



A Publication of WMHA

Volume 29 Issue 1

Western Area FMCA

Sandy King - Editor

Winter 2015

## President's Message



Our 27<sup>th</sup> annual Western Area Rally is now history, and what a great rally it was, with a theme of OUT OF THIS WORLD. We had close to 900 family coaches, along with 1700 Day Passes & 45 Pass Ports, giving us an excellent attendance. The entertainment was outstanding & they played to a full house all three nights. OUT OF THIS WORLD parade this year was again a highlight of the rally. Again this year John Stockdale did an outstanding job of documenting the parade & the rally with pictures which he uploaded to the Flickr website on a daily bases which can be accessed from our Western web site wafmca.com (Complete instructions are printed elsewhere in this news letter)

The 2016 theme will be "CALL OF THE WILD". This theme will allow your imagination to run wild, conjuring up everything from Tarzan & Jane to Lions & Tigers so there should not be any shortage of ideas for parade entries. I would hope that most Chapters will join in the fun by building a parade entry. We will again have a contest to select the theme for 2017. Information on the contest will be announced at a later date.

The California Coasters submitted the winning entry for the 2016 Rally Theme CALL OF THE WILD. They will receive \$100 & front row seating for the Saturday Night entertainment in Jan. 2016.

After the rally Charlotte & I left Indio on Monday to go to Yuma for 2 weeks, stopping at the Fountain of Youth on the Salton Sea for 3 days, this is a very nice Resort & they had a booth at the rally.

The Western Area will be the host Area; for the Pomona Rally, we will need approximately 1,000 volunteers to step

up to help with this undertaking. Please make plans to volunteer now.

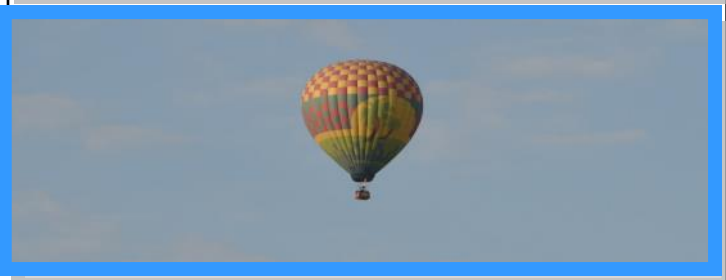
I want to again thank all the volunteers that helped with the Western Area Indio Rally. Without your time & effort we couldn't put on the best FMCA Area Rally in the Country. A Special Thank You to National VP Kathy & Andy Balogh (parking).

Thank You for another successful Indio Rally.

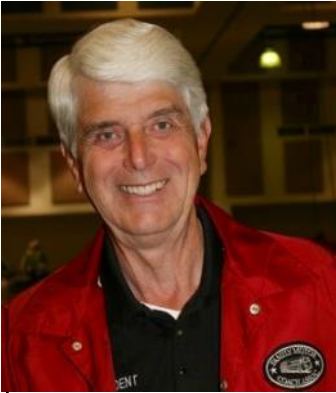
Safe Travels,

Dick Gibbs F278983

Western Area President



## WMHA Senior Vice



The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Western Area Rally is now in the books, and what a fun time we had. There were 871 Family Coaches, along with 1,693 Day Passes sold. Also attending were seven Display Coach Dealers and 150 Indoor/Outdoor Vendors. The stage Decorations, early morning coffee and donuts along with the Maestro's Music, Parade, First Timers Orientation, Chapter Fair, Bingo, Seminars, Crafts, Volunteer Dinner,

Ice Cream Socials, Ladies Tea, Pet Extravaganza, and three nights of great entertainment were all "*Out of This World*".

None of this would have been possible without the tremendous help of so many **WONDERFUL Captains** and **Volunteers!!** You're the BEST...Thank you!

As the Volunteers started arriving I noticed how the Fair Grounds started coming alive. And then, all of a sudden, our Rally took on a life all of it's own. People were going here and there – golf carts and trams were filling up with people – seminars were being attended, and people leaving the Vendor Tent with packages under their arms. None of this would have happened had it not been for the Volunteers who made it possible for ALL the rest of us to enjoy...Thank You!

### Some Highlights:

WMHA obtained a second metal storage shed. New shelves were installed by: Bert Goulart (team leader), Ron Nickels, Jack Dale, Dave Glenn, Don Johnson, Sam Hill, and Roy McDaniel. Thank you for going beyond your regular duties to man this important work party.

"Photo John" Stocksdale and assistant Winifred Meiser have documented the Rally in photos and videos. You can view their work by going to [wmha.com](http://wmha.com) and clicking on the area that mentions "Flickr, pictures of our Rally".

Dignitaries attending were: Charlie Adcock, National President; Jon Walker, National Sr. VP; David Kessler, International Area President, Kathie Balogh, Northwest Area President, and Harry Montgomery, Rocky Mountain Area President. All of them assisted with our rally...Thank you.

Parade trophy winners were (in no particular order of finish): Road Trek International – Grand Marshall; Overland Trail Blazers West – WMHA Presidents; Thousand Trails West – FMCA Presidents; Apollo Amigos – Mayors and Sierra Ramblers – Theme. Thank you to all who entered.

March 26-29, 2015 we will have FMCA's 91st Family Reunion & Motorhome Showcase at the Pomona Fairplex. The Western Area will be the host Area; we will need approximately 1,000 volunteers to step up to help with this undertaking. Please make plans to volunteer now by contacting Alice Bernard at: [bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com) or by phone, 530-934-7346.

I would like to say **Thank You** to everyone who attended this year's rally and to the new friendships that were made. We look forward to seeing all of you next year at our 28<sup>th</sup> Annual rally who's theme will be "*Call of the Wild*".

Travel Safe,

**Lon Cross** WMHA Senior VP

## Northern Area Vice President

We just finished with our Indio Rally. Margie and I had a good time. We were expecting the number of coaches to be a lot higher than what is was. But other than that everyone enjoyed themselves.

I will say it again this is where our physical and financial support comes in. Attending and participating is a big part of FMCA. Without the continued support from the members we would not be able to put on these rallies.

Pomona is just around the corner in March 2015. We the Western Area will be hosting the rally. So let us show our support by attending and volunteering. I am sure we need more volunteers.

My ride to and from Indio I noticed a lot of motor homes that didn't have the FMCA Goose Egg. When getting gas or stopped at a rest stop we should introduce FMCA to fellow RVers and let them know the benefits of joining. FMCA is the world's largest motor home association and when joining

you become a family member with all the rights and benefits it has to offer. It is a great organization to be part of knowing almost everyone you meet is family. How else can you travel the United States and still feel the comforts of home and family.

Many senior citizens are looking forward to buying a motor home to be able to travel around the country and see things they only heard about. If you look at the people driving motor homes you will see a senior citizen behind the steering wheel with a smile on their faces. If they are an FMCA member they have the security of their brothers and sisters in their travels. We are nationwide.

As AARP sends information to all upcoming members we should do the same to prospective motor home buyers.

Through your efforts we have gotten rooms full of first tim-

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ers that was due to members out there talking them into the FMCA life style. They think it is the greatest thing being recognized as a first timer. We started recognizing first timers two years ago and it has been adopted by FMCA and Western Area.

I feel we have more new comers coming in than the old ones

going out.

Looking forward to an exciting year. See everyone in Pomona.

*Lee Clemons*

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

## Central Area Vice President

### Winter 2015

This past quarter has been very busy. First off we joined up with the Mid-Week Wanderers at their October rally at the Valencia Travel Village. We spent 3 days there and got to meet the membership and make new friends. While there I presented them their 20 Year Anniversary certificate. I was introduced by their president Jim Hoffmann and we in turn called up Mary Battles who is one of their remaining charter members to receive the certificate. Congratulations on this milestone.



We then headed down to Indio for a pre-rally inspection and meetings with our contractors. This was our final board get-together before the rally actually kicks off in January. From this point it was into the holiday season with shopping and over-eating and then on to Indio.

Your executive board plus a few event captains arrive in Indio the week prior to the week the rally actually takes place to take deliveries of things for the rally, lay out parking, get the big exhibit tent up and electric power laid out. We were greeted with very cold weather and were worried we would be in for a cold rally. Thankfully the cold wave passed on and we ended up with perfect weather for our 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Western Area Rally. Although the rally keeps us busy it is still fun (and challenging at times) to put on this event. I want to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to the many volunteers who make this rally happen. I also want to thank the many captains whose dedication makes the jobs of the WMHA officers far easier and without which

we would not have a rally. In addition I want to thank the many chapters for their hospitality in extending invitations for us to join them at their get-togethers. During the rally I made another anniversary presentation, this time to the Roamin' Catholics.



Receiving their 10 Year Anniversary certificate was their president, Don Edson. Congratulations on this milestone. A final note on the rally: I had many people come up to me and thank us for such a great rally and what a wonderful time they were having. I spoke with several First Timers and they all said they were coming back again. This to me makes it all worthwhile.

Just around the corner is FMCA's 91<sup>st</sup> Family Reunion & Motorhome Showcase in Pomona. We are in need of many volunteers so please step up and be a part of making this rally a success. Also, keep sending me your newsletters as I enjoy reading them.

Safe travels and enjoy the winter weather.

*Bob Galk*

WMHA Central Area Vice President



## Southern Area Vice President

Do you remember the last time you worked with a group to accomplish a goal, and while accomplishing it you had fun? Will that's exactly what happened for me at our Indio rally. I had the opportunity to work with excellent captains, and their volunteers, along with some special work details. To the captains I can only say thank you for a job well done, for it is you and your crew that makes the whole thing work. I am looking forward to working with you at the next outing.

We took delivery of a new storage unit while in Indio. Just when I was getting my sea legs and able walk on the PVC pipe scattered all over the floor, a group got together and did an outstanding job of installing new shelving, and organizing the two containers.

While at Indio the Overland Trailblazers received their twenty five year anniversary award. Charlie Adcock, Jon Walker, Dick Gibbs, Lon Cross, and I attended the business meeting where Charlie made the presentation. Later that evening Russ Hill treated us to one of his famous barbecues, and I must say he could make a fortune if he went into

business selling his ribs and chicken.

In addition to enjoying displays and great entertainment provided in the rally, we were invited to join various chapters at their gatherings, and I would like to thank each of them for their hospitality.

During the last few months we have also attended the Southern California Elks and California Chapter rallies. The Elks rally was held in Vista at the Elks Lodge camp ground. George Paxton is the newly elected President, and I look forward to working with him. At the California Chapter rally in Chula Vista the newly elected officers were installed with Ron Vinatieri becoming president.

Don't forget, we still need volunteers for the Pomona Rally, so be sure to make your reservation and check the volunteers box. I would also like the chapters to continue to send me their upcoming rally dates.

Remember to have fun.

Roy Mc Daniel Southern Area Vice President



**MEMBERSHIP – CHAPTER FAIR**

Chapter Fair at Indio was fairly successful. We only had about 20 chapters participating but several of them signed up new members and there was a lot of interest in getting newsletters, etc. to learn more about the chapters. I would like to stress for future chapter fairs (including Pomona) you don't have to have a fancy display – the main idea is to get information on your chapter out where interested people can see it. There will be a chapter fair in Pomona – the National office will be sending information out to the chapters so make sure your chapter is aware of this and if you have someone attending Pomona try to have a table at chapter fair.

We don't get an accurate count of just how many people actually go through chapter fair as they come from the first timers meeting or in the other door. We gave away a little over half of the gifts that we have a raffle for – for First Timers and/or non chapter members.

We are still getting some names of interested people from Cincinnati wanting information on various chapters and hope when this information is sent to the chapters that they are following up on this.

Alice Bernard

**POMONA VOLUNTEERS**

**We are still signing up volunteers for Pomona** – we need more volunteers so if you will be attending please think about volunteering. If you are interested please contact

Bud & Alice Bernard – e-mail: [bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com)  
cell phone 530-519-7346 or by snail mail: P.O. Box 704 Wil-lows, CA 95988.

If your chapter would like to sign up together please contact us and we will let one of the captains know that you are willing to help. It takes a lot of volunteers to put on a good rally. All you chapter presidents please think about having your chapter participate. Thank you.

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](mailto:wb6abw@hotmail.com)





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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](mailto: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.



## 2016 Indio Theme

# "CALL OF THE WILD"

## PETS GALORE



**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  
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 GM Coach

**Western Motor Home Association, Inc.**

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***Deadline for next Byway's April 13, 2015***