA, & BEAVERS.**

**ANNOUNCEMENT LETTER FOR THE THEME CONTEST TO BE SENT TO ALL
CHAPTERS ON OR BEFORE OCT. 1 ALONG WITH CONTEST ENTRY FORM**

**ALL CONTEST ENTRY FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO DEBBIE GOLK
dgolk@bak.rr.com BY DEC.15TH, 2014.**

**PUBLISH CONTEST IN THE BYWAYS
EACH CHAPTER TO SUBMIT 1ST & 2ND CHOICE OF THEMES**

**WINNING THEME / CHAPTER WILL RECEIVE \$100 & PREFERED SEATING
AT SAT. NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT 2016.**

WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON SAT. NIGHT 2015

**IN CASE OF A TIE WINNER WILL BE DECIDED BY A FLIP OF A COIN
THEME JUDGES: SANDY KING, LON CROSS, & DICK GIBBS**

TEAR OFF

RALLY THEME CONTEST 2016 ENTRY FORM

CHAPTER NAME: _____

CHAPTER PRESIDENT: _____

1ST CHOICE THEME: _____

2ND CHOICE THEME: _____

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____



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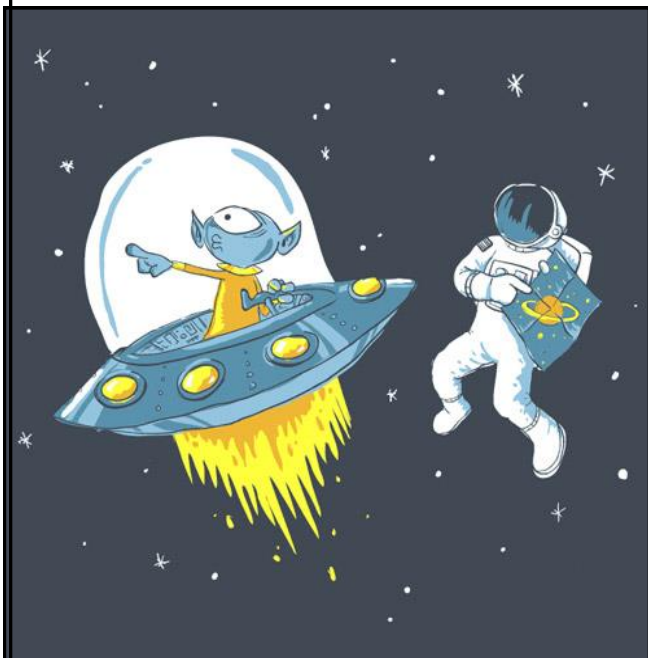


Need a Western Area Badge?

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 these hangers can be for your city or your job or your chapter. You may have several hangers if you like. I will be ordering badges by the end of this month (October) and will have them for you at Indio in January.

2015 Indio Theme "Out of this World"



So join Western Motor Home Association in exploring the fun possibilities!



Out of This World Ladies Tea!

We have a great Ladies Tea planned for 2015 Western Area Rally and I hope YOU will help make it "Out of This World" by donating a gift for the raffle. Last year we had over 50 gifts to give away, and I'd like to match that or do better & and make it "Out of This World!"

If you would like to donate a gift for the Tea, please let me know by e-mailing me so I can plan ahead and anticipate our gift numbers. It can be a home- made craft, a gift card or anything you think one of our WEA Members would enjoy winning!

You can deliver to me personally (at the rally in Indio) or take it to the "Ladies Tea Sales Table" prior to Friday morning. We will be selling tickets in advance for the Tea and you can leave your gift donation with the ladies selling tickets and they will get it to me. Please include your name and Chapter affiliation somewhere on the gift so we can give credit where credit is due.

Thanks in advance!

Jan Watson F#4009 (209) 533-3679

2015 Ladies Tea Chair

jazzitupsparklers@gmail.com

**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
The Elitists
Frustrated Maestros
GMC Forty Niners
GMC Pacific Cruisers
Gold Diggers
Gold Dust Travelers
Golden Gate
Golden Spike
Golden State Trackers
HMC Club
Komfort Kruisers
Midweek Wanderers
Monaco Nor' Cal
Monaco Romers
NorCalRex
Northern California FMCA Elk
Outdoor Resorts Palm Springs
Overland Trailblazers West
REXasaurus'
Rockwood West
Safari R Us
Sierra Hi Rollers
Sierra Ramblers
Southern California FMCA Elk
Southwest Country Coachers
Southwest Roamin' Catholics
Southwestern Bus Nuts
Thousand Trails West
Western Bus Nuts
Western Executives
Western GM Coach

Western Motor Home Association, Inc.

Executive Board 2014/2015

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Cell 805 934-7105 e-mail: randcgibbs@juno.com

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APPOINTED OFFICES 2014

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Western Motor Home Association Website

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Deadline for next Byway's January 19, 2015