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Western Area FMCA

Sandy King - Editor

Fall 2012

President's Message



Jan and I traveled to Indianapolis, IN for the Family Reunion and Motor Home Show. Members of the Executive Board, as I did, and other volunteers laid out the lots and parked all of the member vehicles. There were approximately 2800 counting vendor live-ins and display coaches. I represented the Beat The Odds Chapter at the Governing Board meeting as a

Temporary Delegate. By now you probably know what was decided about the main issues. The admittance of towables as FMCA members was denied. They may attend rallies, and are invited, but may not belong. FMCA can no longer afford to provide free medical evacuation without some financial change. Raising dues was considered, but making it a purchased benefit was elected. The new FMCAssist is provided by Seven Corners which is underwritten by Lords of London and is much better than the previous plan. Costs are \$85 per individual, \$105. per family per year. We signed-up 10/1/12. Members not signing-up may use all of the services under the plan but must pay for each service. One other major item was the deletion of the P & P that provided stipends to various team captains, parkers. etc. FMCA intends to be an all volunteer organization at Family Reunions just as are Area rallies.

From Indianapolis we traveled to Gillette, WY. for the Rocky Mountain Ramble. Gillette is the site of next year's FMCA 50th anniversary celebration. All of the RMMA staff treated us royally and are extremely gracious. I'd name names and surely would forget some, so I won't. Harry Montgomery decided to be my mentor and dragged me all over the complex, to my benefit. Gillette is a relatively small town but has some very fine restaurants. One oddity is a huge parking lot holding a Wal-Mart and a Kmart next to each other. I've heard the reservation forms for the 50th at Gillette will be

available soon. There will be a great need for volunteers. Volunteer coordinator is Amy Jones, H 602-938-1672, C 602-903-4517, ahmljones@gmail.com. Volunteer early, you might get a better parking spot. The facility at Gillette is huge with movable interior walls. The RV parking area is alleged to have 1700 electrical hook-ups. See you there for the gala celebration.

We didn't escape without troubles of our own. While parked on a Flying J lot in Rapid City, SD, an oversize semi entered the lot with a wide turn and broke our driver's side mirror. Difficulty in receiving a proper replacement was monumental. Many dollars and over night express got it done. Than, a nice little old lady backed into the tow car driver's door. Processing two insurance claims at once is not fun. Fortunately it's all settled now.

We wish you will all grace us with your presence at Indio for the Western Area's 25th Rally at that location. Safe travels and stay well,

Rick & Jan

Robert "Rick" Ricordati, WMHA President

Dates to Remember!!! Convention and Rally Schedule

**WMHA's 25th Annual
Western Area Rally
"Under the Big Top"
January 9 to 13, 2013
Riverside County Fair
and Date Festival
Indio, California**

**FMCA's 88th Family Reunion
and Motorhome Showcase
June 19 to 22, 2013
CAM-PLEX, Gillette, Wyoming**

**FMCA's 89th Family Reunion
and Motorhome Showcase
March 17 to 20, 2014
Georgia National Fair-
grounds and Agricenter
Perry, Georgia**

WMHA Senior Vice President's Views



On Sept. 25th we had our Annual Western Motor Home Association Meeting in Hanford, CA and it was well attended. I thank all the National Directors, Chap-

ter 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. The 2012 – 2013 budget was passed as presented after a line by line discussion. We then had time for Regional Workshops. After lunch the afternoon was spent planning our Indio Western Area Rally. Changes for 2013 are that we are moving Will Call & on Site Registration to the Holding Area. Electric will now be included on the Rally Registration. Chapter Party Areas will be charged for by the number of electric plugs they use, the charge is \$60 each. Each Captain presented his needs for supplies, golf carts, & 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 holding area. The holding area opens at noon on Sunday Jan 6th.

If any Chapter has a change in officers please let your Area VP know as soon as possible. They need their name, address, email address, & phone number. You need to also keep Debbie Golk, WMHA Secretary of all changes of Chapter Officers.

Don't forget to keep recruiting new members for FMCA, and your Chapter, new members are the life blood of every organization.

Dick Gibbs WMHA SENIOR VP

Northern Area Vice President

I would like to start off by saying we had a good time on our trip. Now that we are back, I thought I would share with everyone some of the places we have been. When we left our meeting in Hanford we drove to Dallas Texas for my family reunion. We had the opportunity to go see the Dallas Cowboy stadium in Dallas. From there we traveled to Atlanta Georgia to spend time with Margie's family for their reunion then it was onto Indianapolis for the FMCA family reunion.

While we were out traveling we ran into a few mishaps. One was Margie back. She ended up in the hospital for about six days. She is doing a bit better now since she got hurt. I also had a problem with my motor coach. I messed up my windshield and the front of my coach. That too is being fixed and taken care off.

While at the Hanford meeting this past September for Indio planning I was able to meet my Presidents and Directors of the Northern

clubs. We sat down and tossed around some ideas that we had thought of in order to make things run smoother. One of the ideas, was to have larger outings with the clubs that have the same dates and times in order to have more fun and also to get places that we might not have been able to afford before with a smaller group.

If you have any ideas or need help with things your Northern Vice President will be able to help you. I am looking forward to Indio and working with my Captains and Chapters members. I am looking for people who would like to participate in the annual parade in Indio.

Lee Clemons



Central Area Vice President

We started this quarter with a visit to the Komfort Kruisers and their rally over in the Pismo Beach area. It was a welcome retreat from the summer heat. They have a very robust chapter and we were made very welcome by all the members and of course, we ate too much food. We are looking forward to more visits with chapters in the coming year. Next we attended the anniversary rally for our own chapter the Golden State Trackers where I presented them with their 5 year anniversary certificate. I feel this is a significant milestone for a new chapter. Get to 5 years and you are on your way.

Debbie & I took a break and rode our motorcycles up to Reno for Street Vibrations before heading to Hanford for the Board Meeting & Indio Planning Session. I mention this because on our way home I contacted a vicious summer cold from someone. This delayed our arrival in Hanford by a day and even when we got there I stayed

in our rig to avoid spreading the virus to others. I did improve enough to make the all day meeting on Tuesday but still avoided close contact with people. Of course, being the good husband that I am and not wanting to keep things to myself, Debbie came down with the same virus a few days later. After Hanford we had planned to head up to Monterey and Debbie said she still wanted to go, illness or not. The Gibbs had planned to head to King City so we had a discussion on the route to take to get to Hwy 101 from Hanford. Hwy 198 looked like the obvious choice but we were warned it was a tight, twisty road and would be slow going. Being adventurous we decided to take it anyway. Once out of Coalinga there was a sign stating "Not recommended for vehicles towing trailers or trucks over 30' kingpin to axle." Too late to turn back, so on we went. We had caught up with the Gibbs by this time so we just followed them on through. We did encounter a

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few double trailer trucks heading the opposite way (watch those mirrors) but no long single 18 wheelers. Most of the road had no shoulder so it was imperative that you knew exactly where your rig was positioned in the road way. It was a nice scenic drive and was really no problem. If you ever take this road you should know there is a long 7% grade descent at the west end so make sure you have good brakes and gear down appropriately.

As I write this we are supposed to get a few days of rain starting next week. Looks like Fall is upon us and my favorite time of year. I hope everyone had a safe summer and are now looking forward to the upcoming holiday season. Remember to keep sending me your newsletters so I can stay abreast of your chapter activities. Also, if you have a recruitment success story please send it to me so I can share it with others. Recruitment is the key to the success of our chapters and the organization.

Safe travels and hope to see everyone at Indio in January.

Bob Golk



Southern Area Vice President

Greetings to all in the South...

We had a great summer, leaving the day after the Hanford meeting in June and returning home four days before the Hanford meeting in September. Along the way we attended the FMCA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. While we were in Idaho we experienced a microburst of wind, which tweaked our patio awning into a new shape. Coming home we had to replace the right front wheel bearing. In spite of these minor incidents we really enjoyed the road.

I will be making a special presentation to the Southwestern Bus Nuts who will be celebrating their 25th anniversary...this is one of the pleasures of this job, along with chapter visitations. I would also like to mention that the California Roamers chapter has been transferred to the Southern Area... Welcome Aboard!

I was very glad to have met so many Presidents, National Directors, and Indio Rally Captains and Volunteers

at the September Hanford Rally. I look forward to working with you throughout the coming year and at the Indio Rally. And please, if any Chapter has had a change in President and National Director would you please let me know as soon as possible with their name, address, email address, & phone number. Also, if any Chapter has had a change in any Officers please let Debbie Golk, WMHA Secretary, know of these changes...her contact info can be found on the last page of the newsletter. ...Thank You.

Please remember, if there is anything that I can assist you with please contact me. Hope to see all for you at the Indio Rally!!

Happy traveling,

Lon Cross

Southern Area VP
loncross1225@att.net
 Cell: 661-886-5077

MEMBERSHIP/CHAPTER FAIR REPORT

We just attended the WMHA Governing Board/Indio Planning meeting in Hanford on September 25, 2012. On membership if your chapter is having problems getting members contact me and/or your regional vice president and we will try to help you. I receive requests from the National Office from people who are interested in various chapters and hope that when your chapter receives these requests that they follow through on them. It is a way to get new members. Also you can contact the National Office to get a list of new FMCA members in your area for you to contact and invite them to your rallies and hopefully become a member. If you still have any of your 5 free memberships try to use them prior to December 30, 2012. This is a good tool to get new members to FMCA and your chapter.

We will again be having the Chapter Fair in Indio on January 9, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. If your chapter would like to have a table at the chapter

fair please let me know as soon as possible. This is a good way to let non-chapter (or non-FMCA) members know about your chapter and the type of rallies you have. As in the past there will be no electric supplied at the tables. We would like for you to plan on using only one table, if possible. We ask this because as soon as the chapter fair is over at 3:00 p.m. and everyone picks up their information our Tables and Chairs people have to get the hall set before 6:00 p.m. before Bingo starts.

To contact me for a table at Chapter Fair you can e-mail me bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com , call be at 530-934-7346 or 530-519-7346 or by mail: P.O. Box 704 Willows, CA 95988.

Hoping to hear from someone in your chapter,

Alice Bernard,
 Membership & Chapter Fair Chairperson.





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“A Dozen Does It”



Don't forget that we all have been asked to step up our recruitment efforts in 2011 and help to introduce more motorhome owners to the fun and fellowship and the great benefits we enjoy as FMCA members. FMCA was never meant to be kept a secret. Spread the word and help us to make the "A Dozen Does It" membership recruitment program a rousing success. You've heard the saying, "If it's to be, it's up to me." Well, that's true of this membership recruitment program as well. We can make it happen. Each chapter is being encouraged to recruit at least a dozen new members to FMCA this year — that's only one per month. FMCA has

helped out by providing each chapter president five free memberships to jump-start the chapter's efforts. After a chapter recruits 12 members, the chapter will receive a fantastic prize package filled with items they can give away as door prizes at an upcoming rally (limit two packages in 2011). Individual members also receive a \$10 recruitment coupon for each paid member they recruit. The coupon is good toward the payment of their FMCA membership dues or toward the purchase of merchandise from the FMCA Store or from Camping World. If you need additional help with recruiting, check out the recruiting video on FMCA's Web site <http://www.fmca.com/members/member->

We all get heavier as we get older because there's a lot more information in our heads. So I'm not fat, I'm just really intelligent and my head couldn't hold any more so it started filling up the rest of me!



That's my story and I'm sticking to it!

Need a Western Area Badge?
 Anyone who is interested in Western Motor Home Association badge it can be ordered by contacting
 Alice Bernard phone 530-934-7346
 cell - 530-519-7346
 e-mail bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com
 The badge has your name and F number on it (cost is \$10.00 each). If you want to have a hanger with your

Hurry, Hurry, Step Right Up!!!!!!

Calling all the Chapters!!!!

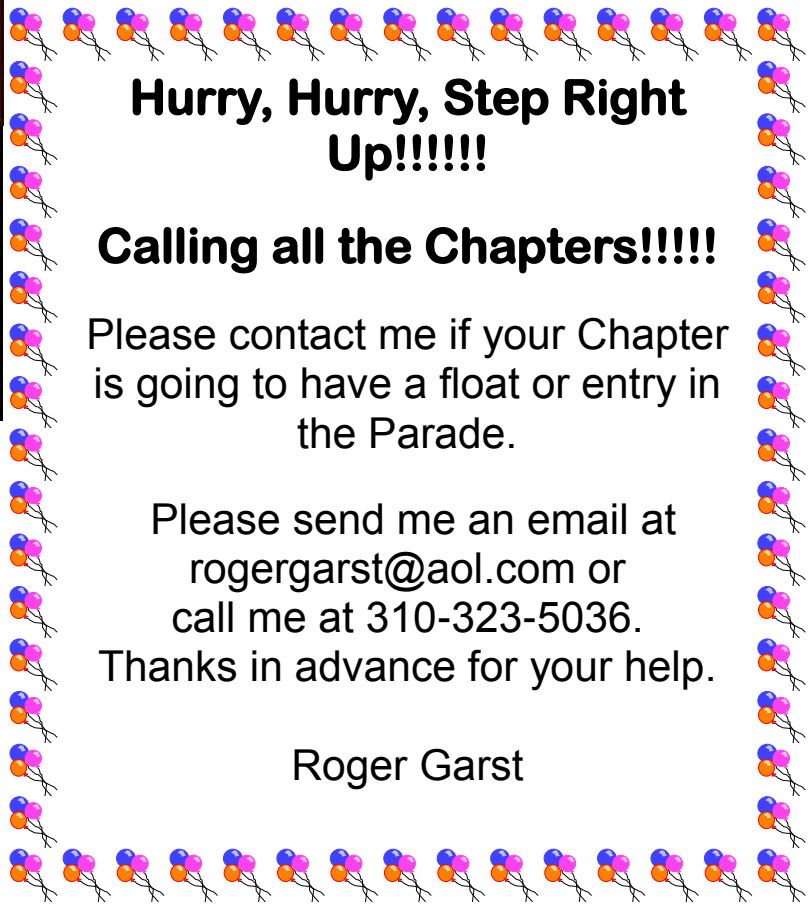
Please contact me if your Chapter is going to have a float or entry in the Parade.

Please send me an email at rogergarst@aol.com or call me at 310-323-5036. Thanks in advance for your help.

Roger Garst

Thank You

Bobby & Shirley Donald wish to thank everyone for all the cards and calls during their recovery. It really brighten their days.



25th Annual Western Area Rally

UNDER THE BIG TOP

JANUARY 9-13, 2013
 Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
 Indio, California

Towables Welcome
Register Online www.FMCA.com

Rally Highlights
Four Nights Dry Camping
 (Jan. 9, 10, 11, & 12), Three Nights of Professional Entertainment, Parade, Two Ice Cream Socials, Ladies Tea, Fashion Show, Bingo, Seminars, Door Prizes, Commercial Exhibits, Display Coaches, the Frustrated Maestros, and Coffee & Doughnuts Served Each Morning

Exhibit Hours
 Display Coaches: Wed. 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 Display Coaches & Commercial Exhibits: Thurs. - Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

General Information
 Holding area opens at noon on Sun., Jan. 6, at \$2.00 per night, dry camping, payable on entry. Rally parking starts on Wed., Jan. 9, at 8:00 a.m.

Directions
 I-10 to Monroe. Monroe south 3 miles to Avenue 48. Left 1/2 mile on 48 to Arabia Street. Left on Arabia to the holding area (on night).

Golf Cart Rental Available
 Contact Christina Mudica directly at Electric Car Distributors (760) 346-5661 ext.205 www.electrincar.com/rentals
 Your cart rental will be direct with Electric Car. FMCA & Western Area will not be involved.

Sponsored by The Western Motor Home Association

Western Area Rally Registration Form

Permanent changes to membership files cannot be made from this form.

Member Number:		Coach License:		Coach Make:		<input type="checkbox"/> First Time at a Western Area Rally	
Last Name:			First Name:		Spouse's Name:		
Address:				City:		State:	Zip:
E-mail:			Telephone:			Handicapped Parking Placard #:	
Home FMCA Chapter:				<input type="checkbox"/> Hold Confirmation Packet at Will Call		<input type="checkbox"/> Mail Confirmation Packet	
1. Guest/Child's Name/Age:				2. Guest/Child's Name/Age:			

	Pre-Registered	After 12/28/12	Qty.	Total	Parking Preference (only check one)
Coach with 2 adults – Electric	\$ 190.00	\$ 200.00		\$	I prefer to park in the following area: <input type="checkbox"/> General Parking – with electric. <input type="checkbox"/> General Parking – Generator between 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. <input type="checkbox"/> Handicapped Parking – Reserved for those with proof of qualifying medical needs. <input type="checkbox"/> 24-Hour Generator Parking <input type="checkbox"/> National Officer <i>Handicap Electric and General Electric Parking 20-30 amps only</i>
Coach with 1 adult – Electric	\$ 180.00	\$ 190.00		\$	
Coach with 2 adults – Generator	\$ 130.00	\$ 140.00		\$	
Coach with 1 adult – Generator	\$ 120.00	\$ 130.00		\$	
Each Additional Occupant	\$ 50.00	\$ 60.00		\$	
Children Under 12	FREE	FREE		FREE	
Passport* for 2 adults	\$ 80.00	\$ 90.00		\$	
Passport* for 1 adult	\$ 65.00	\$ 75.00		\$	
				Total	\$

* No motorhome parking; includes exhibits, entertainment, seminars, socials, and coffee hour.

Payment Information

Make checks payable in U.S. funds to FMC, Inc.

Please Charge:

Card Number _____
 Expiration Date _____
 Signature _____

Refunds will be given only upon written request if received no later than 12/21/12. A cancellation charge of \$10.00 will be deducted from any amount. Badges and confirmation material must be returned with request. Registrations after 12/20/12 will be held at will call.

Mail to: FMCA
 Attention:
 Western Area Rally
 8291 Clough Pike
 Cincinnati, OH 45244

Place your credit card registrations by:

Phone: (800) 543-3622
 (513) 474-3622

Fax: (800) 543-4717
 (513) 474-2332

Online: www.fmca.com

Robert "Rick" Ricordati, WMHA President
 (909) 496-9010

Dick Gibbs, WMHA Sr. Vice President
 (661) 203-9180

Groups & Caravans – Harry Montgomery
 (623) 341-3218 • hsmonty@gmail.com

Seminars – Jean & John Taylor
 (928) 671-1094 • indiosems@gmail.com

Display Coaches – Dave Brooks
 (760) 799-5038 • WMHAcoachdisplay@aol.com

Commercial Exhibits – Virgil George
 (714) 745-7092 • Fax (714) 593-3351
WMHA@GeorgeCompany.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 Cruisers
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
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Southwest Country Coachers
Southwest Roamin' Catholics
Southwestern Bus Nuts
Suncrest Motor Coach Club
Thousand Trails West
Traveling VIP
Western Bus Nuts
Western Executives
Western GM Coach

Western Motor Home Association, Inc.

Executive Board 2012-2013

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Immediate Past President

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APPOINTED OFFICES 2012

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Deadline for next Byway's January 21, 2013