

CAMPING TODAY®

March 2017



“Airstream Ranch” - row of partially buried Airstreams built in 2004 off I-4 in Tampa is being torn down. **Page 13**

It's election time again and there are three unopposed candidates for Trustee positions. See their resumes starting on **page 11**

Each year FCRV awards cash prizes to winning conservation essays. Read the 2016 winners on **page 15**



CONTENTS

Coming to 2017 Campvention from West..... page 6

See what sights to see traveling along railroad through WI and other states

2017 FCRV Travalong..... page 10

See where it's going and what you will see

Campvention Rotation Changes..... page 11

See why and where changes are made

DEPARTMENT

From the President.....	3
Retiree Rally 2017.....	4
Campvention 2017.....	6
Meet the Director.....	14
Conservation.....	15
FCRV Activities	17
Products.....	18
Farewells.....	20
Upcoming Events.....	21

NATIONAL OFFICERS

President: Shari Weber
VP of Operations: Sue Fromholzer
VP of Programs: George Walters
VP of Planning & Development
Scott Serbousek
Corresponding. & Recording Officer:
Sue Carlson
Comptroller: Vodean Benham
Past President: Jack Smye

Please forward address changes to
FCRV Headquarters, 4804 Transit Rd., Bldg. 2,
Depew, NY 14043 — (716)668-6242
FCRV Webpage Address: www.fcrv.org
Office email: fcrvnat@verizon.net

CAMPING TODAY STAFF

Editors:

DeWayne & June Johnston
126 Hermitage RD., Butler, PA 16001
D_Johnston01@msn.com

Graphic Design/Layout

Vickie Roop
fcrvwebsite@aol.com

All articles/information for Camping Today should be sent to
DeWayne Johnston by the first of the month prior to publica-
tion.



From the President - Shari Weber



No blarney, its March already! The snow birds will be migrating soon. Some will make a stop in Canton TX for the rally there. I look forward to seeing many of you at the rally. The circus theme should offer lots of fun. At this time Craig & I are headed north with a stop in Columbus to watch two of our grandsons in a fencing tournament.

Changes

Sue Fromholzer, Vice President Operations and the Trustees have approved Jeff & Shirley Kendle of Colorado as Far West Regional Director. We know they will do a terrific job.

Election

This month is normally when you would cast your ballot to elect three trustees. This time however, we only have one candidate for each office. They will be elected by unanimous ballot at the membership meeting in July. Please still take notice of their bios and platforms found elsewhere in this newsletter. These people work very hard for your organization to make sure we can continue to enjoy camping together. We will welcome a new comptroller this year, so we say Thank You! to Vodean Benham who has served as our comptroller since 2012. If you see Vodean, give her a special personal thanks for a job well done. All of the Trustees appreciate your support, the newly elected trustees will be installed during the general membership meeting in July.

Campvention survey

Thank you to everyone who replied to the campvention survey. You made many good suggestions that will be implemented as we can. Every campvention has its challenges and uniqueness. We do not have professionals who are putting on the campventions,. We are all volunteers also trying to enjoy a week of camping fun and relaxation while putting on the best campvention available. Be kind to the volunteers. When a challenge arises remember, the volunteer doesn't want the challenge any more than you do. The best way to get through is to smile and make the best of it. Embrace the opportunities as they come, have fun and remember to smile and be friendly to our camping family.

Putting the best face on Family Campers and RVers

No matter what we are doing as a group we should be wearing our logo. Whether you are camping or just dinning out, please wear your logo shirts. We are always noticed. People ask questions when they see a group having fun together. I know you remember to display logo when you are camping together. Let's just go one step further and remember logo whenever we are gathered together. That helps with our visibility. Each and every one of you is an ambassador for Family Campers.

Scholarship

This is the time to be working on your scholarship application. Contact Carl & Lynda Wood, Scholarship Director (fcvrscholarship2014@gmail.com) for the necessary forms. Carl & Lynda will also be glad to inform you of the deadlines for submissions.

After the passing of our Founder, Hank Nathan several of you suggested we change the name of our scholarship program to honor Hank. The Scholarship committee which includes Carl & Lynda Wood, Scholarship Director, Jack Smye, Vodean Benham, Herb & Marie Peterson and Jan Cushing reviewed this proposal. They decided and the Trustees approved to change the name of the scholarship program from "National Campers & Hikers Association Scholarship, Inc." to "National Campers & Hikers Association Hank Nathan Scholarship, Inc."

Awards

There is still a month and a half to get nominations in to Sue Carlsen. Consider nominating someone for recognition. The awards committee is waiting for your nomination. There are a variety of awards to recognize the extra efforts our members make. Our top two awards are Plaque and Citation which are given to individuals and families. There is an award for Lifesaving for someone who went to extraordinary efforts that affected the life of someone. The Humanitarian award is given for outstanding humanitarian work. The Hank Nathan Lifetime Achievement Award is given to someone who has given a lifetime (more than 25 years) of support to Family Campers. Awards forms and more information are on fcv.org. In addition to these awards, several of our programs have awards also. The information for those is also included at fcv.org.

(President's Con't on page 17)



Retiree Rally 2017

March 21 - 27, 2017
Canton Civic Center
Canton, Texas

Message from the Retiree Directors

The registration for the Retiree Rally in Canton, Texas is coming to a close, but don't let that stop you from coming. You are still welcomed. It will be a slight charge for not registering, but we still have places for you when you get there.

Jim & Barb Turner and their staff have planned a great event, with lots of new activities going on.

We look forward in seeing everyone once again and making new acquaintances. If you see us out and about, please don't hesitate to introduce yourselves. We enjoy meeting new people.

First Timers, wear your ribbons there so you can get plenty of hugs and welcomes.

Hope to see everyone soon. Have a great and safe trip.

Ron & Reba Ray
National Retiree Director

**'CIRCUS, CIRCUS
UNDER THE BIG TOP'
46th FAMILY CAMPERS AND RVERS
RETIREE RALLY
CANTON CIVIC CENTER/FIRST MON-
DAY TRADE DAYS PARK
CANTON, TEXAS
EARLY DAYS: FRIDAY, MARCH 17TH
TO MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017
OFFICAL DATES: TUESDAY, MARCH
21ST THRU SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2017**

By Barb Turner, PR Chair

The 46th Family Campers & RVers Retiree Rally committee is ready to welcome you to The Civic Center, Canton, Texas! We hope you have this rally

in your plans!

The Rally officially starts Tuesday, March 21st. The gates will open for Early Bird parking on Friday, March 17th at 8:00 AM. The Early Bird fee is \$20 a day for water, electric, and sewer. The sites will have water, electric, and sewer. It is suggested that we bring extra hose & electric cord, just in case you need it.

Upon your arrival, enter the Rally site with no tow vehicle in tow. (If you do enter the area with the towed vehicle, you will be asked to pull into an area to unhook.) Present your confirmation letter (if you are pre-registered) when you enter the Registration area. You will be directed to the Parking staff who will park you. Please DO NOT leave your rig until they have marked your confirmation letter with your area, row, and site number on your rig on your confirmation letter.

We welcome those who aren't pre-registered. The registration procedure will be completed when you arrive.

When you arrive, you will be given a Welcome Bag from the Canton Visitors Center with info on things to do during your early days. In addition, you will be given rally info to prepare you for Central Registration which will be open on Sunday, March 19th at 12 noon – 5 PM. At 7 PM on Sunday Retiree Chaplain Harold Braley will have a devotional service. For staff members (chairs, co-chairs, workers), the Turners will have a meeting with you following the service. The building will be open for visiting and games.

If you have mail sent to you during the rally, the address to use is – Your Name, FCRV Retiree Rally, Canton Civic Center, PO Box 665, Canton, TX 75103.

When you complete your registration at Central Registration, among other things, you fill out a Parade card. This is important to determine the seating for the opening ceremonies/parade on Tuesday night. For instance, you may have a Texas address but want

to parade with Pennsylvania. The indication on your card will make sure you have a seat with Pennsylvania.

Parade format will be Missouri first (King & Queen Dal & Barb Dodson's state), Texas as the host state, states/provinces of the 2017 King & Queen candidates in the order that their applications were received, states/provinces, national chapters, with the Red Hat ladies being the final group. Expectations? LOTS OF NOISE & FUN!!

A full week of activities is planned, some new things along with those favorites. If helpers are needed in areas, please don't hesitate to jump in and help. The games chairs would especially appreciate some help.

Veterans, Ron Braley is planning an activity for you. He'll have the info for you when you arrive in Canton.

And, as a reminder, everyone must depart the park Monday 27th by noon.

The committee has planned a fun week.

Join us in Canton!



FCRV Veterans

We just wanted to let you know that we were told that there will be at least 60 veterans at the retiree rally in Canton next month.

We are working on things for you and your families to do and see.

Ronald F. Braley
fcrv-veterans@outlook.com



Door Prizes



No "Clowning" around..... now's the time to get those door prizes packed and ready to bring to the Retiree Rally.

Help us make everyone a winner!

Barb Dodson, Door Prize Chair
& Pat Crow, Co-Chair



Pianist/Keyboardist Needed

We are still in need of a pianist/keyboardist for the rally. The primary responsibility is providing the accompaniment for the FCRV Retir-

ee Choir. The keyboard will be provided. If you can help us, please contact us.

Barb & Jim Turner, at turnerfcrv@yahoo.com or 813-713-5771. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Red Hat Luncheon



Chairs Kathy Schreck & Dianne Buggeln are set for you, ladies! Catered BBQ chicken and pulled pork with 3 sides. Tea and Lemonade included and cobbler dessert.

Speaker Jill Beam - "You are not getting older, you are getting better"

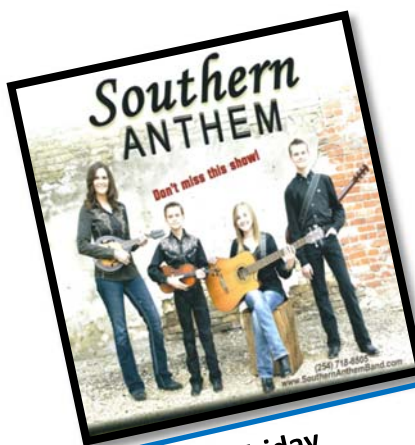
Sign up & purchase your tickets at Central Registration.

ENTERTAINMENT



Wednesday
Brian Koenig

Thursday
Variety Show



Friday
Southern Anthem



Campvention 2017

Allen County Fairgrounds

Lima, Ohio

July 9-15, 2017

The Milwaukee Road /Berkshire Hathaway/Amtrak/Chicago & Northwestern through Wisconsin

By Kip Cushing, Wisconsin State Director
& Campvention 2017 Team Leader

For those campers coming from the northwest heading for Campvention in Lima, Ohio in 2017, you may find yourself traveling along just one of the above mentioned railroads. The Chicago Milwaukee St Paul and Pacific, otherwise known as the Milwaukee Road Railroad, would bring you all the way from Washington. Even though it is no longer on the rails, the road beds are still found and can be followed across Wisconsin.

The Burlington Northern/Santa Fe is another line you might want to follow because of the beautiful scenery that can be found while following it. As you travel down alongside the tracks, you will hear the rumble of engines echo down the Mississippi River Valley, on their way south. It is one route that will lead you to your destination traveling to National Campvention. You will see the name on the engines, but the BNSF was bought out in 2009 by Warren Buffet and the Berkshire Hathaway Railroad line.

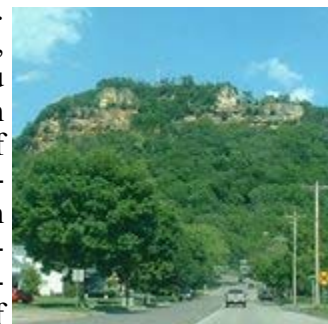
Amtrak also crosses Wisconsin and routes south using the best route available to reach their many depots in our state. The C&NW ran between Chicago and Duluth/Superior slicing through on an angle to Chicago.

I hope to give you some ideas on campgrounds and attractions as you follow one of these road beds on your way to National Campvention in Lima, Ohio. You may even want to follow it backwards after leaving, for a change of scenery.

If you are traveling east from North Dakota or coming down from Alberta you may come across one of the many "Oil trains" heading east bound. Should

you decide to follow a long, you will come into Wisconsin and follow the Mississippi River south.

Enjoy the trip down Hwy 35 along the mighty Mississippi. A stop in La Crosse to tour the many sights should be on your list of things to do. You could stay south of town at Goose Island County Park, right on the Mississippi River. This is a real nice campground. You can pick up literature in the office with all the interesting sites and tours to check out while you're in town. But, the main attraction, Grandad Bluff will get you started. The 600-ft high bluff overlooks the city of La Crosse and the Mississippi River Valley which includes the states of Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa. (3020 Grandad Bluff Rd, La Crosse, WI)



Grandad Bluff

You may decide to travel farther south and stay at Blackhawk Island, an Army



Blackhawk Island—Army Corp of Engineer Park

Corp of Engineers Park. It is located on a forested bend of the main channel of the Mississippi River. The campground is the largest public use facility in Mississippi's Pool 9. If you have the senior passport in your pocket, it runs \$12.00/night with electric. Water is available should you need to fill your tank. La Crosse is a key point in your trip because of the Y in the track. Continue south along the Mississippi or start across country to Lake Michigan.

Should you stay on the mighty Mississippi River, pull into one of the parking lots at one of the Locks

and watch a barge go up or down the river thru it. It is really something to see those heavy barges lifted up with the water so it can move through another segment of the river.

Continuing south on Hwy 35 you will come to Prairie du Chien and Wyalsuing State Park overlooking the joining of the Wisconsin River and the Mississippi. Even though it is not that far, a stay may be in order. One of the interesting attractions is Villa Louis Estate. (521 N Villa Louis Rd, Prairie du Chien, WI 53821) The estate is one of Wisconsin's most prosperous 19th century families.



Villa Louis Estate—photo by Jonathunder

Another ride south of town to Nelson Dewey's Stonefield Village in Cassville is an insight to early Wisconsin settlements. (12195 Hwy VV, Cassville, WI 53806-0125) Stonefield is a re-created 19th century agricultural community village.



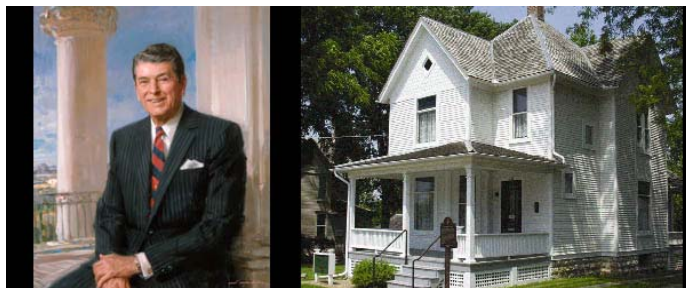
Stonefield Village

Should the actions of slots and the green tables interest you, take a ride across the river to Marquette, Iowa and the Isle of Capri Riverboat. Go early and take in one of the best Breakfast Buffets you will have for a while.

Another spot you may want to visit is a little further south at Potosi and visit one of their breweries in town for a taste of wonderful beer. From there south on Hwy 35 to Hwy 81 and head east to Monroe, WI and join us at the Green County Fairgrounds for the Blues and Balloon Festival. It will be featuring top Blues artists and Hot Air Balloons from around the greater southern Wisconsin area. And for the best in Wisconsin Cheese's, a stop into the Swiss Colony outlet store will be just great.

Continuing south from Prairie du Chien will get you into the land of Lincoln. A town of interest here is Galena. You may want to stop and check out the

flood gates that protect it from flooding. There is also a wonderful gentleman who will entertain you with some Mark Twain stories. Finding antiques will be no problem in the many shops downtown.



President Reagan's Childhood Home

You will pass thru many communities as you travel further south, even President Reagan's hometown in Dixon. (810 Hennepin Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021) But, you can end up at Craig and Shari's Campground in Geneseo, Illinois, and check if she has left for National. If not, you could follow her across the state. And, I am sure she will give you some interesting sites to visit, like the John Deere Museum and the Buffalo Bill and American Pickers museum in La Clair, Iowa before you leave Geneseo.



American Pickers

If you decided to cut across the top of her state or visited with us in Monroe, swing on to the Amtrak/C&NW line and be sure and stop at the Illinois Railway Museum (7000 Olson Rd, Union, IL 60180-9628), largest full-size train museum in the United States. Just south of the museum is a nice campground. Plan a good day to see everything if you are a railroad buff. They even have a locomotive there with a Jet engine that ran up and down California. Rumor is it stopped under a highway overpass and melted the blacktop on the road above causing all kinds of problems. I'm getting away from Wisconsin, so keep heading east, and we will meet up on I-80 south of Chicago.

If you switch lines in La Crosse taking the Milwaukee Road line east, stop at Tunnel Trails

Campground and ride your bike on the actual road bed and go thru some of the tunnels the trains would travel. You will be on the Sparta –Elroy State Bike trail on the old road bed. We have a whole network of bike trails across Wisconsin, and they are really beautiful and interesting. If your timing is just right and you hit Tomah at the end of June, take in the National Tractor Pulling Contest but be sure and bring some ear plugs; it gets loud. If you're a retired or active veteran, Camp Douglas/Fort McCoy is right down the road, and they have a campground.

If you want more fun, get on down the road (I-94) to Wisconsin Dells. Wisconsin Dells is being billed the Water Park Capitol of the World. You will want to spend some time at the many water parks and mini-golf courses. It may take a few days; so checkout one of the many campgrounds in and around town, most are all part of WACO (Wisconsin Assoc. of Campground Owners). Mini-golf is great in this town try Pirates Cove.

A few miles south of the Dells is North Freedom, home of another railroad museum, and close by is Baraboo, home of Circus World Museum, which will be closing doors this year. If you are in the Casino mood, there is one in the Dells, too, complete with a RV Park. Oh, did I mention Frank Lloyd Wrights - House on the Rock - in Spring Green south of the Dells? There is camping nearby at Tower Hill State Park.

Now, keeping on that same Amtrak/CMSP&P line will take you through Portage and Columbus which has some antique shops that may interest you. Outside of town is Astigo County Park, a nice little campground for some quiet time. If you like, stay on Hwy 16 till you get to Hwy 89 south out of Columbus and follow it to Fort Atkinson. Then take Hwy 12 south till you come to Hwy 20 and head east, taking you around the construction on I-94 in Milwaukee. Find a great campsite at Racine's Cliffside County Park, off of I-94 on 7 mile road, then east to Lake Michigan follow the signs. Now you are set in a great park to take in many of the attractions in the area. You can plan on needing a day or two to really take it all in, unless you come back this way. In Milwaukee Summer Fest, which is the biggest Music festival in the States, with headline entertainers will be just starting up. Time it right and get in the first day with non-perishable food for local food pantries or wait a day and avoid the crowd. Go to the Harley Davidson Museum or the terrific Milwaukee Zoo or Miller Brewery and savor the taste of Wisconsin, instead on that first day. If you are lucky, and the Brewers are playing at home, you could take in a

baseball game. Another side trip would be to the Civil War Museum in Kenosha. And don't forget to stop and pick up a terrific Racine Kringle at one of the 3 top bakeries in town; if you get two, they do freeze well so you have one for Campvention.

I know now it is getting closer to CV so you will have to plan out how you want to handle the great wall of Chicago. If you have time you can swing west and south and stop at Chain-O Lakes State Park, just over the state line south of Wilmot, WI. You could relax there, maybe go horseback riding on the trails. Or hop up to Antioch and catch the Amtrak train to downtown Chicago. There you could take in the Museum of Science and Industry (best in Midwest). Or visit the World Series Champions Chicago Cubs at historic Wrigley Field, should they be playing at home. Take a cab to the south side if you're a White Sox fan. Stop in at the Blackhawks hockey store while you're walking around downtown for your best souvenir. Ride the train back out and avoid the crowd and traffic.

Now that you're west of town, you have the choice of going a few more miles west then south to get down and around the great wall. Or go for it and take Hwy 173 east to I-94 and head south choosing 94 thru downtown Chicago (watch for Sears Tower) and no tolls or I- 294 toll way bypass around the city. You will meet up with I-80 south of town and take it too I-65 south.

Come over to Lima on Indiana Hwy 30 or Hwy 20 and take in the Amish areas. There is a good campground in Shippshewana on both the north and south side of town off Hwy 20. The big Amish Flea market is on Tuesdays & Wednesdays. You don't want to miss it. The campground is next door.

From there it is only a couple of hours to Lima and the main terminal of Campvention at Registration. Have fun and plan it out for the best timeline to arrive by Sunday at Campvention. If you just don't get enough fun with that trip, turn around and head back up to Wisconsin for Country Thunder in Twin Lakes, Wisconsin. If you want to see what it was like when NCHA had 4 and 5 thousand campers spread out in 5 alfalfa fields, pit toilets, possible mud, lots of fun, dry camping, no electric unless you want, go on line and get your site today. It is a week of C&W music by the best in the industry.

For those of you coming down from Canada and traveling along Lake Michigan out of Ontario at Sault Sainte Marie, stop in to the Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame museum. There is a wonderful winery in Two Rivers called Von Steil, and their wine is very good. Manitowoc has a Marine time museum with a

WWII Submarine to tour. There are some state parks along the lake to camp at on your way south. You could then do the Summer Fest music event in Milwaukee and camp right in town at State Fair Parks RV campground.

If you feel this is an interesting trip, be sure to make your own reservations at the various campgrounds mentioned in the article. Wisconsin has many interesting sites and loads of festivals during the summer and fall; take advantage and have fun.

**Golf Cart Rental Application found
Elsewhere in this issue & on FCRV website**

‘Bring Your Trains to Lima’



The Campvention 2017 campsite decorating theme is ‘Bring Your Trains to Lima.’ Let’s see what kinds of trains and ideas you can have for your campsite this year in Lima, Ohio!



Get your engineer hats on, start that whistle blowing, and bring your trains to Campvention this year!

Chairmen Needed

Team Leaders #4, Donna Powell & John English, still need chairmen for the Volunteers and Site Decorating Committee.



If you can help, contact

Donna at dlpow-ell54@aol.com

John at MIFCRV@gmail.com.



Teen Sports

Looking forward to seeing a lot of teens at Lima for Campvention. Grounds are sufficient to play volleyball and softball (weather permitting). Parents and grandparents remember that rules have been changed that all teens can play sports whether they are a member or not. Please look in the program book for the schedule for when we are playing sports and the adult versus kids game. Even if you don't have a teen playing sports, you can still come out and support the teens by watching the games; sometimes they can get

comical!

Shannon & Louise Crookedacre
Ed & Angie Shaneyfelt



Teen Center Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to organize an activity for the Teens during the day at Campvention in Lima, OH. It could be a craft or games that would last approximately one hour. It could be something as easy as serving them root beer floats or doing an egg toss. We also have an evening at the teen center (probably Thursday) open that would need an activity.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact:

Jane Thornton Teen Center Chairperson at raythor2@aol.com or phone: 989-777-5958.

Samie-Jo Schaub Teen Center Co-Chairperson at petsam6@aol.com.

Individuals & Chapters! “ALL ABOARD” FOR THE MARKETPLACE Register Now!!



Interested in raising money for your Chapter by selling your Chapter projects or for yourself to sell your own craft/hobby items or other merchandise, now is the time to get your plans in order and register for the ‘Marketplace’ when you attend Campvention 2017 at Lima, Ohio in July 9-15.

There will be no fee charge for Chapters BUT there will be a \$15.00 fee charge for individuals for an 8 foot table for your wares. If a second table is needed, an additional \$10.00 is required (two table limit). The registration form is elsewhere in this issue and will also appear in the following months issues.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS JUNE 23, 2017. Checks, enclosed with registration, made payable to: **FCRV Campvention 2017** with ‘Project Sales’ written on the memo line.

Further questions/information you can e-mail: dentec957@att.net Mail the forms to: Duane & Ruth Keegan 957 N. Lois Ave. Addison, IL 60101-1237



C.A.M.P



Make sure you bring your walking shoes and bikes to Lima! I will have the route all planned out after I attend the Work Weekend in April. I plan to have a walking and a biking route. I'm looking forward to having good attendance for the C.A.M.P. activities. Please let me know if you have any other activity you are interested in doing in Lima.

Thanks, Patti Thieme, Chair

On-Grounds Transportation

When I attend the Lima Campvention Work Weekend in April, I will get the plan of attack of where to schedule the shuttle stops as to where the activities are going on.

I will have a sign-up sheet at central registration. If you would like to sign up to drive a shift, it would be greatly appreciated.

Paige Shaneyfelt, President of Campfire Agitators



Security Committee Needs Volunteers

Mike Royal, Campvention Security Chair, needs volunteers to help at Campvention. He has not received any volunteers as we write this the 1st of February.

If you can give him a little time at Campvention, please contact him at mroyalracing@gmail.com

2017 FCRV Travalong

This year's Travalong has 2 stops. As in the past, you may join in or leave at any time. You make your own reservation with the campground for the first stop, but for the second stop, make your reservation with Jim Turner. The distance between stops is about 190 miles, from the second stop and Campvention is about 50 miles. Also, we encourage you to attend the Southeast Regional campout, June 22-25, near Wytheville, VA. It is under 300 (interstate) miles away from the first stop on the Travalong.

Arrive Sunday June 25 – leave Friday June 30

Lexington, KY - www.visitlex.com

Some things to see and do:

- American Saddlebred Museum
- Ashland, The Henry Clay Estate
- Aviation Museum of Kentucky
- Bluegrass Heritage Museum
- Bluegrass Scenic Railroad and Museum
- Camp Nelson Heritage Park
- Capital City Museum
- Civil War Fort at Boonesboro
- Georgetown/Scott County Museum
- Horse Farm Tours
- Hunt-Morgan House
- Kentucky Horse Park
- The Legacy Trail
- Mary Todd Lincoln House
- Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center
- Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill
- White Hall State Historic Site

Camping: Fort Boonesboro State Park, Richmond, KY Phone: 859-527-3454 Fee: Full Hookups sites \$170.00 (ask for senior discount) E / W sites are also available. Ask to camp near Jim Turner, Site 7. Very Important: reserve your site as soon as possible.

Arrive Friday June 30 – leave the day you go to Campvention

Miami County, OH – <http://m.visitmiamicounty.org/attractions.php#near>

Some things to see and do:

- Bicycle Museum of America
- Johnston Farm and Indian Agency
- Historic WACO Field & Aircraft Museum
- Kitchenaid Factory
- Fort Piqua Hotel
- The Armstrong Air & Space Museum
- Rossville Museum & Cultural Center
- Bear's Mill
- Historic Old Tippecanoe

Camping: you register with Jim Turner. Poor Farmer's Campsite, Fletcher, OH

Fee: \$ 28.00 E / W, dump service, Mondays & Thursdays - \$8.00



Campvention Rotation

It was proposed and approved by the Trustees to change the rotation of the upcoming campventions. The reasoning behind this was (if using the Mississippi River as the central point), we go East 3 times in a row then West twice. Our proposal was to move the 2019 Campvention to Heartland Region and the 2020 Campvention to Canada Region. The regions were contacted and agreed with the change. We are working with both regions to locate facilities to have the campventions. With the change we can hopefully have better attendance and more notice of when and where we are going.

Below are examples with the old rotation and the new rotation:

Old Rotation

2009 Region 2 south central
2010 Region 4 central
2011 Region 6 southeast
2012 Region 7 Canada
2013 Region 3 north central
2014 Region 5 northeast
2015 Region 1 far west
2016 Region 2 south central
2017 Region 4 central
2018 Region 6 southeast
2019 Region 7 Canada
2020 Region 3 north central
2021 Region 1 far west
2022 Region 5 northeast
2023 Region 2 south central

New Rotation

2009 Region 2 south central
2010 Region 4 central
2011 Region 6 south east
2012 Region 7 Canada
2013 Region 3 north central
2014 Region 5 north east
2015 Region 1 far west
2016 Region 2 south central
2017 Region 4 central
2018 Region 6 south east
2019 Region 3 north central
2020 Region 7 Canada
2021 Region 1 far west
2022 Region 5 north east
2023 Region 2 south central

We look forward to seeing everybody at future campventions and if you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns you can contact us at angieshaneyfelt@hotmail.com

Ed & Angie Shaneyfelt
Campvention Directors



Election

The nominating committee has completed their work. They have candidates for each of the positions up for election. Sue Fromholzer has agreed to be nominated to the Vice President Operations position, Scott Serbousek has agreed to again be nominated to the Vice President Planning & Development position and Jan Cushing has agreed to be nominated to the Comptroller position. Since there is only one candidate for each position there is no need to have ballots sent to the membership. These people will be elected by having the Recording Officer cast a unanimous ballot and the membership meeting in July. They will be installed at that time as well.

Candidates

Vice President of Operations

Sue Fromholzer
Bio

My husband Carl and I have been members of this organization since we were teens and lived in Pennsylvania. After moving to Buffalo, NY and were blessed with our only child Carl W. (whom we lovingly call "C.W.") we joined the one and only young adult group in New York, The Roaring 20's. In 1984 I was offered a position working at the National Office and have had many duties to fulfill there.



I have learned the essentials of the Vice President of Operations job from the last 32 years of working with past National directors and Vice President of Operations. This was accomplished by working at the national office for 22 years, then being office manager for 10 years. Also, I have held many volunteer positions in our great organization on the state, district and chapter level ranging from Chapter President, District Teen Director and State Campout Chairman to so many others. Retirement has given me the opportunity to give back some of the lessons learned and to help FCRV on a new and exciting level, and I am looking forward to working with many of my friends and members of FCRV in this role.

Platform

My main objective will be to do what is necessary to continue our great organization! With our declining membership, the question should be asked: is it necessary to have so many levels of volunteer staff before our membership even gets the information they would like and should know? I know that changes are difficult and should be done diplomatically and this will be a top concern. After all we are the Friendliest People in the World!

Vice President of Operations is voted on by the Executive Board

Vice President of Planning & Development

Scott Serbousek Bio

Scott Serbousek was born and raised in Cedar Rapids, IA. He currently resides in Fenton, MO with his wife of 17 years, Jill, dog Alley and cat Patches. He is a nine year member of the Alf Chapter and actively participates in FCRV programs such as DASAT, Conservation and CAMP. He also is currently serving as the VP of Planning & Development for FCRV for the last 5 years.

Scott is the treasurer of the St Louis Iowa Club and has served as VP and Marketing Director. Scott has been instrumental in helping re-establish and grow the club the past 8 years. Scott helps organize events, including summer picnics, bus trips, trivia nights and other fund-raising events. He won the 2010 Iowa Club Volunteer of the Year (with Jill) from the University of Iowa Alumni Association for



the work they have done with the club.

Scott worked for Yellowbook for 10 years. During his time there, he held positions as Telephone Sales Representative, Marketing Brand Manager and Associate Brand Manager. He was also a President's Club winner for top sales numbers achieved in the company. Scott was responsible for corporate sponsorships, advertising and branding, and public relations. He was also responsible for managing sales representatives, business accounts, objectives and goals for the team, as well as training and development of new reps.

Scott also worked for Abstrakt Marketing in St Louis. He began as Business Growth Manager, then was promoted quickly into Sales Manager and then into an Account Manager. While with Abstrakt, Scott was responsible for working with clients to utilize marketing strategies to grow their business and train and develop sales representatives.

Currently Scott works for Tokara Solutions where he is a Business Development Representative. Here Scott is responsible for gathering information and marketing Tokara to new potential clients. He also is managing a number of accounts to make sure that their needs are met. Scott also uses marketing strategies to help increase business.

Platform

As the youngest trustee of FCRV in the role of VP Planning & Development, I am glad to be running for a third term. I feel that I have brought the perspective of a new generation to the trustees. A lot has taken place over the last five years and I would like to continue that progress to help FCRV grow throughout the United States and Canada.

Over the last five years, with the help of my team, we have seen changes to the website FCRV.org, new marketing materials, changes to the Cadet Membership, Family Fun Day at Campvention, membership surveys, the use of online meetings and online marketing to promote FCRV.

If elected, I plan to make changes to the Commercial and Sponsorship memberships. We have seen a lack of commercial membership and sponsors; we are looking at making changes to make it more feasible to get new Commercial Members and Sponsors. I will be working with the Commercial Directors to set up a plan to make it easier for them to find new Commercial Members and Sponsors, while also looking at ways to make them more valuable to FCRV members.

There will also be a continued effort to gather

more opinions and information from FCRV members with the Membership Surveys & Campvention Surveys. We will be evaluating this information to see what our members are looking for from their membership and look to make changes that better the organization. It is very important to gather this information to help improve FCRV and help the organization make the changes to that are necessary to help gain new members and retain current members.

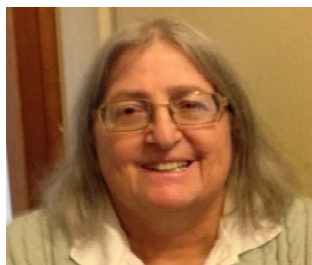
I will also be making sure that I and my team will continue to find new ways to market & brand FCRV. We are currently advertising on Go CampingAmerica.com and Passport America and seeing good results by drawing more traffic to FCRV.org. We have also seen an increase in visibility with Facebook. By using social media and other internet advertising, it will help FCRV reach new potential members and help grow the organization.

I will also continue to work with the trustees to find solutions to make this organization more valuable to our members. One thing that has made the organization more valuable is the addition of Family Fun Day at Campvention. This event has brought all ages of FCRV members together for activities and a lot of fun. FCRV members attending this event also have trustees being dunked in a dunk tank and cream pies thrown in their faces. We have heard wonderful reviews on Family Fun Day and this will continue each year. I am going to look at other ideas to create other family activities like Family Fun Day to bring our members together and make it a great experience for all ages. We as an organization express "Where strangers become friends and friends become family;" and by doing events like this will make sure that we follow this phrase we promote and help FCRV grow.

FCRV Comptroller

Jan Cushing
Bio

My name is Janet "Jan" Cushing. My husband, Kip, and I have been married for forty-two years. We have two adult children and three grandchildren. We are members of St. Mary's Lutheran Church in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Besides camping, we enjoy fishing, both on open water and on the ice, and traveling to see other areas of the United States. We have been members of NCHA/FCRV since 1981 and lifetime members since 1996.



We are members of the Wis-Cow Campers and the Midwest Quackers. I have held all the offices in both the Wis-Cow Campers and the Badger State Association.

I recently retired as Deputy Clerk/Treasurer for the Village and Town of Somers, Wisconsin. I have a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business, with a concentration in accounting. I have worked in both the private and public sectors as an accountant since 1984. I am currently the Assistant Comptroller/Budget Director for FCRV, having been appointed in July 2012. I previously served as Comptroller from July 2008 until July 2012.

Platform

I am honored to have been asked to serve as your Comptroller for the next two years. One of the biggest challenges facing FCRV is declining membership, which in turn causes a reduction in revenue. As Trustees we must continue to find ways to increase membership and non-dues income, along with ways to reduce expenses. We must also look at all programs to see if they are meeting the needs of our members. We should also look at all positions on the Executive Board to see if some can be combined or even eliminated.

RV One Details Plans for Airstream Ranch Site

by Rick Kessler
from RV Business

The controversial "Airstream Ranch" — a curious row of partially buried Airstream travel trailers created by Frank Bates in 2007 off I-4 near his Bates RV dealership in Tampa, Fla. — is being torn down.

Swinging the wrecking ball is RV One Superstores Inc., which purchased Bates RV in 2013 and reopened it as Tampa RV. Founded in 1984, RV One also has locations in Orlando, Fla., Albany and Buffalo, N.Y., and Des Moines, Iowa.



Don Strollo, president and CEO of RV One, said the company has some ambitious plans for a portion of the property where the Airstream Ranch had entertained passersby for a decade. In its place, RV One

will build an Airstream museum and Airstream of Central Florida standalone dealership. The 17,000-square-foot facility is scheduled to open in December of this year.

In conjunction with construction of the new Airstream facility, the existing Tampa RV dealership adjacent to the site is being entirely reconstructed with an even bigger facility and new grounds. It's scheduled for completion by the end of the year as well.

"The Airstream trailers coming out of the ground do not represent the end of anything for us. It represents the beginning of new opportunities and exciting growth for the area, which will be honoring the spirit of Airstream and American travel in a much bigger way. The facility will be a



national destination," said Strollo.

The new Airstream of Central Florida "will stand even taller and more prominent than those old trailers coming out of the ground," he added. The facility will feature a museum dedicated to Airstream's iconic founder, Wally Byam, as well as an interactive display called the "Airstream Experience."

"We are thrilled to be bringing this focused growth to the Tampa area. Hillsborough County has been very professional and welcoming to our plans and great to work with," said Strollo. "The economic and civil planning teams within the county seem to have a positive and proactive outlook for the area. We are glad to be here."

His brother, Matt Strollo, who serves as vice president of business development for the company, said RV One's growth since acquiring the dealership four years ago is evidence of its commitment to the Tampa area. A third brother, Mark Strollo, is the senior vice president and lives in New York.

"I moved from Orlando to Tampa in 2013 for this very purpose," Matt Strollo said. "Our family has a long tradition and history in the RV industry. The corporate outlook on 'consumers as a number' doesn't sit well with us. The personal attention we provide customers rivals that of any of our competitors, and it's proving out. In 2013, Bates RV generated \$13 million in sales at this location. In 2016, we generated just shy of \$100 million here. Personal attention is the key and is something we offer."

Ultimately, the company plans future expansion with a 94-acre parcel next door, which will feature a

third dealership and 300-site luxury RV Resort. The completion of that project will make the site one of the largest RV dealerships in the world, Don Strollo noted, with more square footage under roof and more RVs on display than any other dealer in Florida.

Strollo noted the company's Des Moines location also is undergoing a similar project, adding that the company expects to retail more than 8,000 RVs nationwide in 2017, representing approximately \$400 million in sales.



Meet The Director!

April & Robert Cederburg National Youth Directors

April & Robert's introduction article was in the February *Camping Today* but these pictures arrived too late to include. Now you have a face to put with the names along with meeting their two sons.



Conservation

These are the two first place winners in the Conservation Essay Contest that is held each year. Information on the contest may be found on the FCRV website under “Programs”.

First Place in Grades 5-8 \$50 prize

Tyler Mathews - 8th grade
Nebraska

Reuse Every Day Items

The average person throws away about 4.3 pounds of trash a day. Some of those objects thrown away can be recycled or reused to turn the once garbage object into something really special. Three examples are toilet tissue or paper towel rolls, milk cartons, and any size soda bottle. My name is Tyler Mathews and I am 13 and let's all go into the world of recycling these three household objects.

The first object to be reused is the humble toilet or paper towel roll. Many people throw these little objects away with no second thought but this simple object can be turned into a bird feeder. For all of the bird lovers out there this is the perfect thing to make. To create this wonderful object, you simply take a toilet or paper towel roll and spread peanut butter all over it. Then, roll it in bird seed. TaDa!! We now have a bird feeder that can be placed or hung anywhere.

Secondly, we have the plastic milk jug. The plastic milk jug can be made into several things such as a bird/squirrel feeder and a place for birds to nest. To create the feeder, you need to cut a big hole in the front of the jug. Then, pour some bird seed inside the milk carton. Finally, glue a stick to the front of the jug to make a perch for birds. To make a nest, cut the top of the jug off and hang it up. Eventually, a bird will make a nest in it.

Third, we have the soda bottle. It is a common object that is normally thrown away. The soda bottle can be turned into two things, a bird feeder or a planter. To make the bird feeder, take

the empty soda bottle and fill it with bird seed. Make a small hole in the lid for bird seed to come out. Then attach the bottle upside down to a plate and hang it up on a tree. We can make a planter by first cutting off the top and poke little holes all over the bottle. You can paint the planter if you want. Add soil and then seed, and you have your very own planter.

As you can see, there are many uses for common objects that are normally thrown away. Many things can be made from toilet tissue or paper towel rolls, milk jugs and soda bottles. I hope this will inspire all readers to start making these ordinary objects into extraordinary things.

First Place in Grades 9-12 \$50 prize

Katie Kurburski - 10th grade
Michigan

National Parks

In 1872, the United States was presented with the beginning of the National Parks Service. To this day there is over 450 parks that have been set aside to preserve wildlife, and the enjoyment to everyone who is a recipient of their beauty. The parks are open to the public and are located in every one of the fifty states.

Since the thought passed through George Catlin's mind of having a public place that preserved nature at its best, his idea soured through the land. For the following years, the idea of the parks program took to the people and was signed into action officially by Theodore Roosevelt, called the Antiquities Act. It gave the president the power to declare historic landmarks, structures, and other land. After establishing these lands, they become National Monuments that are open to the public. Even before and after President Roosevelt, the parks were still spoken about. During the Great Depression, President Franklin Roosevelt used the parks to employ citizens. Doing this helped the economy recover from its fall.

The most famous park is Yellowstone, which is enjoyed by everyone throughout the nation. The park is so popular that it is also known as the home to Yogi Bear, the picnic basket snatching expert. The parks are used on a daily basis, and are filled with fun for the whole family.

The beauty in every park is enjoyed by all who

walk their trails and see their sights. I personally have experienced this at a park out west. Looking at its water from the ledge above, the sight truly took away my breath away. Having felt this made my appreciation for the preserved and protected lands even greater.

The parks have helped and benefited society as a whole, and has kept the United States in equilibrium. The national parks are extremely iconic to each state. The parks bring tourists and shows each states natural beauty of nature. So, if you run into a Saturday that is empty, take a hike in one of the parks in your neck of the woods. Take a breath of the beauty and soak in the sunshine!

“RV” Ready To Camp?

By Jennifer McKinney
from RV Business

More and more people are buying RVs, and the number is expected to rise even more in 2017. RVs and family vacations are a match made in heaven, and if you want the perfect home-away-from-home when summer hits, the time to shop is now. Industry experts from RV dealers in Texas have revealed what they’re looking forward to most in the RV space this year, and what trends they see for 2017.

Mike Regan, President and General Manager of Crestview RV, has been in the RV business for 15 years. He will be an exhibitor at the 2017 Austin RV Expo in February. Regan said the industry is selling more units than they have in the past 30 or 40 years, and the units are only improving.

“RVs are much more complex today,” he said. “They’re incorporating more entertainment aspects, like televisions and fireplaces. Trends are changing quickly in the RV industry, just like in the housing industry.”

Regan’s largest customer base is young couples with kids who are between five and 10 years old. His recommendations depend on how many people they need to sleep, or if they plan to tow a vehicle with them on their camping or beach trip.



“A big screen TV, outside kitchen, king size bed and bunk beds are a few things customers frequently ask for, but it all depends on what the individuals

want,” Regan said. “For first time buyers, I make recommendations based on their wants and desires, whether they’re looking to make a trip to the beach or visit the state parks.”

Arnold Simmons, General Manager at RV Outlet Mall, has been in the RV business for 10 years. He will also be exhibiting at the 2017 Austin RV Expo. Simmons is amazed by the innovations that happen each year in the RV space.

“The RV industry innovates and comes up with new ideas each year,” Simmons said. “There are constant improvements on the product, like bigger TVs and better sound systems on the outside.”

A major trend Simmons is looking forward to is the one-piece step on Cardinal fifth wheels, which takes the place of conventional fold-up steps. The one-piece step is sturdy, doesn’t fold, and rises up inside the door to latch to the doorframe. These units are what Simmons is most looking forward to showing at the Austin RV Expo. He is also excited about the leveling feature on RVs.

“Leveling an RV has become an issue, but now there are buttons you can push when you unhook that level your RV for you,” Simmons said. “It’s surprising how many units have the automatic leveling system. There’s usually one on high dollar fifth wheels priced around \$100,000, but now they’re even on travel trailers that are priced in the mid 30s.”

To Simmons, it seems like all areas are covered when it comes to RV convenience, but manufacturers are coming up with something new all the time.

Regan agrees now is a great time to shop for an RV, and the Austin RV Expo is a good place to see a little bit of everything.

“If you need to make a special order, those usually take six to eight weeks, so come out in February and order something so it’s here in time for camping season,” Regan said.

Indiana RV Sales Tax Bill Gets Senate Approval

By RV Business



An Indiana bill calling to exempt out-of-state RV buyers from having to pay a sales tax passed the Senate on Monday (Feb. 6).

Rep. Robert Cherry, R-Greenfield, and Sen. Blake Doriot, R-Syracuse, proposed two separate bills that would waive Indiana sales tax for all out-of-state RV

buys who make a purchase in Indiana. Currently, nine states have to pay an out-of-state tax if they buy an RV in Indiana, but this new bill would remove that.

The measure now heads to the Indiana House for consideration.

Ron Breymier, executive director of the Indiana Manufactured Housing Association-Recreation Vehicle Indiana Council, who helped write both bills, said that when the new sales tax rules were first implemented in 2004 Indiana dealers saw sales plummet and quite a few had to close their businesses.

"Many dealers have told us that this has had a significant impact on their dealership," he said. "Elkhart County used to have 12 or 13 dealerships, but that has fallen to just a couple that were able to survive."

(President's con't from page 3)

Upcoming Events

Our next national rally is put on by the retiree program. Jim & Barb Turner, Chair invite you to "Come to the Circus". Lots of volunteers are working hard to make your week in Canton TX loads of fun. More information about this event which begins on March 21st is at fcrv.org as well as within this newsletter.

All Aboard for Lima OH! Have you sent in your registration yet? Linda & Dave Hennie's Great Lakes Region team is working hard planning a fantastic week for you. I hope to see you in Lima. The registration form is included in this newsletter as well as on the website fcrv.org.

In addition to our national rallies there are regional and state/provincial rallies to enjoy. Let's enjoy the camping season as often as we can.

Shari
Come Camp With Us!



MobileRVing.com 12 Festivals in 2017

by Monica Turner

As you plan your new year, here are some fun gatherings and festivals (along with great places to stay) to consider in 2017. No matter where your year takes you, be sure to use Mobile RVing's trip planner to find Mobile RVing preferred properties along the way!

Read more (<https://mobilervng.com/blog/12-festivals-in-2017>)



MobileRVing.com

Where to Find RV Coupons and Deals

by Stephanie A. Mayberry

I don't know about you, but I love a good deal. I clip coupons, search for codes when I shop online, and use my favorite cash back site to get the most out of my shopping dollars. These are some of my go-tos when I want to find a great RV deal or two.

Read more . (<https://mobilervng.com/blog/where-to-find-rv-coupons-and-deals>)

FCRV Activities

Silver Foxes Chapter

FCRV Silver Foxes Chapter #3931

Marvin and Edith Kramer
Charter Members



What started in the late 1950's in Europe with a 12x12 blue tent resulted in RVing for a lifetime. Marv and Edith camped with the intent of much sightseeing and relaxation.

They did continue to tent camp after they came back to the states. The lore of RVing got to them and in 1995 they joined FCRV after an RV show. It was one of those "Let's try it for a year" moment. Twenty-one years later they were still members. First it was The Gray Wolves and the next spring they volunteered or were recruited as Field Directors for a newly formed retiree chapter - The Silver Foxes. The Kramers recognized their passion for RVing created a pattern for them to lead which resulted in Marvin and Edith Kramer serving as Field Directors for both the Gray Wolves and the Silver Foxes. They demonstrated their commitment in their attendance to the state and national campouts whenever they could and reported back to the Clubs with zeal.

They started as tent campers, moved to an 18-foot



travel trailer and when they joined FCRV they moved on up to a 24-foot Class C. There was no stopping them from there. Over the years they have had a variety of motor homes, both Class C and Class A. Marvin is seen clutching their “last” motor

home which was presented to them when they retired from the Silver Foxes

“Although motor homes, and their owners, wear out, the memories generated stay forever.” Edith Kramer

It is with sadness the Silver Foxes share with you Marvin Lewis Kramer, age 85, passed away on January 10, 2017. Marvin and Edith were married for 67 years.

Products

STREAMLIGHT® INTRODUCES RECHARGEABLE KEYMATE® USB

Bright Light is Always at Hand with Ultra-Bright, Key-Shaped Area Light

EAGLEVILLE, PA, – Streamlight® Inc., a leading provider of high-performance lighting, introduced the KeyMate® USB, an ultra-compact, hands-free area light that is shaped like a key so that it can be easily attached to a key ring or zipper pull. The USB rechargeable light runs for up to two hours, allowing for extended



use at low operating costs.

“Whether you need it to light up a dark basement, when you go for a nighttime jog or to provide emergency lighting during a power outage, the KeyMate USB offers you peace of mind by providing light when and where you need it,” said Streamlight Vice President, Sales and Marketing, Michael F. Dineen. “The light’s key shape and spring-loaded clip allow for easy attachment to your key ring or person for hands-free use, so it’s always available. And its long

run time combined with its USB rechargeability lets you turn it on and leave it on for up to two hours.” With an off/off button for constant operation, the KeyMate USB has three modes: High (35 lumens); Low (16); and Strobe (flashes at High lumen level). Featuring LED technology for extreme brightness, the light provides a run time of one hour on High and two hours in both the Low and Strobe modes.

The new light uses a 110 mAh Lithium Polymer cell, with Red and Green LED lights to indicate charging status. Charge time is approximately two to three hours, depending on the USB charge source. The red LED flashes to let you know when the battery is getting low.

The KeyMate USB features a metal body and offers durable, reinforced construction. The compact light measures only 2.9 inches wide, 1.08 inches thick, and weighs a mere .5 ounces. It is IPX4 rated for weather resistance, and is impact resistant-tested to one meter.

The KeyMate USB has an MSRP of \$28.00

Innova Kayak Introduces New Multi-purpose, Multi-Passenger Boat

SEAWAVE ideal for touring, river running, sea kayaking with one to three passengers

The SEAWAVE is the ultimate multipurpose boat for kayakers who like to vary the types of water they paddle. The SEAWAVE is adjustable from a one-person kayak to a comfortable ride for two or even 3 passengers.. Not only is the seating flexible, so are the SEAWAVE’s optional deck accessories making the SEAWAVE one of Innova’s most customizable inflatable kayak options.

Innova Kayaks are unmatched in durability and reliability in the inflatable kayaking and canoeing industry. The SEAWAVE follows this brand standard and is crafted using the same fabric material used in high-end whitewater rafts, Nitrylon™. Due to its rugged construction, and narrow, long shape, the SEAWAVE is flawless when riding the rapids. It measures 14 ft. 5 in. long, 31 in. wide and has a weight bearing capacity of 552 pounds. Reinforcements across the width of the boat strengthen the decks and provide unyielding rigidity. The reinforced keel reduces the impacts of wind and weather and keeps the SEA-



WAVE tracking.

When not in use, the SEAWAVE can be packed into a 27 in. x 17 in. x 12 in. roll for easy storage in apartments, homes, garages and on boat docks with limited space. The deflated weight of the boat is 38 lb. Additional features of the SEAWAVE include: a drain opening in the stern, adjustable foot rest, grab handles, peripheral ropes, safety ropes on both sides of the boat, and two inflatable seats. The SEAWAVE also comes with a custom transportation bag.



Technical Data

Length 14'5"

Width 31"

Weight 38

Weight Bearing Capacity 552lbs

Material Nitrilon®

Person 3

Air chambers 3+3+2

Packed Dimensions 27 x 17 x 12

Boat Equipment

Drain opening at the boat's stern

Adjustable foot rest

Grab handles

Peripheral ropes

Safety ropes for both sides

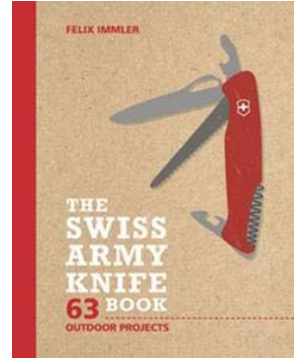
(2) Inflatable seats

Transport bag

The SEAWAVE has an MSRP of \$999. To find a retailer or to purchase the SEAWAVE online, visit www.innovakayak.com.

Make dozens of everyday objects using natural materials and your pocket knife

The Swiss Army Knife Book: 63 Outdoor Projects



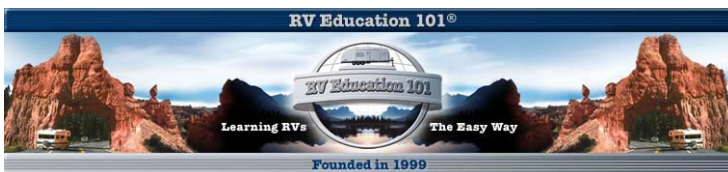
There are books, videos and workshops that will tell you how to survive extreme conditions in the Himalayas or a disaster in a major city. Finding inspiration for exciting adventures in the woods is somewhat more difficult. Yet heading out into the forest with sufficient supplies in your backpack and camping out there is something that lots of nature-lovers do on a regular basis

THE SWISS ARMY KNIFE BOOK: 63 OUTDOOR PROJECTS by Felix Immler (publishing March 2017, Frances Lincoln, \$19.99) bridges that gap, by showing you just how much fun you can have by making everyday objects for yourself, using only natural materials and your pocketknife as tools, creating a comfortable camp amid the great outdoors.

In this new book, woodsman Felix Immler reveals how we can build a comfortable camp in the wilderness using nothing more than a pocket knife. Projects include improvised tools, camp structures, camping equipment, and cooking utensils. Simple natural materials are used for making a waterproof roof, a chair, a bed, a table, a fridge, and an oven, as well as for carving spoons, knives, and bowls, you can even grill a chicken on a self-made, water-driven skewer. The book is full of ideas for exciting and thrilling activities, suitable for families and teens as well as adult explorers. There's also instructions on how to handle your pocket knife correctly and safely.

About the Author: Felix Immler is a trained mechanic, social worker, and nature educator. Having run workshops in bushcraft and historical handicraft techniques for more than ten years, he is currently working for Victorinox as a pocket knife educator. His YouTube channel features English language videos on bushcraft and has over 15,000 subscribers.

Imprint: Frances Lincoln
Pub Date: March 2, 2017
Hardcover, 200 pages
\$19.99 USD | \$25.99 CAN



[RV Education 101](#) produces professional RV how-to instruction training videos and DVD's, books and e-books on using and maintaining your Recreation Vehicle (RV).

Keep Outdoor Dogs Safe From Fleas and Ticks The Natural Way

As any owner of a dog that loves to hike, hunt and just roll around the grassy backyard will tell you – ticks and fleas are a problem. Most remedies are harsh and irritating to a dog's skin, only worsening the problem.

kin+kind makes dog treatment products that use the same **natural and organically sourced ingredients humans use** - essential and organic oils provide the base for all soaps and fragrances; jojoba oil and shea butter moisturize; tea tree oil and beeswax heal and soothe. To protect pups from fleas and ticks, as well as hot spots that can pop up from contact with a variety of environmental allergens, **kin+kind** offers the following products:

- ♦ **Protect Anti-Flea and Anti-Tick Body Spray** (\$11.99) prevents fleas and ticks with all-natural essential oils.
- ♦ **Neem Shampoo** (\$19.99) for an all-natural tick and flea remedy and repellent.
- ♦ **Hot Spot Relief Stick** (\$11.99) provides a remarkably effective remedy for these common irritants with an easy and mess-free application - and it's easy to carry in a backpack!

kin+kind products are available in hundreds of independent pet stores across 25 markets (www.kin-kind.com/wheretobuy/) and online at kin-kind.com (www.kin-kind.com/).

Farewells +

WILLIAM 'BILL' NOLAN, PAST QUEBEC PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR



Bill Nolan of Brossard, Quebec passed away on February 26th after a lingering illness. With his wife, Lynn Bill served as Provincial Directors from 1987 until 2008. Lynn remained as contact in Quebec providing a communications link from Quebec to the Regional Director. They received a plaque in 1996 for outstanding service to FCRV. They served on several

Canadian Campvention committees and are lifetime members.

Shari Weber said, "Bill always kept us on our toes reminding us not to forget the Canadian membership. He gave me a looney (dollar coin) and with a smile told us to use it to show our presence at one of the Canadian Campventions."

Noreen Smith said, "Bill and Lynn were very dedicated and always went the extra mile, planning and preparing meals, campouts, and events. Their chapter helped less fortunate people in the area. They kept FCRV informed of Quebec activities and had input at Executive Board meetings. Their children have continued their camping affiliation, which did not happen with many of us. Bill Nolan was a good member and friend who quietly made a contribution."

Bill Nolan is survived by his wife, Lynn, daughters, Barbara, Debbie (Ray), Donna (Dan), Tina (Alain), and son, Doug, 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Condolences can be sent to Lynn and the family at w_nolan@sympatico.ca or 3257 Meil-leir St., Brossard, Quebec J4Y 2H3, Canada.

BARBARA HARPER, WIFE OF PAST PRESIDENT

Barbara Harper, 92 of Skaneateles, New York passed away December 21, 2016. She was the wife of NCHA's 1986 – 1988 President, Bill Harper. Bill and Barb travelled the U.S., Canada, and Mexico and attended many FCRV rallies including the 1984 Campvention in Bowling Green, KY where he helped welcome President Ronald Reagan. Bill passed away in 1988. Barb found love again with childhood friend, Brett Keegan and they continued travelling, camping, and attending FCRV rallies and meetings until his death in 2012.



Barb was known as an avid crafter and was rarely without knitting needles or crochet hook. She was also a member of the Skaneateles Volunteer Firemen's Auxiliary, and United Methodist Church.

Barb Turner said, "We old-timers remember Barb and Bill, especially Bill's unexpected passing while still President. We have lots of memories of those times as we were new members of the Executive Board as Ohio State Directors. We would occasionally see Barb and Brett in Zephyrhills where they win-

tered.”

Barbara Harper is survived by daughters, Marcia (Rich) Lydon, Marilee (David) Williams, two grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. Condolences may be sent to Marilee Williams at 1096 Lacy Road, Skaneateles, NY 13152.

Barbara Berg, 2-17, Wisconsin, WI Beetrtown Chapter, member since 1968.

Perry Fan, 2-3-17, DuQuoin, Illinois, A-Wa-We-Go Chapter, attended many Campventions & Retiree Rallies.

Neva Roy, 87, Elkhart, Indiana & FL, Mother of Barb Dunker, Wayne's RV, attended Retiree Rallies.

Esther Orszi, 95, Dayton, Ohio, helped start "Smoke Signals" newsletter. Long Time active member.

Earl Ficklin, 85, 2-3-17, Berryton, Kansas, Wagonears Chapter

Carol Malcolm, 80, 2-7-17, Hutchison, Kansas, KS Sunflowers & KS Sunchasers Chapters

Donald Monce, 87, 2-10-17 - Fort Wayne, Indiana, member of Kekionga chapter.

Upcoming Events

MARCH

March 2 – 5, 2017 – Milwaukee RV Show

State Fair Park. Visit www.milwaukeeervshow.com for details and hours

March 21 – 27 FCRV Retiree Rally 2017

Canton Civic Center, Canton, TX. Save the Date for the 46th Annual FCRV International Retiree Rally. The theme will be Circus, Circus/Under the Big Top. Stay tuned for more details!

March 27 – 29 – Fulltimers Post Winter Rally

Stay Away Ranch RV Park, 10101 State Hwy 31E, Murchison, TX 75778, phone 903-469-4477. For more information, email melvinlc@juno.com

March 27 – 31, 2017 – YARS Spring 2017 Campout

Civic Center, Mineola, TX \$25/night. Contact pramlow@aol.com

APRIL

April 21 – 23, 2017 – Illinois State April Campout

Okaw Valley Kampground, Brownstown, IL. We hope you can join us for the first state campout of the 2017 season! We are planning a fun time for everyone and hope you will come to enjoy. This year will be camping with a Pirate theme! Tentative plans include: Friday night Pirate hospitality and registration, Saturday morning pot luck breakfast (optional), Saturday Pirate dinner and Sunday morning breakfast will be provided, Bring your Pirate costumes 'cuz we will have a contest for the best-dressed pirate, best-looking pirate, and scariest pirate. We will have a treasure hunt for all ages and more. Okaw Valley Kampground is located at Exit 68 off I-70 in Illinois. Click here to complete and mail the registration form.

April 27 – 30, 2017 – Great Lakes Regional

Allen County Fairgrounds, Lima, OH. Games, Self-Guided Tours, Crafts, Saturday Evening Potluck. Hosted by Ohio, this year's campout will include lots of fun events and food. Saturday will contain a tour of the fair-ground facility that will be used for the 2017 National Campvention as well as an informational meeting with all committee chairman and volunteers.

Pre-Registration Activity Fee \$15.00 (must be postmarked by April 10, 2017). Activity Fee at the Gate \$20. Camping Fee - \$25.00 per night (water & electric) payable upon arrival, cash or check. Make checks payable to: **Ohio Field Directors Fund** Send pre-registration activity fee only to: David and Linda Hennie, 4101 Honeybrook Ave. Dayton OH 45415 Questions?: Contact us at glr4fcrv@aol.com or call 937-750-3320 (Dave) or 937-750-3322 (Linda)

May 5 – 7, 2017 – Blue Water Mixer Spring 2017

Pt Huron Twp Park, Water St., MI. **Activities include:** adult & family games, soup lunch, saturday dinner potluck (district will provide the chicken for saturday dinner), sunday potluck breakfast, fun for all ages.come have fun and relax. **50/50 drawings (saturday) in place of activity fee.** View the registration form for more information and to let us know you are coming on FCRV website.

May 19 – 21, 2017 – MD/DC State Association Spring Campout

Walkersville MD Volunteer Fire Department, West Frederick St., Walkersville, MD 21793

Enjoy camping, weekend festivities and meeting new people. Saturday the town has yard sales, train rides, strawberry festival, and open house at VFD/EMS. For more information and registration form, please contact Cheri Fox at 202-503-8155, drfox623@aol.com and/or Linda Foote, 301-843-0543, falconcamping@gmail.com.

May 19 – 25, 2017 – South Carolina Spring Campout

New Green Acres RV Resort, Waterboro, SC. Reservations: 843-538-3450

May 26 – 29, 2017 – Wisconsin Get Acquainted Campout

Walworth County Fairgrounds, Elkhorn, WI. Activities –Touring –Campfire- Chocolate Festival in Burlington, Wisconsin just a few miles away – “South Pacific” is playing at Fireside Theater nearby -- contact Kip Cushing (kcushing@wi.rr.com) with questions an if you plan to attend. One meal will be furnished.



Let's show everyone the fun, unusual, and interesting activities we participate in at our campouts! Send articles (don't have to be long) and/or pictures to d_johnston01@msn.com or mail to 126 Hermitage RD., Butler, PA 16001 for the Camping Today. We'd also like to have information on members who have reached a milestone such as anniversary, birthday or received special recognition outside of FCRV.

“ALL ABOARD” MARKETPLACE

Table Registration Form

Please place an **X** in the box to indicate if the registration is for Chapter or Individual.
Note: There is no charge to Chapters for tables. There is a \$15 charge for Individuals who want to sell craft or other items. If a second is needed, an additional \$10 fee is required. Please remit your payment with registration form.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Chapter
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual

Chapters: Please provide the following information if registering for a Chapter.

Chapter Name:	
Contact Person:	
Cell Phone Number:	
Number of tables needed (No Charge)	
Describe products to be sold:	

Individuals: Please provide the following information if registering as an individual.

Contact Person:	
Cell Phone Number:	
Number of tables needed: (\$15/ table) (\$25 for two)	
Describe products to be sold:	

Mail registration forms to: Duane & Ruth Keegan, 957 Lois Ave., Addison, IL. 60101
dentec957@aft.net

NO later then **June 23, 2017**. Individuals please sent fee with registration.
Make checks payable to: FCRV Campvention 2017 Write Project Sales on memo line.

FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers NATIONAL CAMPVENTION

Lima, Ohio 2017

APPLICATION: GOLF CART RENTAL

(Print) FIRST NAME _____ MI _____ LAST NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ST/PROV _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____ AGE _____ CELL PHONE (____) _____

Golf carts cost including sales tax. \$225.00 for 2 & 4 passenger. They are rented from 7/10/17 - 7/14/17. You must provide flashlight and reflectors. You must be 21 or older to rent the Golf Carts. Golf carts **MUST** be ordered and paid for in advance. There will be no additional carts available at Campvention.

NUMBER OF CARTS _____

TOTAL AMOUNT PAID IN FULL \$ _____ US CURRENCY ONLY

(checks or money orders, no cash please.)

Make checks payable to: FCRV Campvention 2017

Mail check and application to: Dwight S. Bonifield, 4235 Cherlick Cir, Zanesville, Ohio 43701-9250

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

BY SIGNING THIS ORDER FORM YOU ARE TAKING COMPLETE AND TOTAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY DAMAGE TO THE GOLF CART AND/OR ANY PERSONAL DAMAGE TO YOURSELF, YOUR FAMILY AND/OR ANY OTHER PERSON.

YOU WILL NOT HOLD FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers, GOLF CAR COMPANY, OR ANYONE CONNECTED WITH THEM RESPONSIBLE OR LIABLE IN ANY WAY.

Please sign _____ Date _____

NO APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER JUNE 15, 2017



REGISTRATION FORM

FAMILY CAMPERS AND RVERS

46TH National Retiree Rally

CANTON CIVIC CENTER/FIRST MONDAY TRADE PARK

800 FLEA MARKET RD, CANTON, TEXAS 75103

MARCH 21, 2017 – MARCH 27, 2017

EARLY DAYS ARE: MARCH 17TH – MARCH 20TH

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST: _____ SPOUSE/OTHER: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ST/PROVINCE: _____ ZIP/POSTAL: _____

ADDRESS OF OTHER IF DIFFERENT: _____ CITY: _____ ST/PROVINCE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ WOULD YOU LIKE IT SENT IN PDF FILE: YES _____ NO _____

HOME PHONE #: _____ CELL PHONE #: _____

IS THIS YOUR FIRST RETIREE RALLY: YES _____ NO _____ ARE YOU A VETERAN? _____

CONFIRMATION LETTERS WILL BE SENT IN JANUARY 2017. I WOULD LIKE IT SENT TO:

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP/POSTAL: _____

REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2017**YOUR CONFIRMATION LETTER MUST BE PRINTED AND PRESENTED AT REGISTRATION.****DO NOT HAVE IT SENT TO A CELL PHONE.****WE MUST HAVE THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ALL REGISTRANTS (INCLUDING GUEST)****FEES:****EARLY BIRD PARKING (MARCH 17 – 20): FEE IS \$20 A NIGHT AND INCLUDES WATER, ELECTRIC, AND SEWER.****EARLY BIRD FEE PAID IN CANTON, TX AT REGISTRATION.****RALLY FEES: (MARCH 21- MARCH 27 LEAVE MONDAY): INCLUDES: 6 nights of camping, 2 evening meals, Ice Cream Social, evening entertainment and all activities connected with the Rally.**

	<u>Pre-Registration (Paid in Advance in Full):</u>	<u>At the Gate:</u>
Two people in a unit:	\$215.00	\$235.00
Single person in a unit:	\$185.00	\$205.00
Camp Pass (2 people or second couple in a unit)	\$105.00	\$125.00
Camp Pass (1 person or extra person in a unit)	\$ 75.00	\$ 95.00

SPECIAL NEEDS PARKING

NOTE: To be parked in Special Needs (Handicapped) Area, you **MUST HAVE ON FILE WITH THE REGISTRAR ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:** a current Doctor's Certificate, State License Registration indicating Handicap plate, or Handicap card you please on your windshield. This area is reserved for:

WHEELCHAIRS, WALKERS OR THOSE WITH MOBILITY PROBLEMS; _____

NON-HANDICAPPED AREA – THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS BUT NO MOBILITY PROBLEMS: _____

GUESTS ARE WELCOME

Guests/Non-FCRV members are welcome. They may be in their own unit or with you. Have them complete a registration form and on it indicate they are your guest. We strongly suggest they enter the camping area at the same time you do. We are NOT FCRV members and are guest of: _____

REFUND POLICY

Refunds must be requested in writing to the REGISTRAR. Refunds requested before the deadline of March 3, 2017 will receive the following: Two people in a unit: \$190.00, One person in a unit: \$160.00, Camp Pass two people: \$80.00,

Make checks or money order (US CURRENCY ONLY) payable to: FCRV/NCHA RETIREE RALLY 2017. NO CREDIT CARDS. Mail registration to: Bill and Penny Ramlow, 8009 Cherry Branch Dr., Ruskin, FL. 33573. You can contact them at 305-822-6589 and 813-545-6083 or email them at pramlow@aol.com.

I would like to volunteer for: _____



57th Annual FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers Campvention

Hosted by Region #4 **ALL ABOARD !!!**

July 9-15, 2017 – Lima, Ohio

Allen County Fairgrounds, 2750 Harding Hwy., Lima, Oh. 45804

6 Nights of Camping Sunday thru Friday 5 Days of Activities

DEADLINE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION JUNE 1, 2017



**There will always be room
for you at Campvention!**

If you decide to come at the last minute, bring this registration with you.
We Want You To Come!!

Early Bird Days July 7-8 . Fees \$25 per night. Pay for Early Days at registration in building. Cash/check only.
Gates open at Noon on Friday, July 7, . Gates open all other days at 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM. After 8 PM go to overflow lot.

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Spouse/Guest First Name _____
Address _____ City _____ St/Prv _____ Zip/PL Code _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____ Is this your first Campvention? Yes _No_
Print name of State or Province you want to be parked with, if different than home address: _____

of Adults ____ Teens ____ Youth 9-12 ____ Youth 5-8 ____ Youth 0-4 ____ Total # of people in unit ____
Please list names & ages of all teens & youth. _____

TWO OR MORE FAMILIES ATTENDING THE CAMPVENTION IN ONE UNIT

Each family in the same unit must complete a separate Registration Form. The additional family must pay (see below) for the 6 nights. Please indicate the unit owner's name: _____

FAMILIES STAYING OFF GROUNDS. You must purchase a Daily Walk/Drive-in pass and complete a registration form. Pre-paid Walk/Drive-in pass is \$20 per day. At the Gate cost is \$25 per day per family.

Special Needs INFORMATION Check yes if requesting a special needs site: **YES** _____

There will be no special needs sites available at the Gate. To guarantee a special needs site you must pre-register.

CAMPVENTION PARKING

All parking will be hobo by State/Province. You will be assigned a site as you arrive.

30 Amp Service with water available.

Type of unit: Tent ____ Pop-up Trailer ____ Trailer ____ Truck Camper ____ Van ____ 5th Wheel ____ Motorhome ____
Unit Length ____ ft

SPECIAL FOR 2017 CAMPVENTION

Each family registering will receive \$10 in VENDOR BUCKS. They can be used towards any purchase from a vendor in the commercial area. Vendor Bucks must be used at 2017 Campvention. Vendor Bucks have "no surrender or cash value" this means no cash back from vendor. VENDOR BUCKS will be given to you at registration.

If you prefer not to send this information by mail you can complete this registration on line at fcrv.org and pay by credit card.

Please fill in your selections below

Pre-registration Fees CampVention Fee \$285.00 Second Family in same unit \$135.00	Type of Registration	# of Days/Nights	X	= \$ Amt.	At Gate Registration Fees CampVention Fee \$300.00 Second Family in same unit \$150.00
	6 nights 5 days of fun	# 6 nights \$285.00		\$	
	Second Family in unit	#6 nights \$135.00		\$	
				\$	
				\$	
Total Enclosed				\$	

Mail to: Dennis/Cindy James
3395 N. US Hwy 33
Decatur, IN. 46733

Have Questions call (260)223-0863 or email
2017fcrvcampreg@gmail.com NOTE: If you register and are unable to attend for any reason, we will automatically mail you a refund of any pre-paid fees minus \$25.00

Make check payable to: FCRV Campvention 2017

All funds should be in US Currency

We would like to volunteer for the following jobs:
