



Volume 29 Issue 4

Western Area FMCA

Sandy King - Editor

Fall 2015

President's Message



On Sept. 29th we had our Annual Western Motor Home Association Governing Board Meeting in Hanford, CA and it was well attended. 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 2015 - 2016 budgets that passed as presented after a line by line discussion.

Reports were given by Alice Bernard on membership, Warren James on the Western Area's new web site & Allyn Smith on our program to increase the sales of Day Pass tickets at Indio.

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 except Lee Clemons who was not present due to his wife's illness, get well soon Margie, meet with his Captains to develop their needs list so that they will have everything they need to do their job at the rally. Each Captain presented his needs for supplies, golf carts, radios & misc.

This year we are going to let everyone that wants to, come in on Sunday Jan. 3rd. There will be a \$20 per night charge for the early nights We are offering each Chapter that brings 1/3 of their certified membership to Indio we will give them a party spot with electric (a \$75 value) if the chapter needs 2 party spots they will pay \$75 for the 2nd spot. This is all intended to increase our attendance at the rally, If everyone encourages all of their friends to attend we will hit our goal of at least 1,150 rigs at Indio. Please help us to hit this goal

We have added several new activities to the rally this year that I will let Lon Cross our Rally Master talk about in his article

All electric will be turned on Sunday 3rd.. 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 3th. Don't forget to keep recruiting new members for FMCA, and your Chapter, new members are the life blood of every organization.

Safe travels,
Dick Gibbs F278983
Western Area President



WMHA Senior Vice



Our Annual Western Motor Home Association Governing Board meeting was well attended as mentioned elsewhere in the Officers reports. Also I too would like to thank all the Chapter Representatives and Indio Captains that were at Hanford to support this important meeting. As a result we were able to pass a balanced budget. I would like to thank our Treasurer, Judy Jackson, for her keen eye to

details that made the line item discussion of the budget go so effortlessly. We were also able to fill all of our vacant Indio Captains positions.

We are very excited about the upcoming 2016 Indio Rally with its new features. Opening the gates for early arrivals at noon on Sunday Jan 3rd we hope that many Chapters will schedule a pre-rally at the fairgrounds (\$20/night). Electricity will also be turned on at noon. If you bring one third of your Chapter (minimum of 10 coaches) we will give you and addition parking site, with electricity (\$75 value), to use as a party area.

For the first time ever we are offering optional tours. The first tour on Tuesday is to the Living Desert, Zoo, and Museum. The \$48 fee includes transportation, entry fee, and box lunch. The second tour on Wednesday will be to the Palm Springs Air Museum. The Museum has many World War II combat airplanes on display. The \$34 fee includes transportation and entrance fee. The bus will be returning at noon so that you wont miss any of the Rally's afternoon activities.

We are again opening up the Rally Theme Contest to all WMHA Chapters. The winner for 2017 will be announced at Saturday night's entertainment. As the winner you will receive up front setting at the last night of entertainment and \$100 for your Chapter treasury. See entry form located in this newsletter.

Another important issue we are addressing this year is the support to our Display Coach Dealers and Commercial Exhibitors. They make it possible for us to present our Rally year after year. With the help and direction from Allyn Smith we will be trying to increase the Day Pass attendance by posting flyers at many recreational vehicle establishments such as RV parks and resorts, repair facilities, and several restaurants, just to name a few. We will be covering a wide area in and around the Indio area.

We have also learned that there are will over 8,000 FMCA members in California that do not belong to a chapter. Sooo...we are looking for new ways to entice these folks to join in on our fun. Please contact me if you would like to share your ideas.

Travel Safe,

Lon Cross

WMHA Senior VP

661-886-5077 loncross1225@att.net

Northern Area Vice President

Hello to all of Lee Clemons Northern Area Chapters...

As you may know Lee's wife, Margie, had a stroke about two months ago. She is in a convalescent hospital and is able to recognize people and is showing small steps of improvement. But what you may not know is that about three weeks ago Lee's oldest daughter, Yolonda, also had a stroke. She is recovering well.

Lee had a lot of Anniversary Certificates to pass out to his chapters this quarter and it was my privilege to assist with that effort at the Hanford Governing Board Rally. I passed out certificates to the representatives of the following chapters: Western Bus Nuts, 35 years; Crafty Craters, 20 years; Northern California FMCA Elks, 25 years; Thousand Trails West, 30 years. Congratulations to those chapters and we wish you all well for another wonderful 5 years.

As you can imagine Lee really has had his hands full. For the time being Lee will be on leave so he can concentrate on his family. If any of his Chapters or Indio Captains has questions would you please route them to me. I will continue to "cc" Lee to keep him apprised of issues that are of concern within his region.

Lee would like to tell everyone that he is doing fine and he appreciates the kind thoughts and prayers you send his way. As Lee would say "Thank you from your Northern Area VP".

Lon Cross
SR VP

Central Area Vice President

This has certainly been a very busy summer for us. First off we were off to Oceano over at the coast to spend the weekend with the Komfort Kruisers at their rally being held at Pacific Dunes RV Ranch. A nice place to get away from the summer heat. The main purpose for our visit was to present them with their 20 year Anniversary Certificate. Anniversary presentations are always a joy to do and the Komfort Kruisers are going strong at their 20 year mark. Our thanks to them for their warm hospitality. I should mention that we also ate our share of seafood while visiting the area. While there we stayed a couple of extra days and dropped in to visit the Apollo Amigos over at the Oceano Elks during their rally. More food, fun and a chance to eat at another seafood restaurant.



Chapter President Woody Wilson accepting their 25th Anniversary Certificate for the Cali-



Chapter President Jeff Newby accepting the 20th Anniversary Certificate for the Komfort Kruis-

Next up was our Governing Board Meeting and Indio Planning Session up in Hanford. You can read about the meeting elsewhere in this Byways. I will touch on the chapter breakout session. We had lively discussion on issues regarding member recruitment, chapter guests, spending chapter money and rally activities to keep members interested. Discussion was still going strong when lunch arrived and we had to cut it short. My thanks to one and all for the input.

With summer still upon us we headed up to Pahrump, Nv for a Beat-The-Odds rally being held at the Preferred RV Resort. On the way we ran into desert summer storms that produced flooded roadways and lots of mud. We arrived in Pahrump in the middle of a downpour. Needless to say our rig and tow car were a mess but so was everyone else's. It was a fun rally and we even won a little in the slot tournament and the Bunko game. From there we drove to the other end of Pahrump to join the California Heartland chapter for their rally at Wine Ridge RV Resort. This was another great rally and we were there to present the chapter their 25th Anniversary Certificate. It is always fun making new friends at a first time chapter visit. We know many of the Heartland members from their volunteer work at Indio but it was nice meeting more of the chapter members we had not met before.

Now it was time to head down to Borrego Springs for another chapter rally. We decided to take a "short cut" from Baker down through Kelso Junction and on to 29 Palms. Big mistake! Lots of dried mud across the road way and the road itself had not been resurfaced probably since it was first made. Portions of the road we were down to 20 MPH – cross this road off your map – do not take it. We stopped in Indio for a couple of days to look over the fairgrounds and talk with the contractors on the construction project next door to the fairgrounds to make sure there will be no impact with our rally. We stayed at the Indian Waters RV Resort (very nice) and endured a spectacular lightning storm and torrential rain. When it was time to pack up and head down to Borrego our living room slide would not retract! What a fun thing to work on in hot and humid conditions. Finally after 3 hours I got it to work (hint: think lubricant after driving through summer thunderstorms). Of course, on the way to Borrego we hit another tropical deluge just to make sure our rig and tow car remained a mess.

I am now sitting in our rig parked in the beautiful Springs at Borrego RV Resort typing up this message. Clouds are building up and we are probably in for another thunderstorm. We may have to extend our stay here as the roads to our home in Tehachapi are currently closed due to mud slides. I can't think of a nicer RV park to be stuck in. Enjoy the rest of summer. If these storms (and the ones at home) are any indication, we may be in for a wild and crazy Fall/Winter.

Safe travels and see you all down at Indio.

Bob Golk
WMHA Central Area Vice President

Southern Area Vice President

Well, another summer has passed, or has it. You wouldn't think so with the heat we are having in Southern California. Oh well, I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are getting ready for the rally in Indio this coming January.

We had a very productive Governing Board meeting in Hanford on September the 28th and 29th. As part of the agenda a balanced budget for the upcoming year was passed, captains meetings to plan their needs for the rally, and a break out meeting for chapter officer was held.

I would like to thank all of the captains for getting their needs information to me, as well as for all their hard work. This project is important, for it allows use to maximize the use of our resources while making sure the captains needs are met.

We have made a number of changes for the upcoming rally. The holding area will be open for early arrivals on Sunday January 3rd. with electric hooks ups scheduled to be available by noon on the 3rd. For the chapters that are planning on arriving early and having pre-rallies, if you have a third of your membership attend (minimum of 10 coaches) you will receive a free parking space with electric hook up for a party area. So if you have not already planned a chapter pre-rally now is the time to do so. Also for the early arrivals we have added as an option of two tours, one to the Living Desert Museum and the other to the Air Museum in Palm

Springs.

In both the General Meeting and the Chapter Officers meeting the topic of how to gain chapter membership was discussed. There are over 8,000 FMCA members in the state of California, but we have only approximately 1600 as chapter members. One of the ideas was to offer a free one year chapter membership, or free outing to one of the chapter rallies to FMCA members who do not belong to a chapter. Of course one of the best recruitment tools is simply word of mouth, members talking to nonmembers and inviting them to a rally. I believe one of the best recruiting tools is the chapter fair at the Indio rally. It gives your chapter the opportunity to sell potential members on joining you chapter. If you have not already done so, contact Alice Barnard and she will be happy to sign you up.

In our chapter meeting one of the presidents brought up the subject of how nice it would be to meet other presidents and discuss things of mutual interest. This is an excellent thought and the Indio rally is an opportunity to do this, come in early and take some time to go around and introduce yourselves.

Roy Mc Daniel Southern Area Vice President

MEMBERSHIP – CHAPTER FAIR

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INDIO – VOLUNTEERING

Please think about volunteering in Indio in January for the Western Area Rally. Many of the captains already have enough volunteers but there is almost always need for a few more volunteers. If you are interested please let us know and we will contact you when we find out who will be needing volunteers – some of this we will not know until November or December but it is time to start planning on attending even if you do not volunteer. You can contact me by phone: 530-519-7346, e-mail: bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com or even by snail mail: P.O. Box 704 Willows, CA 95988. Alice Barnard

Bud & Alice Bernard



Page



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: bernard-frogfarm@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.

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...

Looking for Western area photos?

Flickr Photo Tutorial

There are several ways to get into FlickrR to see many RV photos.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/12765661@N06/>

or

<http://www.wafmca.com/> (look for link to photos)

Once in FlickrR 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

**Towables
Welcome**

28TH ANNUAL WESTERN AREA RALLY JANUARY 6 - 10, 2016

LIVERSIDE COUNTY FAIR & NATIONAL DATE FESTIVAL • INDIO, CA

Highlights: 4 Nights of Dry Camping / 3 Nights of Entertainment / Parade / 2 Ice Cream Socials
Ladies Tea & Fashion Show / 1st Time Attendee Orientation / Chapter Fair / Bingo
Pet Extravaganza / Seminars / Door Prizes / Commercial Exhibits / New Display Coaches
The Frustrated Maestros / Coffee & Goodies Served Each Morning

General Information: Early Arrival Area opens Sunday, Jan. 3 (Fee Payable Onsite) • **2 Bus Tours:** The Living Desert, Zoo & Garden (Jan. 5) & Palm Springs Air Museum (Jan. 6) • **Exhibit Hours:** Display Coaches Open Wed. Jan. 6, 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm / Commercial Exhibits Open Thur. - Sat. 9:00 am - 4:00 pm • **Private Golf Cart Rental available:** Call GTI for reservations, Mindy Hawkins 800-477-0467 • **Directions:** I-10 to Monroe, Monroe south 3 miles to 48th, left 1/2 mile to Arabia Street, left on Arabia to the arrival area on the right.

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:	Pilot's First Name:	Co-Pilot's First Name:		
Address (if this address differs from your billing address, please call):		City:	State:	Zip:
E-mail:		Telephone:	Handicap 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-Reg.	After 12/18	Qty.	Total	Parking Preference (only check one)
Coach with 2 Adults – Electric	\$ 210.00	+ \$ 10.00		\$	I prefer to park in the following area: <input type="checkbox"/> General Electric Parking – 20-30 amps <input type="checkbox"/> General Parking – Generator between 7:00 am - 10:00 pm <input type="checkbox"/> Handicap Electric Parking* – 20-30 amps <input type="checkbox"/> Handicap Parking* – Generator between 7:00 am - 10:00 pm <input type="checkbox"/> 24-Hour Generator Parking <input type="checkbox"/> National Officer/WMHA Executive Officer <small>* Reserved for those with proof of qualifying medical needs. Please provide parking placard number above.</small>
Coach with 1 Adult – Electric	\$ 190.00	+ \$ 10.00		\$	
Coach with 2 Adults – Generator	\$ 135.00	+ \$ 10.00		\$	
Coach with 1 Adult – Generator	\$ 115.00	+ \$ 10.00		\$	
Coach with 2 Adults – 24-Hour Generator	\$ 135.00	+ \$ 10.00		\$	
Each Additional Occupant	\$ 50.00	+ \$ 10.00		\$	
Passport* for 1 adult	\$ 45.00	+ \$ 10.00		\$	
Children Under 12	FREE	FREE		FREE	
Living Desert, Zoo & Garden – Jan. 5 • 5 hr	\$ 48.50	\$ 48.50		\$	
Palm Springs Air Museum – Jan. 6 • 2 hr	\$ 34.00	\$ 34.00		\$	
				Total	\$

* No motorhome parking; includes exhibits, entertainment, seminars, socials, and Coffee Hour.

Rally Contacts

WMHA President: Dick Gibbs • (661) 203-9180 • randogibbs@juno.com
Rally Master: Lon Cross, WMHA Sr. Vice Pres. • (861) 866-5077 • loncross1225@att.net
Parking Chief: Kent Pratt • (509) 989-0447 • kkentpratt@aol.com
Groups & Caravans: James McDaniels • (925) 818-7718 • jmcddan2296@sbcglobal.net
Seminars: Faadiyah & Todd Smith • (213) 598-2511 • kinshipedu@aol.com
Display Coaches: Paul Bostwick • (714) 240-8105 • cabpb@earthlink.net
Commercial Exhibits: Virgil George • (714) 964-3731 • (714) 745-7092
 WMHAvendors@gmail.com

Cancellation Policy

Refunds will be made only upon written request if received no later than 12/15/15. Absolutely no refunds for electric canceled after 12/15/15. A cancellation charge of \$20.00 will be deducted from any amount. Badges and confirmation material must be returned with request. Registrations after 1/4/16 will be held at will call.

Payment Information

PLEASE CALL IF YOUR BILLING ADDRESS DIFFERS FROM THE ADDRESS ABOVE.
Make checks Fee Payable in U.S. funds to FMC, Inc.
Please Charge:    

Card Number

Security Code

Expiration Date

Signature

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

**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.

Executive Board 2015

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APPOINTED OFFICES 2014

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