



Volume 30 Issue 4

Western Area FMCA

Sandy King - Editor

Fall 2016

President's Message



On September 27th we held our Annual Western Motor Home Association Governing Board and Indio Captains meeting in Hanford, CA. It was well attended as we had just a little over 46% of our chapters represented. I would like to thank all of the Chapter Presidents, National Directors, and/or their representatives, as well as the Indio Rally Captains that were in attendance. I would also like to express my

THANKS to all of the first time attendees.

Board Action:

The Secretary, Sharon Roach, presented her report, which was accepted as posted.

The Treasurer, Kurt Simon, presented a 2016-2017 balanced budget. After an overview and a brief discussion a motion was made to accept the budget as presented...the motion was passed.

The Membership Chairwoman, Alice Bernard, presented her report. She emphasized the importance of chapters having a booth at the Chapter Fair if they wished to grow their chapters. Alice explained how she contacts every new FMCA member in the Western Area, and lets him or her know about the fun of joining a chapter.

A chapter breakout session was held and as a result a new seminar is in the planning stages for the Indio Rally. The seminar will be a Wagon Master's Roundtable. The purpose of the roundtable will be where Chapter Wagon Masters can get together and discuss the pros and cons of putting on a rally, why some rallies work while some fail to please the members. And why some chapters grow while others lose members or fold up.

The second half of the day was devoted to the Indio Rally and Planning meeting. I will let Bob Golk our Sr. Vice President discuss this item.

On October 15th, I returned home from a week of orientation, committees, Directors, and Executive Board meetings at our National Headquarters in Cincinnati, Ohio. This was a great experience for me as I got to meet and get acquainted with the office staff, our Executive Board, and other Area and National VPs like myself.

I would like to submit my report of the actions taken by the Executive Board:

Our membership for the first nine months of calendar year 2016 has gained 1,937 net new members. This results in a net gain of 616 members so far this fiscal year with a retention rate of 79.5%.

The 2016 financials were reported as of August 31, 2016, with our investments portfolio Market Value being \$7,906,894, and we have withdrawn \$950,778 this fiscal year to fund FMC Assist and membership initiatives. The total membership is approximately 71,223.

Our Call Center is making great strides in contacting new members three times in the first year.

The 94th International Convention held in West Springfield, Massachusetts, had a net gain of approximately \$131,000 with a total coach count of 1,315.

Convention locations were discussed. 95th Convention is being held in Chandler, AZ., on March 7-10, 2017, with approximately 1000 already signed up. 96th Convention scheduled to be held in Indianapolis, IN. on July 12-15, 2017. The following locations are for future Conventions: Winter 2018 – Perry, GA.; Summer 2018 – Gillette, WY.; Winter 2019 – Chandler or Tucson, AZ.; Summer 2019 – St. Paul, MN; Winter 2020 – Perry, GA.; Summer 2020 – Redmond OR.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

The Door Hanger Membership drive has been discontinued.

Blue Beacon Truck Wash is issuing a coupon to FMCA members for a free RainX all surface protectant application (\$12 value) when they have their RV washed. Go to www.FMCA.com/benefits/3909 to print coupon. Offer expires 9/30/2017.

Michelin Advantage Program will now return to FMCA \$2.50 for every new tire sold to qualified members.

Continental Tire Company is coming on board as a second source for RV and personal vehicle tires for qualified FMCA members. Look for details online and in future issues of FMC magazine.

On page 84 of the October FMC magazine is a ballot to amend the FMCA Articles Of Incorporation. The purpose is to expand the Articles to avoid an overly restrictive constraint on FMCA's mission and activities. The FMCA website has an FAQ section where several questions are answered. Please observe the December 31, 2016 deadline.

A motion to accept a new FMCA Executive Director was made and passed. The person selected was Chris Smith, who served as FMCA's Director of Accounting & Financial Services for three years. It was felt that by selecting Chris to fill this position,

from within the FMCA family, it would be an advantage to our members, the staff, and the Executive Board. Congratulations, Chris!

Finally, I would like to comment about the FMCA Office staff. These fine folks are there to assist each and every member and chapter with answers to your many questions. I've experienced first hand the friendliness and dedication of the staff. They have also provided tremendous support to the Western Area Rally, from artwork, to program printing, and to member registrations. They have been most professional. A big **THANK YOU** to each and every staff member.

Happy Traveling,



Lon Cross
Western Area President



I know what I'm doing the next time it snows



Just for Laughs



WMHA Senior Vice President's Views

Hello everyone – I hope you all had a wonderful summer. Debbie and I did not do too much as we do not like the heat and summer crowds. We did, however, brave the heat for our WMHA Governing Board meeting up in Hanford. Day time highs were in the upper 90's but then that is what we have A/C for. It also made our sneak away over to Superior Creamery for some ice cream a real treat. This was our first Governing Board meeting with our new officers in attendance, and by all accounts it looks like we have a first-rate team. Kurt, our treasurer, presented the proposed budget for 2017. Besides the usual line by line document of all income and expenditures, Kurt also provided a nice hand-out summary of the budget, which was much easier on the eyes and provided a great overview. After a few questions, the budget was approved, after comments by the VPs and committee reports, it was time for the chapter break-out session where chapter representatives met with their respective regional vice president. There were many topics to discuss, and as I circulated around the sessions, where there was a lot of lively discussion going on. Notes were taken by a volunteer from each group, and I will compile these and send them on to the regional VPs for distribution to their chapters.

The afternoon session was devoted to Indio planning. I'm excited to announce some highlights of the upcoming Indio rally for 2017. First off, our Ice Cream Social captain has done some research for better ice cream, and I am happy to report that she was successful. I'm told the ice

cream bars will be a little bigger than years past, so that is good news. I don't think you can have too much ice cream. We have decided to expand the big tram routes back to what they used to be due to popular request. We will again offer two bus tours during the week: Tuesday will be a trip to the Palm Springs Air Museum and Wednesday we will have the Coachella Valley tour showcasing celebrities' homes. For entertainment we have the Flashback Boys for Thursday night, which I hear are very good and even take requests from the audience. Friday night we will have the George Straight Tribute billed as the "Troubadour Experience." Finally, on Saturday we will have the Southwest Surfers, which fits perfectly with the rally theme of Beach Party.

Once again we will be having the Indio Theme contest where each chapter can submit two rally theme ideas. This will be for the 2018 Indio rally, and the winning chapter will get \$100 for their treasury and VIP seating at the Saturday night's entertainment, so get those ideas rolling. Entry information should already have been sent to all chapters.

One final note: we decided to order better weather for the rally. Some rain is nice, but last year was just too much although it did not dampen the rally proceedings. Let's see what we get this year.

Safe travels to you all and see you at Indio.

Bob Golk
WMHA Senior Vice President



Northern Area Vice President

We have been very busy the past few months. My wife, Jeanette, and I traveled to Hanford, California, to prepare for the rally in Indio. While we were in Hanford, I met with the captains who came up with some good ideas. The best idea was to offer a seminar at Indio for wagon masters to share their ideas about their best rallies and the most enjoyable locations of some of their previous rallies.

I am looking forward to the Western Area Rally in Indio in January, 2017, because I believe it will be better. There will be more exciting entertainment, new vendors, and a fun

parade with the "Beach Party" theme.

So far this year, since my installation, I have made four chapter visits and I am working on visiting three more chapters between the rest of this month and in November.

My wife and I were able to attend the Oktoberfest in Hemet, CA, and the Beat the Odds rally in Pahrump, Nevada, where we met many nice and friendly people. Best of all, we had a lot of fun. Happy travels.

Stephen M Shade
WMHA Northern Vice President
67jeep.ss@gmail.com



Central Area Vice President

This is my first article as your newly elected Central Area Vice President. I would like to thank you for your confidence. We have a great team of officers and I look forward to being part of this team.

My first chapter visit was with the Beat The Odds Chapter. The rally was held in Pahrump. I am a member of this Chapter. A great group and always a good time.

I have three certificates to present in the coming months. Two, a 35 Year Anniversary (a Letter, Certificate and check) and a 30 Year Anniversary (a Letter, Certificate and check) will be presented at Indio. A 20 Year Anniversary (a Letter and a Certificate) will be presented at a chapter rally next week.

I attended the Indio pre-planning session held at Hanford. I am always impressed with the co-operation of all concerned and the dedication of the volunteers. It is easy to see why the WMHA puts on such a great rally at Indio. We are following in the footsteps of those great volunteers before us. If you would like to be a part of this team contact your VP and we can point you in the right direction.

If you need to change your records (phone numbers, e-mail

address, home address, motorhome info, etc.) you can update it yourself. Go to FMCA.com, sign in and click on My Account; view My Member Profile. While visiting this site you can download a copy of your FMC Assist I.D. Card. My co-pilot and I carry this card with us in our wallets. It is a valuable benefit and should be readily available if and when you need it. With this info it is also a great idea to have copies of your medical directives on board.

For chapters attending the Indio Rally and planning to participate in the Chapter Fair, remember WHMA will reimburse your chapter for the first year dues of new members recruited at the Chapter Fair. This means your chapter can give these new members a year's free dues. The only requirement is the new member has not been a chapter member of any another FMCA Chapter. What a deal.

Hope to see you at the Indio Rally in January.

Fred Wells, Central VP

Southern Area Vice President

The board meeting in Hanford was very productive; not only was the budget approved but several other topics were covered. I would like to thank each of the captains for their prompt submission of their needs list, and continued support, for it is they who make this a success. I look forward to seeing all of you in Indio.

One of the agenda items was a break out session for chapters to discuss topics of interest to them. Some of the topics covered included how to get members to volunteer to be rally hosts, joint chapter rallies, ways to increase chapter membership, cooking chapter meals versus potlucks or catering. Notes were taken, and these are going to be distributed to chapter presidents.

Ann and I were the trail bosses for the California Chapter's Oktoberfest this year, with over 80 coaches in attendance. There were seminars covering everything from RV care to

glass etching, a golf putting contest, shuffleboard, and of course, the pet extravaganza, a beer garden and lunch, as well as catered dinners with live entertainment were provided.

We were privileged to have seven first timers in attendance, and two who were staying in the park that chose to join the chapter. A total of nine new members joined the California Chapter with two others taking applications home with them. I think part of the reason we attracted the new members was the fact we invited them to an orientation seminar where we discussed the advantages of belonging to FMCA, and chapter membership.

It occurred to me there are others who are FMCA members that are not taking advantage of chapter membership because they are not sure what is offered. Western Motor Home Assoc. is one of the 10 areas in the FMCA organization that encompasses the

state of California, which has 50 chapters in it. The main purpose of a chapter is to provide an environment for motorhome owners to get together for fun and friendship. However, there is more to offer depending on your interest. For example there are off-road chapters, or ones that like to do Nevada trips with slot tournaments others like to play games or just sit back and relax. Some do potlucks, some have a committees prepare the meals and others cater their meals.

If you are not a member of a chapter, I would encourage you to look at membership. Our Rally in Indio this January will have a chapter fair where you meet and talk with representatives from a number of chapters, or you can simply call one of our officers and we would be glad to help.

Roy Mc Daniel
Southern Area Vice President



29th Annual Western Area Rally

BEACH PARTY • JANUARY 11-15, 2017

Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival • Indio, California

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

General Information: Early Arrival Area opens Sunday, Jan. 8 (Fee Payable On-site) • **2 Bus Tours:** Palm Springs Air Museum & B17 Tour (Jan. 10) and Palm Springs Area Tour (Jan. 11) • **Exhibit Hours:** Display Coaches Open Wed. Jan. 11, 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:		Last Name:		Pilot:		Co-Pilot:			
Address (If this address differs from your billing address, please call):				City:		State/Province:		Zip/Postal Code:	
E-mail:			Telephone:			Cell Phone:			
Coach Make:		Coach License:		Coach Length:		<input type="radio"/> First Time at a Western Area Rally			
<input type="radio"/> Hold Confirmation Packet at Will Call		Are you parking with a chapter? <input type="radio"/> Yes Chapter Name: _____							
1. Guest/Child's Name/Age:			2. Guest/Child's Name/Age:			Handicap Parking? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			

	Pre-Reg.	After 12/16	Qty.	Total
Coach with 2 Adults – Electric	\$ 225.00	+ \$ 10.00		\$
Coach with 2 Adults – Generator	\$ 145.00	+ \$ 10.00		\$
Coach with 1 Adult (deduct)	-\$ 20.00	- \$ 20.00		\$
Coach with 2 Adults – 24-Hour Generator	\$ 145.00	+ \$ 10.00		\$
Each Additional Occupant	\$ 50.00	+ \$ 10.00		\$
Passport ¹ for 1 adult	\$ 45.00	+ \$ 10.00		\$
Children 12 & Under	FREE	FREE		FREE
Palm Springs Air Museum & B17 ² – Jan. 10	\$ 42.00	\$ 42.00		\$
Palm Springs Area ² – Jan. 11	\$ 33.00	\$ 33.00		\$
			Total	\$

- Parking Information**
- Electric Parking – 20-30 amps
 - Generator Parking – 7:00 am - 10:00 pm
 - Handicap Parking – Reserved for those with proof of qualifying medical needs. State-issued placard must be visible.
 - Early-Arrival Fee – \$25 per night payable on-site, cash or check only

Payment Information

PLEASE CALL IF YOUR BILLING ADDRESS DIFFERS FROM THE ADDRESS ABOVE.
 Make checks payable in U.S. funds to FMCA, Inc.

Please Charge: 

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Rally Contacts

<p>WMHA President – Lon Cross (661) 886-5077 • lcross@fmca.com</p> <p>WMHA Sr. VP/Co-Rally Master – Bob Golk (661) 599-3548 • rgolk@bak.rr.com</p> <p>Parking Chief – Kent Pratt (509) 989-0447 • kkentpratt@aol.com</p> <p>Groups & Caravans – James McDaniels (925) 818-7718 • jmcndan2296@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Seminars – Faaidah & William Smith (213) 598-2511 • kinshipedu@aol.com</p> <p>Display Coaches – Paul Bostwick (714) 240-8105 • cabpb@earthlink.net</p> <p>Commercial Exhibits – Virgil George (714) 964-3731 • (714) 745-7092 WMHAvendors@gmail.com</p> <p>Volunteers – Alice Bernard (530) 519-7346 • benardfrogfarm@yahoo.com</p>
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Mail to: FMCA / Attention: Western Area Rally
 8291 Clough Pike
 Cincinnati, OH 45244

Place your credit card registrations by:
Online: FMCA.com
Phone: (800) 543-3622 • (513) 474-3622
Fax: (800) 543-4717 • (513) 474-2332

Would you like to Volunteer?

Yes. If interested please contact Alice Bernard (info above).

Cancellation Policy

Refunds will be given only upon written request if received by December 16, 2016, with return of badges and confirmation materials. Absolutely no refunds for electric cancelled after December 16, 2016. A \$20.00 processing fee will be charged. Cancellations made after December 16, 2016 will be issued a Voucher toward the next WMHA Rally. Registrations after December 31, 2016, will be held at Will Call.

Sponsored by the Western Motor Home Association

MEMBERSHIP/CHAPTER FAIR

I have been receiving lists of new members to FMCA for the Western Area. I send out an e-mail to all of those with e-mail addresses welcoming them to Western Area (WMHA) and FMCA. The response is not great, but I feel if we get just a few who are interested in joining a chapter it is well worth the effort. If you have friends who have a motorhome and do not belong to FMCA, encourage them to attend one of your rallies and join FMCA. Stress the benefits of belonging to FMCA – one of the main benefits is the FMCAssist program.

It's not too early for your chapter to begin thinking about Indio in January. The Chapter Fair is a good way to let people know about your chapter. Each chapter is encouraged to have a table with information about their chapter – it does not have to be anything fancy; the main idea is to get the information about your chapter out where people will see it. You should have a member or two at the table to answer any questions. Having the Chapter Fair just after the "First Timer's" meeting has helped to get more people at the Chapter Fair. If you sign up a new member (someone who has never been in a chapter before) during

the Indio rally – Western Area will pay their first year's dues. This does not include badges, just the dues. This is another incentive for a non-chapter member to join your chapter.

I have sent out a note to the contact person (and or the President) of your chapter to let them know more about Chapter Fair. It would be of a help to me if you would keep me informed on who is the contact person for your chapter. If you are a membership person and/or President of a chapter and are not sure if your chapter has signed up for chapter fair feel free to contact me either by e-mail: bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com or phone: 530-519-7346.

Hope that you are getting some new members from all the people who are new to FMCA. Remember your chapter can get a list of new FMCA members in your area if you contact the office in Cincinnati and request this list. Each chapter can get \$125.00 from FMCA for advertising or mailing to select zip codes. Contact your Regional VP and he will send you the instructional brochure.

Alice Bernard

29th Annual Western Area "Beach Party Rally"

January 11th through the 15th 2017

Early Arrival Hors d'oeuvres Party

for the

Officers, Captains and Volunteers

Saturday, January 7th

"Queens Gallery"

5:00 PM

Please bring your own beverage, place setting, and favorite hors d'oeuvres, to serve a minimum of ten (10 people).

Any Questions, please contact

Joyce Haupt or Carol Rogers

562 400 9000 805 990 6230



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: bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com
The price of the badge is \$11.50 (Which includes your name and F number). The hangers are \$2.75 each. The hangers can be for your city or your job or your chapter. You may have several hangers if you like.

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 Stocksdales wb6abw@hotmail.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
Dolphins, The
Frustrated Maestros
GMC Forty Niners
GMC Pacific Cruisers
Gold Diggers
Gold Dust Travelers
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
Roamin' Catholics, Southwest
Safari R Us
Sierra Hi Rollers
Sierra Ramblers
Southern California FMCA Elk
Southwest Country Coachers
Southwestern Bus Nuts
Thousand Trails West
Western Bus Nuts
Western GM Coach

Western Motor Home Association, Inc.

Executive Board 2016

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Treasurer

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e-mail: kurtsimon@gmail.com

Immediate Past President

Dick Gibbs F278983 Cell 661 203-9180
e-mail: randcgibbs@juno.com

APPOINTED OFFICES 2016

Membership

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Next Byways Deadline January 30,