

Volume 31 Issue 1

Western Area FMCA

Sandy King - Editor

Winter 2017

President's Message



A big Happy New Year to everyone!! I want to thank all who attended our 29th Annual Rally at Indio. Our theme this year was *Beach Party* and I would like to thank all the Chapters that participated in this year's parade, as many of you were having a great time along the parade route in your best beach attire. There were 818 coaches in attendance.

I would like to thank our Regional VPs, Captains and all of the Great Volunteers that assisted with the rally. You are a part of one of the Best Volunteer Forces within FMCA. I would also like to thank all of the National Officers and Past National Officers who attended our Rally.

I would especially like to thank Bob Golk, SR VP, for being Co-Rally Master and my right-hand, go-to-guy. With your assistance we were able to cover all of the bases. Thank you!

A great big **THANK YOU** for a job well done goes out to the following Captains who have decided to retire from their positions: Floyd and Phyllis Alger, Tables and Chairs; John and Eilene Stocksdale, Photographer; Sandy and John King, Stage Decorations & Newsletter Editor; Becky and Tim Brunkow, FMCA Store; Mary and Lefty Jamora, Bingo Caller; and Bob Pesce, Water Truck. We will miss each and every one of you very much! Thank you for your many years of service!

We need to fill the following positions: Tables and Chairs Captain, Photographer, Stage Decorations Captain (Sandy said she will help the new Captain get started) and Bingo Caller. If you are interested in any of these positions please contact Bob Golk or myself.

As Sandy King is moving to Montana I would like to thank her for the many years she has led her Decorations Crew to some of the most beautiful and unforgettable stage and side panel murals painted, which has represented the essence of our rally themes. Thank You Sandy for a job well done!

Our tireless Photographer, John Stocksdale, who is also retiring after many years of volunteer service has yet again caught our rally on film. He has taken over 8,000 pictures of our rallies and they are all downloadable from our website, wafmca.com (go to "photos" then click on flickr). Thank you John for a job well done!

Congratulations to Floyd and Phyllis Alger who were our Grand Marshals for this year's parade. Floyd is also retiring from being our Tables and Chairs Captain. It seemed that the tables and chairs would magically appear, because after you hung up the phone with your request...POOF!!...they would be delivered. Thank you, Floyd, for a job well done!

Charlie Adcock, our National President, presented proclamations to Allyn & Joy Smith (in absentia), Rick & Jan Ricordati, and Bud & Alice Bernard for their extraordinary service to the Western Area. And declared that each have their own day named after them during the rally. Congratulations to them all.

Work on our 30th Anniversary Rally has already begun. And with their submission of *Viva Las Vegas*, the Sierra Ramblers Chapter is the winner of the theme contest. They will receive \$100 for their treasury and will get to sit "up front" on the last night of entertainment. The artwork for the stage backdrop and side panel has been chosen (Sandy will help the next Captain).

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We hope all of you all had a good time and will return next year!

Please save the date of January 10-14, 2018, for the next Indio Rally.

Some FMCA business to report:

- FMCA Articles of Incorporation revision passed 553 yes votes to 115 no votes.
- Registrations for the 95th International Convention in Chandler, AZ., March 7-10, 2017, are exceeding all expectations. Please hurry and sign up.
- FMCA's 96th International Convention will be held July 12 through 15, 2017, at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis, Indiana. This year is an election year for the offices of National President, National Senior Vice

President, National Secretary, and National Treasurer. All Western Area National Directors and Alternate National Directors are urged to attend. However, if you are not able to find a delegate to attend this very important Governing Board meeting, you can contact either Bob Golk or myself, as we know of several people who are going to Indianapolis and would be glad to join your chapter and become your Temporary Delegate.

• Please take a moment and visit RVillage.com, a free social networking website that can help promote your FMCA chapter. To learn more about how to use the website, you can register for an ongoing webinar that takes place on the first Monday of each month. Go to https://goo.gl/9OU8kx.

HAPPY & SAFE TRAVELS...

LON CROSS, F233066 NATIONAL VP WMHA PRESIDENT

WMHA Senior Vice President's Views

Greetings everyone, In my last Byways message I mentioned that Debbie and I had not done much due to the summer heat other than the Governing Board meeting up in Hanford in September. Well, we more than made up for the summer once the fall weather hit. In October we went over to Pahrump for the Beat The Odds rally. This is always a fun event even though this time we did not win anything. No matter, the fellowship with all the people more than made up for it. In November we made the long trip down the mountain to Bakersfield to join with our Golden State Trackers rally at Orange Grove. Due to cool weather we mostly staved indoors and ate too much food. We did. however, travel over to the Bakersfield Rescue Mission where we wrapped lots of shoeboxes for the Christmas gifts they give to their residents. We also donated lots of clothes and they in turn fed us a great lunch. Back at the campground on Saturday night after a holiday dinner, we had a gift exchange with the usual trading and laughs. December found us again making the long drive down the mountain to Bakersfield to attend the Apollo Amigos Christmas rally. Some Golden State Tracker members attended as well to make the rally attendance larger and a good time was had by all. Lots of games, food, gift exchange and

a large collection of toys for the Toys For Tots charity. Once back home we quickly got the house decorated for Christmas, finished up gift shopping, and then enjoyed a white Christmas as it snowed Christmas Eve! Now it was time for our Western Area Rally down in Indio. We arrived on Jan. 1 to oversee the pre-rally activities that take place. This was my first year as Co -Rally Master and boy was this an experience. In the weeks preceding the rally I had been getting phone calls from around the country asking about the rally. This was a treat as I met several people over the phone answering all sorts of questions. The tempo of activities really picked up the week of the rally as we all hurried around tending to last-minute details. Phone calls, radio calls, e-mails, putting out fires, etc. meant being up to 11:00 at night and up at 5:30 in the morning during the rally. I have been told this is what I get paid the big bucks for (where)! Anyway, I took it all in stride and enjoyed seeing the rally once again be a success. We had great entertainment all 3 nights. Some told us it was the best entertainment line-up they have seen in a long time. This was Debbie's first time at running the Ladies Tea. She made a few mistakes and learned from them so she can do better next year. Overall the tea was a success and she received lots of compliments. Of

course, this rally could not happen without all the work done by our volunteers. I had one person come up to me and say he was amazed at how we put together such a great event as he also does events as a business. He was shocked to find we did it all with volunteer labor - he just could not believe it. Well, we did it and you volunteers are the best and a big heartfelt thank you to you all. Now, about the weather. If you look back at my last Byways message, I mentioned that we had ordered better weather for this year's event as the big rain of last year was just too much. I guess the order got lost somewhere as we again had an epic rain event that resulted in flooding and mud. This was unfortunate, but something we cannot control. This was on Friday and some people got stranded inside their motorhomes for a while. We moved the Friday Ice Cream Social into the big tent, which worked out well as people could browse the vendors while eating ice cream. Our people were out working in it to keep the rally going (hooray for you) and that night we got a pumper truck and pumped out over 70,000 gallons of water. By Saturday morning the water was gone but the mud remained so it was still hard to get around until Sunday when it started to dry up. Hey, at least we had no more dust to con-

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tend with. All in all, it was a great rally. Yes, there were some complaints, but we also received several compliments as well. We are all looking forward to next year, which by the way, will be our 30th Anniversary Rally.

Safe travels to you all, Bob Golk WMHA Senior Vice President

Northern Area Vice President

GREETINGS EVERYONE

Hello to all my chapters. We have been traveling to several rallies and to Indio. I want to thank all my captains and volunteers for all your hard work at Indio. The parade went well even though the threatening rain resulted in only a few sprinkles. Everyone enjoyed the Beach Party Parade, the entertainment, and especially the ice cream for two days in a row.

We have spent the past several days in Quartzsite, Arizona, moving from our old motorhome to the new one. We are on our way home now. We will be home for three days then travel to another rally to present a certificate. It has been fun traveling to several chapters, making new friends, and learning more about the chapters in Northern California, Also, I would like to acknowledge the four chapters I recently visited. Those would be the California Capitals and Bay Area Liners chapter for their 10-year anniversary, the **GMC Forty Niners for their 40-year** anniversary, the Thousand Trails West and Gold Dust Travelers were chapter visits. My wife and I both had a lot of fun with all them.

Happy Travels to all and safe motorhoming. Stephen M. Shade WHMA Northern Vice President

Central Area Vice President

Greetings

It's been a busy few months. We attended our Golden State Trackers anniversary in September at River Run near Bakersfield. October found Joanne and me attending a chapter rally held by the California Coasters at The Springs RV Resort in Borrego, California. During their membership meeting, on behalf of the FMCA, I presented the California Coasters president, Paul Springer, a 20-Year Anniversary Certificate and letter. It was the weekend of the Borrego **Springs Annual Festivities and** parade. It was a great parade with many surrounding communities participating. An air show included local pilots and some vintage aircraft. It is an interesting area with a lot to see and do. It is a very good area to have a rally.

It was great weekend with great folks

We also attended the Beat the Odds chapter rally in Pahrump in October. I was not able to beat the odds, but we did have a grand time.

November we attended our Golden State Trackers Rally at the Orange Grove RV Park near Bakersfield. In keeping with our chapter motto (Leaving Tracks by Giving Back), our membership helped the Bakersfield Mission gift-wrap shoeboxes that were filled with items (toiletries and other items) by the mission. In addition, chapter members donated money, clothing, and the wrapping paper, etc.

We spent the holidays camped at the Clark County Shooting Range in Las Vegas. It is a great facility for those who enjoy shooting. The RV Park overlooks the valley and has full hookups. While in Vegas we spent the holiday with our children, grandchildren, and greatgrandchildren. (Am I getting smaller or those great-grandkids getting taller?) It had been six years since we were all together for the holidays. You can't beat the holidays with family.

January, and it was time to head to Indio. Arriving early for the Indio Rally is a great opportunity to see all the preparations needed to get things ready. Watching the big tent go up was a treat. The parade was great and the weather held off for us. It did not rain on our parade. It DID, however, rain the next day, but our great volunteers did not let that dampen their spirits. That's what makes the Indio Rally the best. Great volunteers all working together. During the Indio festivities I was able, with WHMA Senior Vice President Bob Golk, and WMHA President Lon Cross, to present the Frustrated Maestros president, Lefty Jamora, a 35-Year Anniversary Certificate, a letter, and a check for the chapter. The Frustrated Maestros put on a great pizza feed. Nothing frustrating about that. Thank you, Frustrated Maestros, for the pizza and the continuing entertainment during the rallies. **Guard your Health** We hope to see you soon down the road.

Fred Wells WMHA Central Area VP

Southern Area Vice President

I recently got to thinking about what I enjoyed most about the job of Southern Area Vice President, and came to realize it's the people. Not only the ones I work with, who are great, but it's the opportunity to visit and meet with people of the various chapters. My most resent chapter visit was to the Safari R Us chapter, where I had the pleasure of making an anniversary presentation, and to meet some great people.

If you have recently purchased a new motorhome you may have been given a free membership to the Family Motor

Coach Association, and as a member you can join one or more of the chapters. In addition to the great fellowship they offer, you gain knowledge from the exchange of information. For example, I have a Monaco product, and discovered that if my stoplight shorts out the engine brake will not release. If you check your FMCA magazine you will find a section that lists chapter rallies by month and day. Chapters will allow visitations and this would be a good way to visit several and pick one that best suits your lifestyle.

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I would like to thank all the Captains and volunteers who worked so hard at the Indio Rally. We appreciate all of you who return year after year and do the outstanding jobs you do. This year I have three Captains who will not be able to return for the 2018 rally. They have for the last few years contributed their time and energy to making their areas the best they can be. John Stocksdale, who has given you the pleasure of seeing his photographs on the big screen at the evening's entertainment; Chrisy Powers, who did an outstanding job at our pet style show; Becky Brunkow, was

responsible for the excellent service you received at the FMCA store. I wish you all the best on your future endeavors.

On a personal note, Ann came through her surgery and is recovering nicely; the latest doctor's evaluation was very positive.

Thank you for all your support, and prayers.

Roy Mc Daniel Southern Area Vice President

Newsletter Awards 2016

Best Small Chapter

Golden State Trackers

Editor - Debbie Golk

Best Midsize Chapter

Gold Diggers

Editor - Karen Jautaikis

Best Large Chapter

Western G.M. Coach

Editor - Judy McDaniel

Best Overall Chapter

California FMCA HMC

Editor - Susan Cardella

Best Website

Discovery Club of California

Webmaster - Ray Ouellette

Congratulations!

FOUND --- MAN'S WATCH call Lon at 661-886-5077

Beach Party Parade Winners

Theme Trophy: California Coaches For Christ

WMHA Trophy (tie): Sierra Ramblers & California Heartland

FMCA Presidents Trophy:Golden State Trackers

Mayors Trophy:Gold Diggers

Grand Marshal Trophy: Allegro Classy Chassis



MEMBERSHIP / CHAPTER FAIR

I am still sending our welcome e-mails to the new FMCA members who are in the Western Area. Some months the response is very good – other months not as many responses – still feel that this is worthwhile. I hope the Chapter Membership person is also contacting these people. I do know that one person I contacted with the welcome e-mail came to Indio; attended the First Timers meeting; came to the Chapter Fair and joined one of the chapters. If

we can get these new members to FMCA to join a chapter they will usually stay as members in FMCA.

At the Chapter Fair, several chapters signed up new members. If these people have never belonged to a chapter in FMCA, Western Area will pay their first year's dues if they signed up during the rally. I have received several applications and they will be forwarded to Lon Cross & Bob Golk to verify that they have not belonged to an FMCA chapter. I would like to thank Phil Griffin and his Table and Chairs volunteers for setting up the area for the chapter fair so quickly and in a way

that the people can visit the different chapter setups very easily. Thanks again Phil and volunteers – I appreciate your help.

I would also like to thank all the Captains and volunteers who pitched in and helped at Indio – sometimes we don't thank them enough for all they do to make our Western Area rally such a success. Also for all the time and effort our WMHA Board gives of themselves. We have a great area and it takes all of us to keep it being that way.

Alice Bernard

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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
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.

Help Wanted

Tables and Chairs Captain, Photographer, and Bingo Caller

Contact Bob Golk at 661-599-3548.

Help Wanted

Someone to take the captain position for the Decorating Crew. This a very fun position and Sandy King is willing to help with the transition.

Contact Bob Golk at 661-599-3548



Looking for Western area 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



































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 NorCal 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 Southwestern Bus Nuts Thousand Trails West Western Bus Nuts Western GM Coach

Western Motor Home Association, Inc.

Executive Board 2017

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<u>Immediate Past President</u>

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APPOINTED OFFICES 2017

Membership

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Cell 530-519-7346

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Next Byways Deadline April 14, 2017



After June 28, 2017, registrations will be taken only on site. The Holding Area and Will Call in Indianapolis will open on Sunday, July 9, 2017, at 8 a.m.

INDIANAPOLIS REGISTRATION FORM

• Seminars • Exhibits • Display Coaches • Coffee & Doughnuts

• Ice Cream Social • Entertainment • Ladies' Social • Games **PERSONAL INFORMATION** Permanent changes to membership files cannot be made from this form.

MEMBER # (non-member additional \$50) LAST NAME PILOT FIRST NAME CO-PILOT FIRST NAME ADDRESS (CONFIRMATIONS WILL BE SENT HERE) CITY STATE AREA CODE/HOME PHONE AREA CODE/CELL PHONE E-MAIL ADDRESS ☐ I AM/WE ARE FIRST TIME ATTENDEE(S)

CONFIRMATION & PARKING CREDENTIALS Parking credentials will be mailed to the mailing address provided, unless you request to have it held at Will Call for pick-up. ☐ Mail my confirmation paperwork ☐ Hold parking credentials at Will Call

STATE

COACH LENGTH

LICENSE NUMBER

REGISTRATION FEES	FMCA MEMBER			PAYMENT
See reverse side for parking descriptions, mailing procedures, parking procedures and additional handicapped information.	Early Bird Received By 5/12/17	Received After 5/12/17	AMOUNT	INFORMATION Make checks payable to Family Motor Coaching, Inc. in U.S. funds. All major credit cards accepted.
Registration Fee	\$195	\$225		
Additional Fee for 30-amp Electric only*	\$175	\$175		CARD NUMBER
Passport- 2 people: No overnight parking	\$175	\$205		EXPIRATION DATE
Coach with 1 person deduct \$20	- \$20	- \$20		SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS
Additional Fee for Non-FMCA Member	\$50	\$50		RETURN TO:
Each Additional Guest * * *	\$25	\$25		FMCA Events Department
Payment plan available. Call for details.		TOTAL AMOUNT DUE		8291 Clough Pike Cincinnati, OH 45244

COACH MAKE & MODEL

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PARKING PREFERENCE:

☐ General	☐ Full Generator	☐ No Generator	☐ Governing Board/PNO Committee

☐ Handicap * * ☐ Handicap Full Generator * *

1.GUEST/AGE

☐ PLEASE CONTACT US REGARDING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

☐ PLEASE CONTACT ME ABOUT SERVING ON THE PARKING TEAM

☐ PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING IN A TOWABLE RV (ELECTRIC REQUIRED)

 \square PLEASE SEND INFORMATION ABOUT UNDER-60 ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR CHANDLER

CANCELLATION POLICY

Refunds for registration fee will be made only upon written request and only if request is received by June 9, 2017. Badges and confirmation materials must be returned with cancellation request. All cancelled registrations are subject to a \$20 handling fee. Electric cancelled on or prior to May 12, 2017, will be refunded in full; electric cancelled after May 12, 2017, and on or before June 9, 2017, will be refunded at 50%. Absolutely no refunds for electric cancelled after June 9, 2017.

^{*} Additional Fee is for electric only. A limited number of 50-amp sites are available. Call for availability.

^{* *} Please send a copy of your state-issued handicap certificate to the National Office. Handicap information on back must be filled out to receive handicap or handicap electric parking.

^{* * *} GUEST 19 years and younger and/or immediate family are free, others are \$25 each.

PARKING DESCRIPTIONS

GENERAL PARKING – Use of generator is only permitted from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

HANDICAPPED PARKING** – Reserved for those with qualifying medical needs. Limited space. First registered/first served basis. Use of generator is only permitted from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

HANDICAPPED W/ELECTRIC** – Reserved for those with qualifying medical needs who must operate equipment relative to treatment of their condition. Limited space. First registered/first served basis. Electric will be available at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2017, until 9 a.m. on Sunday, July 16, 2017. (electric fees apply)

FULL GENERATOR - Generator permitted 24 hours per day.

NO GENERATOR - Space is limited.

PASSPORT CAR PARKING – Includes entertainment, exhibits and seminars. No overnight parking on event property. Passport coaches cannot be accommodated at the fairgrounds. Passport car parking will be open only until 10 p.m., July 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, 2017. Public parking will be open only during exhibit hours, July 12, 13, 14, and 15, 2017.

Parking will be located at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Parking will be at the discretion of the parkers.

CARAVANS – Scheduled caravans of 10 coaches or more will be parked on Monday and Tuesday, July 10 and 11, 2017. Caravan leaders please call 800-543-3622 to schedule an arrival time.

By registering for this event I understand that I must carry valid insurance on my personal mobility cart and/or personal golf cart during the event.



HANDICAPPED OR HANDICAPPED ELECTRIC PARKING

Please Complete The Information Below To Assist On-Site Medical Personnel

NAME	MEMBER NO.
NAME OF DISABLED PERSON IN COACH	
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DISABILITY (OPTIONAL)	

My state-issued handicap certificate is: \square On File \square Enclosed

This information will be shared solely with on-site emergency service personnel to better prepare them in case of a medical emergency.

** Please send a copy of your state-issued handicap certificate to the national office.

MAILING AND PARKING PROCEDURES FOR ALL PARKING AREAS

FMCA will begin mailing confirmations as soon as May 19, 2017. Mailed confirmations will contain "date of entry" credentials. Mailed registrations received after June 28, 2017, will be held and processed as gate registrations.

If it is impossible for you to furnish an address for receipt of your confirmation material, they will be held for you at Will Call located at the official Holding Area from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday, July 9, through Wednesday, July 12.

Registered family members will be assigned parking dates of Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, July 10, 11, and 12, 2017, and families should arrive at the convention on the date stated on their "date of entry" credentials. If you arrive at the convention on a date before or after your assigned date of entry, you may have to wait in the Holding Area to be parked.

If you have friends or relatives with whom you would like to park, make plans now to register with them. Families who register together and mail their registration forms to FMCA in the same envelope are guaranteed to receive identical "date of entry" credentials. You must arrive together to park together.

Family Reunion parking is considered any lot secured by FMCA. Members of FMCA's parking team will be in the Holding Area from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to park coaches. Tram service to all parking areas will be available beginning Tuesday, July 11, 2017.

If you are traveling as an individual, a group, or a caravan, confirmation "date of entry" credentials must be displayed on your motorhome to facilitate your entry into the grounds.

All members are asked to display their membership number on their coach or in their windshield.

EARLY ARRIVALS

If you arrive prior to your date of admittance, as identified on your "date of entry" credential, dry camping will be available beginning on Sunday, July 9 in the Holding Area.