

**SOUTHWESTERN BUS NUTS CHAPTER FMCA, INC.****September 2015***IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE***ELECTED OFFICERS & APPOINTEES 2015**

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**President's Report****September 2015**

We had 35 coaches in attendance at our September Chula Vista Rally. It was a little hot and humid but everyone seemed to have a great time. Our Trail Bosses, Tom Brown, Judy Kass and Lois and Curtis Jones did a really great job putting this Rally together. A big **Thank You** from all of us.

After Happy Hour the first day, the group went to the Galley at the Marina for their special fish and chips dinner. No one went away disappointed.

Friday we had a very nice Continental Breakfast. After breakfast, the group went to the harbor for a 2 hour tour of the bay and Navy base. The Captain of the Hornblower Ship was very informative. Another great trip/tour for the SWBN Chapter  
Thanks again Trail Bosses.

After lunch there was a Putting Contest. Sue Kalac was the big winner. Congratulations Sue. Friday evening we had a chicken dinner with desert. Some stayed and played games afterward. Fun day.

Saturday morning we were treated to a breakfast of pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee and juice

There was a Board Meeting at 9:30 followed by a General Meeting at 10:30. An overview of the General Meeting follows...

We had election of Officers at the general mtg. The only change in officers for 2016 will be Secretary. Lois Jones who has been in that position for many years, has decided to step down. We will all miss having her on the board. THANK YOU LOIS JONES! We welcome Beverly Jones as the new secretary starting as of Dec. 31, 2015.

Ray Bass, our National Director, reported back to us from the National Rally held in Madison, Wisconsin.

We then moved on to the Indio parade for Jan. 2016. 30 plus people indicated they would like to be in the parade. The theme is CALL OF THE WILD Jungle style. Anyone who was not there, please let me know if you would like to be part of the parade. The more the merrier. WHMA web site shows a safari depiction of animals so if you have costumes or safari hunter gear (no real guns please) come join us. Please think about what you think the theme should be in 2016 and let me know. The club that turns in the winning theme gets \$100.00 and front row seating.

*(Continued on page 2)*

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

*(Continued from page 1)*

For the last 3 to 4 years the attendance at Spook-a-Roo has slipped under the required amount required to have the Rec. hall. The cause seems to be other rally's that are either too far away for travel or that overlap our time frame. We voted to move Spook-a-Roo to the first of weekend of November, Thursday -Sunday in 2016. The trail boss will rename the rally to suit the theme.

(For more details about the General Meeting, please see the Secretary's report of 09-12-15.)

Saturday afternoon a Holiboard Contest was held behind the clubhouse. Winner, Toni Brown. Congratulations Toni! Saturday nights' dinner was Mexican with all of the trimmings, plus desert. Bob Sortillon and his band (Brown Sugar) entertained us at 7:00. It was a great evening and we had about 50 other park guests join in the fun. A big thanks to Bob and Brown Sugar.

Please contact Jim Patterson for dates of up and coming rallies. Ask your friends with RV's if they would like to come as well. Guests are always welcome.

*Glen Blankenship*



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**CHULA VISTA BY THE SEA RALLY**  
**SEPTEMBER 2015**

Prepared by Judy Kass, Trail Boss  
(along with Tom Brown and Curtis and Lois Jones)

Is there a better bunch of people anywhere than the Bus Nuts? The resounding answer is NO! The Chula Vista by the Sea Rally was a great success because of the help provided by bunches of Bus Nuts who just showed up and helped.

In time for Happy Hour on Thursday evening, 35 coaches with a total of 68 people had arrived. Everyone trekked to The Galley for dinner where most of the group took advantage of the Thursday Fish and Chips Special. Dinner was followed by a rousing game of Paducah (also known by another name, but this is a family newsletter). Each player contributed three quarters and the big winner was Ron Macy.

Friday morning we enjoyed a Continental breakfast which was prepared with the help of many happy volunteer fruit carvers. After breakfast the group carpoled to the San Diego Harbor and boarded The Hornblower for a two-hour sightseeing cruise featuring landmarks, natural wonders, and military history.

Friday evening's chicken dinner was provided by the local El Polo Loco Restaurant followed by two games of Right-Left-Center. Again, each player contributed three quarters per game and the winners were Jim Patterson and Toni Brown. The rest of us had fun anyway.



Saturday morning the Brothers Brown (Tom and Mark) slaved over smokin' hot griddles and served up a pancake and sausage breakfast. The Board of Directors met after breakfast and a General Meeting followed. Officers were elected for 2016. (You'll find a full report elsewhere in this newsletter.

Skip Thomas Catering from Hemet traveled to Chula Vista to present us an outstanding Mexican dinner on Saturday evening; and then our own Bob Sortillon with Brown Sugar entertained us with music and song for close to three hours. Our gang enjoyed the music and dancing. Pat Darden thrilled us with a grand solo dance. And to add to the excitement, Ray Oulette joined Pat for a minute or so. Great fun! Our thanks to Bob and Brown Sugar for a fine evening.

Sunday morning the group departed and we are looking forward to Spook-A-Roo in October.

And here's a post script: Never be fearful of being a Trail Boss. You won't be alone – lots of great Bus Nuts will be there to help.

*Judy*

**2015/2016 SOUTHWESTERN BUS NUTS RALLYS/OUTINGS**

**October 8 – 11 Joshua Tree Sportsmans’s Lodge – Joshua Tree (Tesler)**

**November No Rally**

**Dec 29 – Jan 2 Emerald Desert RV Resort – Palm Desert (Fisher/Fuller)**

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**February No Rally**

**March 10 – 13 Desert Willows RV Resort – Hesperia (Blair, Hart, Haupt)**

**April 7 – 10 Three Rivers Jazz Festival – Three Rivers (U. Fisher)**

**May 12 – 15 Canyon RV Park – Anaheim (Need Trail Bosses)**

**June/July/August No Rallys**

**September 15 – 18 Chula Vista RV Resort – Chula Vista (Need Trail Bosses)**

**October No Rally**

**November 3 – 6 Site to be Determined (Need Trail Bosses)**

**December 29 – Jan 2 Emerald Desert RV Resort – Palm Desert (Need Trail Bosses)**

**Jim Patterson, Wagon Master  
909-269-1877**

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

During our General Business Meeting on September 12, 2015 we held the election of officers. Names of the candidates were presented by the Nominating Committee, which consisted of Ursie Fisher, Sue Fuller, Donna Bass, Barbara Haines, and Marlene Sortillon.

Donna Bass served as the Installing Officer. New officers will begin their terms in January 2016.

- President: Glen Blankenship
- Vice President: Everett Fuller
- Secretary: Beverly Jones
- Treasurer: Steve Fisher
- Past President: Tom Brown
- Directors: Remaining 1 year terms are Karen Fouts and Jim Haupt. Two year terms are Lou Huff and Norm Wilson.
- National Director: Ray Bass
- Alternate National Director: Gene Le Meur
- Wagon Master: Jim Patterson

A new Nominating Committee of 5 members will need to be chosen and voted upon at the first General Meeting in 2016. This committee will seek candidates for the year 2017.

### **A REPORT FROM NATIONAL DIRECTOR, RAY BASS**

At the “Escape to Wisconsin” Rally, July 29-August 1, 2015, the following Officers were elected.

- National President: Charles Adcock
- National Vice President: Jon Walker
- National Secretary: Gaye Young
- National Treasurer: Percy Bell

Two Proposed Bylaws amendments, and Four Policy and Procedure amendments were passed. Copies of those amendments follow.

2015 PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENT

PROPOSAL #1

LEAVE AT CHAPTER LEVEL

PASSED

Article III - Membership

Amend this Article to read:

(3) (b) A Full Member is any family unit or individual(s), each holding at least 1/3 ownership of a qualifying motor coach, who has been issued a specific member number. Full Members have the right to: vote (one vote per member number in constitutional matters); hold office in either FMCA, a chapter, or area association; and display the FMCA emblem. Each adult (age 18 or older) who shares a Full Membership may cast a vote at the chapter level. Voting rights by individual or by member number (other than in constitutional matters) shall be determined by the chapter.

PROPOSER'S RATIONALE:

- Chapters have had the ability for many years to decide whether voting authority at the chapter level was one vote per F number or one vote per adult member. In 2014 it was discovered that this conflicted with the FMCA Bylaws, and the Chapter Bylaws Format and the *Member and Volunteer Handbook* were amended to require one vote per adult member.
- In some chapters with a number of single members the membership feels that one vote per F number is in the best interests of the chapter.
- In other chapters it has been a tradition to allow one vote per F number for many years and a change in the voting authority has led to dissatisfaction among some of the members.
- Many chapters are having problems with membership retention and membership recruitment and anything to make it easier for them without negatively impacting FMCA core values is desirable.

*The Constitution and Bylaws Committee recommends adoption of this amendment.*

*The Executive Board agrees with the committee recommendation.*

**PROVISOS:** Approval of this proposed Bylaws amendment will reverse the wording in three P&Ps:

- P&P #3011, Chapter and Associate Chapter Operations
- P&P #3011/A, Minimum Requirements for Chapter Bylaws
- P&P #3011/B, Chapter Bylaws Format

2015 PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENT

PROPOSAL #1

PASSED

VOTE IS FOR TO CHANGE FROM 21 DAYS TO 3 DAYS ONLY FOR CHANGE. (TIME IS TO BE DEDUCTED 21/2)

Article VIII - Governing Board

Amend this Article to read:

(3) If the national director cannot attend the Governing Board Meeting, the alternate national director may serve in his/her place. In the event that neither the national director nor the alternate national director can attend, a temporary delegate may be elected or appointed by the chapter president to represent the chapter for the next Governing Board Meeting only.

**PROPOSER'S RATIONALE:**

1. A National Director, Alternate National Director or even a duly elected Temporary National Director may become incapacitated between the annual Chapter meeting and the next occurring National Convention.
2. A Chapter meeting may not be held during the intervening period and would therefore preclude the Chapter from having voting rights at the National Convention.
3. This amendment would permit appointment of a Temporary National Director covering any circumstance, up to the convening of the Governing Board Meeting.
4. Such an amendment would assure each Chapter of the fullest representation at every Governing Board meeting.

*The Constitution and Bylaws Committee recommends adoption of this amendment.*

*The Executive Board agrees with the committee recommendation.*

**PROVISOS:** Approval of this proposed Bylaws amendment will cause changes in these P&Ps:  
P&P #3022, Chapter National Director's and Alternate National Director's Responsibilities  
P&P #3024, Chapter Representation at Governing Board Meetings

**COMMITTEE COMMENT:**

While the committee recommends adoption of this Bylaws amendment it does not recommend the proviso to P&P #3024 that eliminates the requirement to notify the national office of a chapter's voting delegate 21 days prior to a Governing Board meeting. The committee recommends changing the 21 days to three business days.

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE AMENDMENT  
PROPOSAL #3**

**P&P #2023 Area Vice President's Responsibilities**

*PASSED*

**PROPOSER'S RATIONALE:**

This amendment clarifies that the area vice president arranges the staffing for booths at RV shows and is not required to actually staff the booth.

**COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION:**

The Policy and Procedure Committee recommends approval of the amendment.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION:**

The Executive Board agrees with the committee recommendations.

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE AMENDMENT  
PROPOSAL #4**

*PASSED*

**P&P #3011 Chapter and Associate Chapter Operations**

**PROPOSER'S RATIONALE:**

The proposed change is a proviso to Bylaws amendment #1 concerning chapters determining voting rights by individual or by member number.

**COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION:**

The Policy and Procedure Committee recommends approval of this amendment.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION:**

The Executive Board agrees with the committee recommendation.

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE AMENDMENT  
PROPOSAL #5**

*PASSED*

**P&P #3022 Chapter National Director's and Alternate National Director's Responsibilities**

**PROPOSER'S RATIONALE:**

The proposed change is a proviso to Bylaws amendment #2 concerning a chapter president's ability to appoint temporary delegates.

**COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION:**

If Bylaws amendment #2 is approved, the Policy and Procedure Committee recommends against approval of this Policy and Procedure as presented.

The Policy and Procedure Committee would like to add the following to 4.

"If an event occurs after the 21-day notice requirement has passed that prevents the national director, alternate national director, or temporary delegate from attending the Governing Board meeting, the chapter president may appoint a member of the chapter as a temporary delegate to represent the chapter for the next Governing Board meeting only. Notice of the chapter president's appointment of a temporary delegate shall be received by FMCA at least three working days prior to the Governing Board meeting to be valid. Notice must be in writing (fax or e-mail acceptable)."

*A MEMORANDUM*

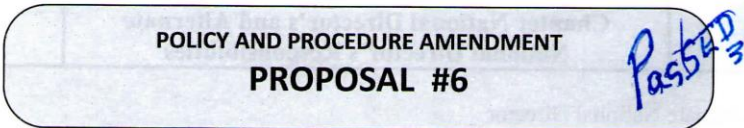
**COMMITTEE'S RATIONALE:**

A MEMO

The delegate should be elected by the chapter members. Removing the requirement for the chapter to elect the delegate and allowing the chapter president to appoint a delegate removes the rights of the membership. Removing the 21-day requirement would create the situation that an appointed delegate could be appointed the day of the Governing Board meeting and would not have time to be prepared about the issues to come before the Governing Board. Also, the FMCA Staff needs time to verify that the member is in Good Standing.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION:**

The Executive Board agrees with the committee recommendation.



**P&P #3024 Chapter Representation At Governing Board Meetings**

**PROPOSER'S RATIONALE:**

The proposed change is a proviso to Bylaws amendment #2 concerning a chapter president's ability to appoint temporary delegates.

**COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION:**

If Bylaws amendment #2 is approved, the Policy and Procedure Committee recommends against approval of this Policy and Procedure as presented.

The Policy and Procedure Committee would like to add the following:

- To 4. "If an event occurs after the 21-day notice requirement has passed that prevents the national director, alternate national director, or temporary delegate from attending the Governing Board meeting, the chapter president may appoint a member of the chapter as a temporary delegate to represent the chapter for the next Governing Board meeting only. Notice of the chapter president's appointment of a temporary delegate shall be received by FMCA at least three working days prior to the Governing Board meeting to be valid. Notice must be in writing (fax or e-mail acceptable)."
- To 6. "If the notice is for a temporary delegate due to appointment by the chapter president, the notice to FMCA shall be received at least three working days prior to the Governing Board meeting to be valid. Notice must be in writing (fax or e-mail acceptable)."

**COMMITTEE'S RATIONALE:**

The delegate should be elected by the chapter members. Removing the requirement for the chapter to elect the delegate and allowing the chapter president to appoint a delegate removes the rights of the membership. Removing the 21-day requirement would create the situation that an appointed delegate could be appointed the day of the Governing Board meeting and would not have time to be prepared about the issues to come before the Governing Board. Also, the FMCA Staff needs time to verify that the member is in Good Standing.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION:**

The Executive Board agrees with the committee recommendation.



## **HOSPITALITY REPORT**

### **LOIS HUFF**

Hi everyone,

We have been out of touch for about 6 weeks but are back home now.

I had previously sent out an E-mail regarding the passing of Chuck Berman. He had been very ill. Please remember to keep Eunice in your prayers. Cards would be appreciated.

As of this writing. Bea Rudiger is in the hospital. It is planned that she will be released in a few days. Upon release, she will be going to a Rehab Center for therapy to aid her walking.

I hope to see you all at Spook-a-Roo in a few weeks.

Take care of yourselves and let me know if you are having any health issues or even if you had good travels or just a great summer.

We love to connect with each of you and wish you all good health and happy travels.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **BARBARA HART**

We are delighted to welcome...

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**EDITOR'S REPORT BY DONNA BASS**

**ALSO KNOWN AS**

*Missus Spintales*



*Missus Spintales*

There are a couple of things worth mentioning here. In an e-mail I received from the Kalac's with a picture of Sue winning the Putting Contest...The remark was made "We'll let the girls win." That comment was made before Toni Brown won the Holiboard Contest.

So just to keep the record straight. In the Putting Contest Sue Kalac won where the winner takes all. Ed Kalac tied for second along with Wally Fouts. At the Saturday afternoon Holiboard Contest played outdoors, 21 people participated with each putting in a dollar for prize money. The winners were: First Place, Toni Brown; with Tom Brown in Second Place and Corky Campbell finished Third after a play-off with Sue Fuller and Zach Kerkora . Congratulations to all the winners and particular recognition to the triumphant women---Sue and Toni---Wahoo!!!

Here are two pictures worth looking at. Sue receiving her winnings, and Pat Darden dancing with Brown Sugar.



A couple of other items for your information. You can view our newsletter by going to: <http://wafmca.com/?p=763>. Also, please be sure to look in the upcoming FMCA magazines under the Association calendar. You will find our New Year's Rally at Emerald Desert listed in that section.

Well I just can't sign off without telling you what a great trip Ray and I had attending the Escape to Wisconsin Rally July 29-August 15, 2015. We saw parts of Wisconsin we didn't even know existed. Particularly Door County on the Upper Peninsula. The Green Bay area was grand, too.

I am ever grateful that Ray is a good driver. However, he does not like the roundabouts or turnabouts or whatever those circular roads are called. Further, they also confuse our Garmin. Sheesh, we circled and saw the same water plant 3 times in Nebraska. Duh!

The other thing that happens is when Ray describes other drivers. He insists on calling them names such as "moron" or "stupid" and occasionally uses expletives. I was reading a western novel while we were traveling. In the book, there were 2 young brothers living on a ranch. I totally enjoyed the name calling they engaged in while arguing. I am going to try to convince Ray to use some of their terminology. For instance: "Watch where you are going frog eyes." or "Get out of my way horse nose." or perhaps "Move it toad spit." Doesn't that sound cool? By the time he uses any of those statements, he will have forgotten what frustrated him. Right?

Enough nattering. I will close with a wonderful saying by Yogi Berra (just for fellow travelers), "When you come to a fork in the road, take it."

Catch you all in 2016.

From your friendly editor - *Missus Spintales*