VOICE of the Camping Family - Family Campers and RVers

CAMPING TODAY®

August 2017





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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

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

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: Jan Cushing Past President: Jack Smye

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







Were you "All Aboard for Lima"? The Great Lakes team and other volunteers made the week fun. This issue of "Camping Today" is packed with pictures and achievements of many in attendance. Enjoy reading about campvention. I will share more next month. Until the next campfire, Shari



Campvention 2017



FCRV'S 57th ANNUAL CAMPVENTION DRAWS 242 TO LIMA, OHIO



Sue Fronholzer thanks Chairmen, Dave & Linda Hennie, Co-Chairmen, Larry & Vickie Roop, and the committees from the Great Lakes Region.

Family Campers & RVers tradition of offering entertaining and informative national rallies with fun and friendship activities for all ages continued July 8 – 15 at the Allen County Fairgrounds in Lima, Ohio. Relating to Lima's history as manufacturer of steam locomotives, the theme was "All Aboard, Destination Great Lakes Region." There were 233 units on grounds and 9 day passes.. Chairmen for the event were Great Lakes Regional Directors, Dave and Linda Hennie

(OH) with Co-chairmen, Vickie and Larry Roop (IN). Members from the Great Lakes Region of FCRV (IL, IN, KY, MI. WI, OH) headed the committees.

A perfect summer evening greeted everyone at the non-denominational church service and opening ceremonies at the large open sided pavilion. People were awed by the stage background that featured a locomotive with turning wheels and smoking stack. The passenger car windows had changeable images. It was designed and built by Ray Thornton of Michigan.

Dave Hennie blew the railroad whistle at 7:30 sharp for the parade of flags and Canadian and U. S. Anthems. Welcomes were extended by Fair Board President, Don Kimmet, General Manager, Bob Fricke, and Visitor's Bureau Manager, Sharee Brenneman. Bob Fricke was presented with an honorary FCRV membership. FCRV President Shari Weber welcomed everyone and introduced the Trustees. Dave and Linda Hennie introduced their team leaders and recognized the many volunteers in orange shirts and railroad hats. Stepping forward to cut the opening ribbon were 2016 Miss FCRV, Emily Kurburski and 2016 Teen King, Nicholas Kite, and 2017



Ray Thonton's stage train had smoke and turning wheels.



International Retiree King and Queen, Bob and Carolyn Deshone. Following the ceremony, people headed for the Great Lakes Hospitality which featured a person search game with prizes and the teen building hosted a sock hop. Many stopped off at the ice cream vendor's stand along the way.

Heavy rains interrupted some activities on Monday. The Family Fun Day was moved into the large open sided arena, but winds affected the inflatables and games. The teen sponsored lunch went off as scheduled also in the arena. The weather cleared in time for the evening stage program which began with National Awards. Citations were presented by Shari Weber and Sue Carlsen to Ron and Reba Ray, Ed and Angie Shaneyfelt, and Marvin and Edith Kramer. Plaques were presented to Gerry and Betty Owens, Ray and Jane Thornton, and Scott and Jill Serbousek. The Hank Nathan Lifetime Achievement Award was earned by Juanita Woolworth. See the separate awards article for details.



The Marlins put on a great show

Monday night

The entertainment could only be described with two words – quality and variety. The Marlins are four seasoned musicians / singers, all brothers who did a fast moving show that included some comedy and almost every type of music, each true to form and well done. They also did an original song, "I Believe in America" on which the audience joined in. Folks were on their feet for "YMCA" and the finale which was a medley of patriotic standards, ending with "God Bless the U.S.A." It was a satisfying hour and 45 minutes. After the show Ontario hosted a hospitality. Another thunder storm hit later in the evening.

Tuesday featured the golf scramble, horseshoes competition, birdhouse and wildlife photo contest, aluminum tab collection, pet parade,

PA hospitality, conservation poster judging, Miss FCRV thank you hospitality, and seminars.

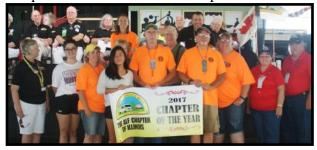
The evening program began with the FCRV Annual Meeting. Following the anthems and invocation, President, Shari Weber introduced Past Presidents, Juanita Woolworth, wife of late Don Woolworth, Jim and Barb Turner, and Larry and Vickie Roop. Also introduced were the Trustees and their spouses, Corresponding and Recording Secretary, Sue Carlson (Chuck), Comptroller, Vodean Benham, VP of

Planning and Development, Scott Serbousek (Jill), VP of Programs, George Walters (Debbie), VP of Operations, Sue Fromholzer (Carl), Past President, Jack Smye (Sonya), and incoming Comptroller, Jan Cushing (Kip). Three Trustees were installed for the coming term by Larry Roop - Jan Cushing, Comptroller, Scott Serbousek, VP Planning and Development, and Sue Fromholzer, VP of Operations. Comptroller Benham reported income for the year was \$131,225, expenses \$117,288, balance \$\$13,336. Scott Serbousek presented top membership growth awards to Regional Directors, Jeff and



Larry Roop swears in Trustees, Jan Cushing, Scott Serbousek, & Sue Fromholzer

Shirley Kendle for Arizona (small state) and State Directors, Doug and Connie Black of Illinois (large state). Serbousek also reported that proceeds from Family Fun Day teen lunch will go to Scholarship and Wildlife programs after a Campvention teen activity. Marjory Bates, Reba Ray, and Gerry Owens gave a preview of the 2018 Campvention set for July 9 – 18 at Meadow Event Park in Doswell, Virginia.



Alf Chapter received the Chapter of the year.

(details in separate article). Sue Carlson Presented the Humanitarian award to Bob and Lou Powell. Awards of Merit went to George Walters and Debbie Ludwig. The Alf Chapter, most of whom were on hand, received the Chapter of the Year Award (award details separate). Shari weber concluded the meeting by answering questions on Campvention and the Field Directors Manual. In her final comments she said she loves seeing her camping family and has wonderful memories of past campventions, noting that fun is conta-

gious. She urged everyone to work on getting new members and to preserve the purposes and values of FCRV.

For entertainment, The Bulldogs from Indiana brought back the oldies with a wide variety of 50's and 60's music. Four talented guys and 1 girl had audience members dancing, each song bringing out more dancers. They worked in a few train songs and dancers formed a line and marched across the arena. Kip Cushing was in charge of entertainment for the week. Michigan provided hospitality after the program.

Throughout the week several daily activities took place such as walks, devotions, biking, youth, teen, adult center, seminars, crafts, meetings, commercial, band practice, pageant practice, etc. Self guided tours were

popular especially the Lima Museum and Neil Armstrong Museum. There were 12 vendors on hand – Lula Rose women's clothing, Scentsy scented candles, Karen's Embroidery FCRV clothing, Wayne's RV parts / repair, Eastern Stars glass ornaments, Blue Streak chemical dispensers, , Pampered Chef kitchen items, Pure Promotions variety items, Sky Med medical transport, Pop's breakfast & lunch stand, J&M homemade ice cream. Seminars were held on CPR training, kitchen gadgets, full timing, RVing to Alaska, holding tank chemicals, photo books, Dutch oven cooking, and FCRV officer training



Mardi Gras Parade after the Pageant led folks to the Teen Ball hospitality.

Wednesday was a busy day with site decorating judging, washer toss competition, and all the Teen Queen and King Pageant preparations. The teen talent presentations, prepared essay, poise and confidence, evening gown / formal wear segments were completed in the afternoon and the finale was held in the evening. 19 year old Beth O'Neal of Illinois was crowned Miss FCRV 2017. First Runner-up was Katy Kurburski of Michigan. Miss Congeniality was Abbie LaManna of New York, and Star Performer was also Beth O'Neal. FCRV Teen King for 2017 is Peter Kurburski, 16 of Michigan. (Complete pageant details in separate article). Following the pageant, the contestants led a Mardi Gras parade to the fine arts building for an open hospitality prior to the Teen Queen Ball.

The final items of business immediately following the afternoon pageant were program awards. Carl Wood presented the Scholarship list of 9 win-

ners. On hand were Amy Wittmeyer ('17 Schu award), Emily Kurburski, Nick Kyte, and Hannah Robb. Wood noted that FCRV has given \$372,000 in scholarships to 350 winners since 1990. (Complete details in separate article). Karen Snodgrass presented the youth 'Camping Is' awards and Mary Lehnerd presented the conservation poster, essay, and project awards (separate article). Joanie Stone reported 11 Wildlife grants this year totaling \$5,200. George Walters presented Wildlife grants, bird house and photo winners (separate article). Shirley MacKenzie presented the scrapbook contest winner, Roaming Buffalo's of North Dakota. MacKenzie announced that the scrapbook and photo book contest will be discontinued due to lack of participation. Ironically, the Roaming Buffalo's won the very first scrapbook contest and now the last. Fortunately another thunder storm held off until late night.

Thursday was filled with the morning Marketplace chapter project / craft sale, ladder golf, teen softball and volleyball, teen bowling outing, field staff meetings, euchre tournament, Southeast region hospitality, and final door prize pick up. The ladies Red Hat luncheon and men's Hard Hat lunch were well attended with guest speakers on early days dress styles and Lima's railroad and train building history.

The evening program began with introduction of the 2017 Teen Royalty and presentation of checks from FCRV. Sports winners were presented by Kathy Murphy. 75 players participated (separate report). Pet Parade winners were presented by Patty Couden (separate report). Entertainer, Frank Hamilton (Johnny Cash tribute) was unable to appear due to illness, but instead the audience was treated to Terry Lee Ridley's Jerry Lee Lewis tribute show. The affable "Killer" included lots of humor and songs by other artists.

Brad McRady took us back in time with the look, sound, and hits of Elvis Presley throughout his career. A few ladies in the audience came forward to get a scarf, an Elvis concert tradition. He also gave out teddy bears to a few kids. A Veterans drawing was

held and the Kentucky Colonels hospitality topped off the night.

Things were winding down by Friday. The 'Reverse Parade' was held indoors with 9 groups

Things were winding down by Friday. The 'Reverse Parade' was held indoors with 9 groups participating. The floats (displays) are stationary and the spectators walk by. The teen vs adult softball game was fun as always with the adults getting the win. The First Timers had a follow up meeting to give their impressions and suggestions.

Evening entertainment was preceded by some presentations. Shari Weber presented a certificate of thanks to Ray Thornton of Michigan for the



Elvis (Brad McRady) had the ladies asking for scarfs.

Sta

Ron Braley presented a fund raiser check for \$501.50 to American Legion Post 96 in Lima

impressive locomotive stage backdrop. Harold Braley presented a check for \$830.50 and 850 pounds of food donated at Campvention to the West Ohio Food Bank. The Teens presented a check for \$287 from the family fun day to accompany the \$501.50 from the FCRV Veterans fund raiser to the American Legion Post 96 in



This year's committee marched in with signs to say farewell, see you next year.

Lima. The remaining half of family fun day proceeds was given to the FCRV Wildlife Fund. Aluminum tab collection was double that of last year with 435 lbs. of tabs worth \$400 which was given to the Ronald McDonald House of Northwest Ohio in Toledo. 21 states turned in tabs with IL - 211.1 lbs., MI - 101.2, and MD/DC - 66.2. Canada collected 761 pounds of tabs and 184 pounds of aluminium cans to be used for charities in Canada. The Parade awards went to best State / Provincial Display – Ontario, best Youth display – FCRV Youth, Best Teen Display – FCRV Teen Royalty Court, Trustees Award – Ontario, and Parade Stealer – Ontario. This year's Campvention committee members marched with signs saying, "The Train Has Left the Station" and "Next Stop Virginia."

Gunslinger, a four man group from Indiana provided a non-stop 2 hours of contemporary, high energetic, country rock to close out the week's entertainment. The final door prizes were presented including special prizes donated by each state in the Great Lakes Region. The final event was the retiring of the U.S, Canadian, and FCRV flags. The FCRV flag was given to the 2018 Campvention Co-chairmen, Ron and Reba Ray. Shari Weber thanked the many Campvention volunteers and the members for coming to Ohio. She wished everyone safe travels and declared the 2017 FCRV Campvention closed. As a final touch the members of the 2018 Campvention in Virginia marched as a group led by George Walters playing as they sang "Dixie."

Preview of 2018 Campvention, Next issue

National Award Recipients

Citations are awarded for outstanding service in FCRV



Ed and Angie Shaneyfelt

Joined FCRV: 1993 **Leadership**

- Past Indiana State Association President (five years)
- Indiana coach of Teen Sports (18 years)
- ◆ Indiana State Association Teen Chairmen (Current for 5+ years)
- Security Chairman for Indiana State Association (6 years)

- Works with Teens in National Sports at Campvention
- ◆ Assisted with campvention 2016 to assure things were on track and offered guidance to the campvention team.

National Service

- Appointed National Campvention Director 2015
- Coach for Teen Sports at campvention
- Worked security at campventions

Community Involvement

- Current (and for "many years") president of the Decatur Wrestling Club
- 13 year work with the Decatur Baseball League

Special Recognition

- ♦ National Citation 2013
- Indiana State Association FCRV Service Award
- ◆ Indiana State Association FCRV Hall of Fame Award
- Indiana FCRV State Director's award twice from-Dennis and Cindy James Henry and Phyllis Koerner
- Positively for Indiana award x 3
- Certificate of Appreciation for service at Campvention 2012 in Blythe, ON

Ron and Reba Ray



Joined NCHA: 1992

Leadership

- ♦ FCRV Retiree Directors
- ◆ Co-Chairmen 2018 FCRV Campvention
- ♦ President Georgia State Association
- Vice President of Georgia State Asso ciation
- ♦ Held offices of President, Vice President and Secretary of their local chapter Troup Travelers
- Coordinator of 2016 FCRV Retiree Rally
- Assistant Coordinator of 2015 FCRV Retiree Rally
- Editor of Georgia Cracker Barrel newsletter
- Chairman of Security Committee for Retiree Rallies
- Field Directors

Community Involvement

Participated in Girl Scouts and sports activities with their children Participated in Conservation projects that benefitted their community and state

Marvin and Edith Kramer



Joined FCRV: 1995

Leadership

- Field Directors for 20+ years
- Participants at the RV show booths over many years
- Regional Campout, Edith devised and headed an extremely successful fundraiser sewing on patches
- As Field Directors of the Silver Foxes they organized and held the first Southern Colorado Retiree Campout, which they continued to host for several years.
- ◆ Edith has been active in presenting Craft Projects at many FCRV events.

Community Involvement

- Participated in the Grey Wolves conservation project landscaping the area surrounding new on/ off ramps on I-25 in Colorado Springs
- Marvin taught the AARP 55 Alive Senior Driver Safety Course for many years, and was always available to offer it as an activity at Campouts of all sizes
- Marvin was committee member of the Colorado Spring Classic Hot Air Balloon Festival for 20 years, serving as Launch and Safety Director.
- Edith worked as a docent at the Pioneer Museum for 20+ years. She was also a Cheyenne Mountain Zoo docent for 12-14 years.

Special Recognition

- Increased visibility and awareness of FCRV activities as well as fostering esprit de corps by creating patches, making denim vests for the Grey Wolves, and embroidering hoodies, t-shirts, and aprons with chapter names and logos.
- Marvin, who passed away in January will be greatly missed by all who knew him in FCRV.

Plaques are FCRV's highest award for service in FCRV

Gerry and Betty Owens



Joined NCHA: 1981

Leadership

• Present West Virginia State Director

- Currently serving as Advisor for 2018 FCRV Campvention
- Past Regional Director Southeast Region
- Chairman, FCRV Campvention held in Georgia 1998
- Chairman, FCRV Campvention held in West Virginia
- Held offices as President, Vice President, Secretary of West Virginia state organization
- Has held all offices in their local chapter
- Has been a commercial vendor at several FCRV Retiree rallies

Achievements

- Received FCRV Citation 2000
- Certificate and plaque from WV FCRV state organization

National Service

- Served on FCRV Nominating committee
- Served on Security Committee at several Retiree rallies

Community Involvement

- Participate in local Angel Tree and Food Bank ministries
- Served in leadership positions with local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts organizations

Ray and Jane Thornton



Joined NCHA: October 1988

Lifetime Member

Leadership

1990-Current Michigan Field Director

1993-2008 "Michigander Editor", our quarterly state news publication

2010-Current Michigan State Association Scholarship Director

1990-Current Michigan Northern District Field Directors

2009 Michigan State Association Nominating Committee Chair

2009-Current [972] Timber Town Travelers Chapter President

2014-15 Michigan State Association Treasurer

2014-15 MSA Michigander Subscription Chair 2015-17 Michigan State Association Treasurer Assistant

2017-18 Michigan State Association Treasurer

2002-Current—MSA State Campouts, fall and spring, was involved in making every activity a huge success. We know they were part of many campouts prior to this date too.

- Chaired/co-chaired many state campouts
- Created backdrops and stages
- Planned activities and programs
- Family Games Chair
- Emcee Evening Program
- Pageant Stage Hand and co-chair
- Organized potlucks
- Provided Evening Entertainment such as but not limited to music, skits, Mess Michigan
- Organized and prepared Regional Campout Meals

2011-Current Family Games Chair for Michigan's Southeast District

2011-Current Octoberest activities chair for Michigan Field Directors

1998 Campvention, Perry, GA, Performed at evening talent show

2001 Campvention, Gillette, WY, As DJ provided an Evening Street Dance for All

2004 Campvention, Berrien Springs, MI, Teen Pageant Co-Chair, DJ for Teen Ball, Transportation Co-Chair

2015 Campvention, Gilette, WY, Co-hosted Teen Dance, D.J. for Teen Ball

2016 Campvention, Shawnee, OK, Co-hosted Teen Dance and provided music; D.J. for Teen Ball

2017 Campvention, Lima, OH, Chair for Teen Center, D.J. for Teen Ball

2013 Served on the Awards Committee as a Region 4 representative for field staff

Community Involvement

2007 – Current – Bridgeport, Michigan, Gun Club Member - Involved in winter fish fries as money making project to sponsor youth hunting, gun and archery safety and conservation programs. Also helps local cub scouts and girl scouts.

2005 – current - Assisted in annual charity auction with proceeds going to hurricane Katrina victims fund, cancer youth camps, military families with deployed members, toys for tots, battered women and children centers, conservation (purchasing trees for a campground that lost many of their trees to Emerald Ash Borer)

2007-2016 - Annual charity collection of mittens, socks, toiletries etc. for local homeless shelter

Special Recogition

1999—Michigan State Director Award 2008—Michigan Family of the Year Award

Jane Thornton grew up in FCRV; she and Ray have been <u>ACTIVE</u> members since 1990 and are now lifetime members.

This couple is the perfect example of the ultimate volunteer who is always front and center to volunteer whenever and wherever needed. This has been our observation since being appointed as state directors in 2011; however, we know they have been active members throughout their tenure. We can always count on Ray and Jane to step up and make sure any FCRV activity in Michigan is covered and a huge success. We cannot think of a single thing Ray and Jane has <u>NOT</u> done to make our campouts and any activity in Michigan a huge success.

Ray and Jane are the most active field directors we have. They have never missed a meeting and the word "no" is not in their vocabulary. They are incredibly creative and make any idea presented to them happen.

More often than not they have created and provided: stage decorations and back drops, sound (using their own professional D.J. equipment), evening entertainment (skits, Mess Michigan, lip sinking, "Lemon Sister" acts and family games to name just a few) personally created entertainment for members of all ages and abilities.

They have provided meals at chapter, district, state and region activities and organized many potlucks.

This past year at our Great Lakes Regional Campout held in Michigan, they helped anywhere and everywhere needed. We had a full schedule of activities from Wednesday through Sunday. They were involved in every activity from set up to clean up.

Scott and Jill Serbousek



Joined FCRV: 2008

Leadership

- Scott leads get acquainted meetings in Illinois and Missouri which have resulted in getting new members.
- Scott is also the advertising director for his state
- Jill is editor of her state newsletter, is the Recording Officer for her state
- Jill is the director for Conservation, DASAT and Historian for her state
- Jill is President of her chapter and has held that position for the past 5 years
- Jill is also her chapter's DASAT Chairperson
- Scott and Jill assist with promoting FCRV at RV shows

Achievements

- With Scott and Jill's leadership their chapter is a very active chapter having received awards for Chapter of the Year as well as conservation awards
- ◆As DASAT Chairperson for her chapter Jill has received recognition from the national DASAT program
- ◆Scott mileage recognition for CAMP during 2016 222 miles
- ◆Jill mileage recognition for CAMP during 2016 110 miles

National Service

- Scott became Vice-President Planning & Development in 2012 and continues to serve in that capacity
- Jill was instrumental in starting the photobook contest for the historian program.
- Jill has been and continues to be a huge contributor to the fcrv.org website and its development
- Both Scott and Jill have participated in the international band at campvention and were part of the band in Shawnee

National Achievements

- Scott formed a national recruiting contest in conjunction with Bill Eckmann. The contest was intended to encourage folks to invite people to join Family Campers.
- Scott began the Family Fun day at campvention. This has become an anticipated event at campvention with opportunities for all ages to have a great time.
- Jill has been instrumental in developing fcrv.org and FCRV's facebook presence, both helping to promote FCRV

Community Involvement

- Jill and Scott participate in the St Louis Iowa Club. Jill is President and Scott is Treasurer.
- ◆ Both Scott and Jill have participated in the Great Cycle Challenge for Children's Cancer research

- raising hundreds of dollars.
- Both participate in Operation Clean Stream volunteering many hours to clean water ways near their home
- They also participate in the No More trash bash every year volunteering hours in picking up roadside trash. No More Trash! is an effort to protect Missouri's natural beauty and wildlife from the harmful effects of litter.
- Both Jill and Scott became members of the Citizen Police Academy
- They are also both Severe Weather Spotters for the St Louis area

Special Recognition

- Jill and Scott both received CERT certification.
- ◆ They both volunteer their services as needed. CERT educates individuals about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical awareness.

Hank Nathan Lifetime Achievement Award is presented for lifetime service and accomplishments in FCRV

Juanita Woolworth



Juanita and her late husband, Don, are the founders of NCHA in Michigan having organized its first chapter, Tails-a-Wagon, in 1963.

Tails-A-Wagon has maintained an average of 30 members since it was chartered in 1963. It is Michigan's oldest and largest chapter.

Currently, grandson Matt Woolworth, is president of Tails-A-Wagon, and all of Juanita's great grand-children are members of the chapter she started 54 years ago.

- The Woolworth's were appointed State Director in 1966. Under their leadership, Michigan gained over 7,000 members and chartered 274 new chapters.
- ♦ 1965 Juanita and Don began the Michigan State Association.
- ◆ 1967 Promoted NCHA at the first annual Detroit Camper Show
- NCHA Family of the Year in 1968
- ◆ Juanita served as Assistant State Director from 1975-1992 a total of 26 years of leadership.
- ◆ 2013 Tails-A-Wagon hosted Michigan's Fall statewide in honor of Tails-A-Wagon's 50th anniversary. Almost 100 units were on grounds, many from other states and Canada in response to Juanita's personal invitations.
- Awarded an NCHA plaque in 1966
- Attended 55 Campventions
- 1970 Campvention Chair (hosting 7,070 families)
- 1988 Campvention Co-Chair (hosting 4,017 families)
- 2004 Campvention VIP Host
- 2010 Campvention VIP Host

Juanita has mentored the four state directors who succeeded her, and encouraged many members to accept field staff and program positions.

During the years we have had the privilege of camping with Juanita, she has been steadfast in her love and commitment to three priorities: her family, her church, and NCHA/FCRV. She is the type of individual that volunteer organizations such as ours rely on to survive. She is the epitome of FCRV's mission of fun, friendship, and family. Michigan will always consider her its "matriarch," and are grateful for her lifetime of dedication to MSA and FCRV.

54 years of consistent commitment to promoting FCRV.



Juanita & her sons Keith & Ron

Merit awards are given for special service to FCRV

Debbie Ludwig



George Walters



Humanitarian Award



Lou & Bob Paul

Merit, Humanitarian, and Chapter of the Year details in next issue

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETS AT '17 CAMPVENTION

FCRV'S EXCUTIVE B0ARD MEMBERS (Trustees, State/Provincial/Regional Directors, Program Directors) met all day Sunday, July 9, 2017 at the Lima Ohio Campvention. Miss FCRV, Emily Kurburski and Teen King, Nick Kyte summarized their year and joined in leading the National An-

thems.

Reports began with Comptroller Vodean Benham reporting income for the year was \$131, 225.27 and expenses totaled \$117, 284.06. Current balance is \$13,336. Budget Director, Jan Cushing reported a Wildlife account balance of \$86,982. Grants of \$5,000 were awarded in 2016. The Process is underway to change the name of the Scholarship fund to honor NCHA's Founder, Hank Nathan.

Office Manager, Pat Wittmeyer stressed the need for every member with email to make sure the office has their email address for voting and other urgent messages. Debbie Ludwig presented a check for \$15,917.74 from the Oklahoma Campvention which included the \$2,000 advance. Reba Ray presented a check for \$5,000 from the Tallahassee Retiree Rally. Carl Wood reported that of 15 applications, 12 were completed and submitted with 9 awarded for 2017. He noted that since 1990, NCHA/FCRV has awarded \$372,000 in scholarships

Campvention Coordinator, Ed Shaneyfelt noted that the 2018 Campvention planning is well underway for Doswell, Virginia, July 9-13. 2019 CV will be at Hutchison, Kansas State Fairgrounds July 7-13. 2020 is Canada's turn. The 2018 Campvention Chairmen, Marjory and Don Bates and their Steering Committee gave a preview of the Virginia location. There are 175 full hookup sites and many more with water and electric. There is a large Farm Bureau building for activities, commercial, and stage. Other buildings will be used also. Registration is \$290 until June 21, \$300 at gate. Second family in unit \$135. More details to come. Shirley MacKenzie displayed a large quilt with past Campvention patches which will be raffled off. 2017 Chairmen Dave and Linda Hennie thanked everyone for coming to Lima and credited the committees for their advance preparations and work at Campvention.

Items of business discussed included the use of alcohol at chapter and other campouts. It was voted to maintain the present policy that allows those 21 and over may have adult beverages in or around a campsite as long as discretion and responsibility are observed and you are not disturbing others. It was noted that FCRV does not promote alcohol use and prohibits sales at FCRV functions.

Another item that sparked much discussion was the fact that since Camping Today has become an online only magazine to reduce cost,, requests for black and white printed and mailed copies have been costing \$3 per mailing (ink, paper, postage, time) or \$36 per year. It was decided that those members requesting a mailed copy would be responsible for the

cost. FCRV will subsidize part and the subscription price will be \$20 per year (12 issues) office copied, stapled. This change will take effect in January 2018. Further details coming.

Also discussed was whether the recently formed FCRV Veterans should be a chapter or a program. It was approved as a program. Ron Braley was appointed Director. Discussed and tabled for further study were reinstating the winter board meetings and updating the FCRV logo.

Those retiring from the Executive Board were recognized for their service. They included Ron and Shala Costello, CO, Loana Schroeder, CO 14 years, Ken and Wilma Willis, UT, Marilyn Rausch DA-SAT 8 years, Tammy Slicer, OH 5 years, Vodean Benham, Comptroller 5 years. JoAnn Eckman, Membership 14 years with late husband, Bill, Dick and Pam Likins, Florida State Directors 9 years. Also honored was Vodean Benham who is stepping down as Comptroller. New Florida State Directors, Bob and Emma Moore were introduced.

The afternoon was dedicated to training for promoting FCRV at RV shows and follow up recruiting by Scott Serbousek.



JoAnn Eckman was recognized for her years of service as Membership Director with late husband, Bill.



Vodean Benham was recognized for her years of service as FCRV Comptroller

2017 MISS FCRV & TEEN KING PAGEANT

Five young ladies and one young man entered the 2017 Teen Royalty Pageant. Contestants were: Brianna Coniglio, 14, of Spring Hill, Florida, daughter of Lou and Beth Coniglio, members at large. Her talent was interperative dance to "Fight Song." Katie Kurburski, 16, of Harbor Springs, Michigan, is the daughter of foster and Anne Kurburski, members of the Traverse Bay Travelers Chapter. Her talent was Scottish dancing. Abbie LaMana, 14 is from Arauppaure, New York, daughter of Al and Beth LaManna, members of the Long Island Drifters Chapter. Her talent was singing "If Only." Beth O'Neal, 19 is

from Florissant, Missouri, daughter of Michael and Rhonda O'Neal, members of the ALF Chapter in Illinois. She represented Illinois. Her talent was a comedy routine. Kaitlyn Musselwhite, 13 is from St. Louis, Missouri, granddaughter of Mike and Mar Croxton, members of the Gateway Chapter. Her talent was a violin solo, "loco Motion." The single Teen King entry was Peter



Kaitlyn Musselwhite in talent portion

Kurburski, 16 from Harbor Springs, Michigan. He is the son of Foster and Anne Kurburski, members of the Traverse Bay Travelers Chapter. His talent was lip syncing to "Nothin' but a Hound Dog."



Past Royalty, Hannah Robb, Fletcher Shaneyfelt, Rebecca Coniglio, Megan Douglas

Also participating were members of the 2016 court, Miss FCRV Emily Kurburski, MI, 1st Runner-up, Mercedes Tennyson, OK, Teen King, Nicholas Kyte, Ontario, and Shawn Crookedacre, MI. Also on hand were Megan Douglas, Miss FCRV 2015, Rebecca Coniglio, Miss FCRV 2014, Fletcher Shaneyfelt, Teen King 2014, and Hanna Rob, Miss FCRV 2014. They entertained between segments of the contest.

The talent competition began the afternoon with each contestant performing as listed above. The judg-

es were 3 area women with extensive background in pageants. Also introduced were International Retiree King and Queen, Bob & Carolyn Deshone, MI. While contestants changed, Jack Smye and Kip Cushing sang. At that point the contestants and past



Contestants and past court performed a group dance to "Loco Motion"

court members burst onto the stage in black shorts and orange tops doing an energetic dance to "Loco Motion" choreographed by Emily Kurburski.

After catching their breath each contestant read a 2 minute prepared essay on 1 of 3 topics – climate change, helping immigrants, and should every child get a trophy. Next while contestants changed into formal wear, entertainment was provided by Emily Kur-Mercedes Tennyson burski (Scottish dance), ("Cotton eyed Joe"), and Shawn Crookedacre (Millionaire game show with Sammi Schaub). Also



MC, Shari Weber asks Brianna Coniglio 'The Question.'

past teen royalty was introduced. Nick Kyte and Shawn Crookedacre followed up with a lip sync medely of 4 upbeat songs ending with "YMCA" which had everyone including MC, Shari Weber participating. In a change of pace George Walters sang "Tie a Yellow Ribbon." Following this, the girls already in evening gowns and guys in a suit were escorted for their 'stage walk.' Escorts were

Josh, Jordan, Al, Josh, Dal, and Hailey. The final question to each contestant was, " What makes you stand out from the other contestants and why?" At this point the competition ended, with the results to be presented in the evening following the FCRV Band concert.

The evening opened with each contestant telling her / his name and state. Miss FCRV, Emily Kurburski took her final walk, while MC, Shari weber read Emily's farewell statement thanking all those who helped her along the way. Next 2016 Teen King, Nicholas Kyte took his Final walk while his farewell comments were read. 2016 First Runner-up, Mer-

cedes Tennyson also did a final walk and farewell. National FCRV Teen Directors Jane and Ed Alft thanked this year's Pageant Director, Cindy Carlson and her committee for a job well done.

Shari Weber was handed the 'envelope' and announced Miss Congeniality is Abbie LaManna of New York. Star Performer from afternoon talent is Beth O'Neal. Illinois, Teen King for 2017 is Pe- Miss Congeniality ter Kurburski, Michigan, and First Queen Runner-up is Katie Kurburski, Michigan. Miss FCRV for 2017 is Beth O'Neal, Illinois.



2017, Abbie LaManna, NY

Amid hugs, tears and cheers, the crowns were passed.



1st R.U. Katie Kurburski, MI, Miss FCRV 2017 Beth O'Neal, IL, 2017 Teen King Peter Kurburski, MI

Miss FCRV 2017, Beth O'Neal



Beth and her dog Elvis

Teen Queen, Beth O'Neil, lives in Florissant, Missouri. She is 19 years old. Her parents are Michael and Rhonda O'Neil. She is a member of the ALF Chapter of Illinois. She enjoys fishing, camping, napping with her dog, and making people laugh. She hopes to become a certified vet technician, own a horse, and continue giving back to the community by volunteering as a firefighter. Beth has been making people laugh her whole life. Beth performed a comedy



sketch for her talent. She was escorted by Josh Kyte. She says, "Being in Family Campers and RVers has allowed me to make friends all over the U.S. and Canada and I love camping with my friends and family."

Peter Kurburski, FCRV Teen King for 2017

Teen King, Peter Kurburski, lives in Harbor



Springs, Michigan. He is 16 years old. His parents are Foster and Anne Kurburski. He is a member of the Traverse Bay Travelers Chapter. Peter's notable awards include 4-H Junior Leadership, 4-H State awards, Triple Crown Varsity award, and being a Borlaug scholar. He enjoys hunting, running, pole vaulting, and wrestling. Peter doing his Peter plans to go to college and get a

job doing what he loves. Peter lip

Elvis song

Elvis synced to Presley's, "Houndog." His on-stage escort was Hailey, a camping friend.



Teen Sports

Volleyball:

Playing on the winning team named "Bomb Squad"

was:

Peter Kurburski, Amy Wittmeyer, Luke Kurburski, Dylan Dinger, Blake Bernett, Alex Stump, Hailey Rorik



2nd Place team named "FireFlys" was: Beth O'Neil, Katie Kurburski, Josh Kyte, Nick Kyte, Macey Stuckwisch, Jordan Scofield, Andrew Huhn

Relays (which was Hungry, Hungry Hippo):

This was the boys against the girls the boys named themselves "Losers" indeed stood up to their name with the girls defeating them.

Playing on the "Losers" were: Peter Kurburski, Jordan Scofield, Nick Kyte, Dylan Dinger, Luke Kurburski, Josh Kyte and Andrew Haun.

The winning team named "Dominating Housewives" consisted of: Macey Stuckwisch, Beth O'Neil, Hailey Rorik, Alex Stump, Katie Kurburski and Amy Wittmeyer



King Peter and Queen Beth going at it durina the Hungry, Hungry Hippo game.

Teen/Adult Softball Game

The teen/adult softball game received much attendance this year by players and spectators. There were a total of 16 adults and 19 teens that took the field for a very exciting softball game. We had an excellent referee staff consisting of: Craig Weber, Sami-Jo Schaub, Micki Luensmann and Ed Alft (although we're not sure Ed Alft was refereeing as much as agitating the players)

The Adult team consisted of: Brian Johnson, Pete Luensman, Lisa Collier, Scott Semper, Corey Workman, Joe Whittmeyer, Megan Douglas, Jim Eyers, Ed Shaneyfelt, Jeanette Sturgrell, Jim Gilbert, Chris Whittmeyer, Mike Royal, Jeff Stringer, Scott Serbursek and Jill Jerbursek.

The Teen teams consisted of: Josh Kyte, Amy Whittmeyer, Shawn Crookedacre, Peter Kurburski, Nick Kyte, Emily Kurburski, Dylan Dinger, Luke Kurburski, Katie Kurburski, Beth O'Neil, Andrew McLand, Grant Lockhart, Abby LaManna, Macy Stuckwisch, Briana Coligino, Colin Everett, Alex Sump, Jordan Schoefield and Andrew Huhn

With the adults up to bat first, they received the first 2 runs, then the teens stepped up to bat in the bottom of the 1st and scored 3 runs to make the game score 2-3 in favor of the teens. The score remained unchanged until the bottom of the 5th inning with the teens scoring 2 more, making the score 2-5. At the point the adults knew they needed to rally back soon as they were running out of time. Somewhere during this time there was a discrepancy at 2nd base regarding Peter Kurburski tagging out Jill Serbousek, after much discussion, she was out. The 6th inning came and went with no one scoring, so it was still 2-5 with the teens winning. With the game coming into the 7th inning, the adults were up to bat (and 3 runs behind). They stepped up their game and scored 4 runs (I was thinking this would be the time the EMS on the sidelines would be needed, but thank goodness they weren't needed). This made the score 6-5 with the adults taking the field. The teens knew they just needed to score 1 to tie and 2 to win, but the adults held them at NO runs and won the game! Congrats to all who played, a great time was enjoyed by all.

Adult Softball Team





Teen Softball Team

2017 ADULT SPORTS

WASHER TOSS

Men's Singles – 1st Mike Royal KY, 2nd George Rothman NY

Women's Singles –1st Kathy Krezwinski OH, 2nd Deanna Russell NY

Mixed Doubles – 1st Dave & Kathy Kiezwinski OH, 2nd Bob Royal & Patty Couden KY

Men's Doubles – 1st Norm Wolfrom & Casey
Bostdorf PA,
2nd Jason Huffman MS & Kevin
Downey CT

LADDER GOLF

Men's Singles – 1st Donald Wood, 2nd Norm Wolfrom PA

Women's Singles – 1st Kathy Krezwinski OH, 2nd Judy Drexler PA

Men's Doubles – 1st Dave Hartung & Jeff Stringer MI,

2nd Norm Wolfrom & Casey Bostdorf PA

Women's Doubles $-1^{\rm st}$ Janet Kenga & Sandy Kutz OH, $2^{\rm nd}$ Gloria Steinberg NY & Kathy Krezwinski OH

 $\label{eq:mixed Doubles - 1 st Pat Wittmeyer & Robert Wolf} NY, \\ 2^{nd} \ \ Dave \& \ Kathy \ Hartwig \ MI$





HORSESHOES

Men's Singles – 1st Duane Keegan IL, 2nd Ed Shaneyfelt IN

Women's Singles – 1st Pat Wittmeyer NY 2nd Kathy Johnson

Men's Doubles — 1^{st} Ed Shaneyfelt IN & Pete Luensman IL

Women's Doubles – 1st Pat Wittmeyer & Lisa Burek

2nd Connie Black IL & Angie Shaneyfelt IN

Mixed Doubles – 1st Ed Shaneyfelt IN & Pat Wittmeyer NY, 2nd Doug & Connie Black IL

2017 Campvention Golf Results

28 Golfers

1st

Mike Royal KY
Bill McQuillin ONT
Ron Ray GA
Jim Rhyne NC



2nd

Ian Almond ONT
Tommy Garner GA
Robert Snodgrass OH
Jim Turner FL
3rd
Conrad Kress OH

Don Lumley MI
Craig Weber IL
Dave Skillings ONT

2017 PET PARADE WINNERS

DOGS – BEST TAIL WAGGER

1st Patty Couden & Lacy,

2nd Byron & Lucy,

3rd Dave Hartwig & Moose.

MOST OBEDIENT -

1st Pam & Bob Labushesky & Turner, 2nd Barbara Skipper & Jenna

BEST TRICK –

1st Bob & Pam Labushesky & Skipper, 2nd Janet Kanya & Carlee

OWNER LOOK ALIKE -

1st Deb & Ted Kapp & Licorice, 2nd Bob & Pam Labushesky & Skipper

BEST OF SHOW –

1st Bob & Pam Labushesky & Turner (Tie) Deb & Ted Kapp & Licorice, 2nd Lisa Burek & Snoopy

CATS - OWNER LOOK ALIKE -

1st Kip Cushing & Angel, 2nd (tie) Lois & Wayne Zuhosky & Angel, Jane Thrasher & Ivory

Getting Ready For The Pet Parade







National Wildlife Grants

I want to thank those of you that took the time and effort in writing grant applications this year. We were able to fund eleven grants totaling \$5200.

We always do one major award: This year **Friends of Wildlife Prairie Park** Hanna City Illinois - Awarded \$800. Grant is to be used for refurbishing the otter enclosure to protect the pups from their father.

Eugene T. Mahoney State Park - Ashland, NE - \$600 The planting of native wildflowers, grasses and shrubs to improve the birding and pollinators habitat.

Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic High Ridge, Missouri - \$500 Funds will be to be used for the care of animals for rehabilitation

Malcolm Boyd/camp Attraction - Sarnia, Ontario Canada - \$500 Funds to be used for purchasing bird seed at the camp

Endangered Wolf Center - Eureka Missouri - \$500 Purchase a den camera to be installed inside a den for a female Mexican or Red Wolf. The camera will be vital to help monitor moms progress during their pregnancy etc.

Dakota Zoo - Bismarck North Dakota - \$500 To purchase a shade cloth to the new constructed flight pen which houses recovering injured or orphaned raptors.

Platte River State PARK - Louisville, NE - \$500 Funds to be used for signage for educational purpose of informing the public reference the Naturalist Program.

Treehouse Wildlife Center - Dow, Illinois - \$500 Atkinson Historical Park Rehabilitation and educational programs of the center.

Gladow RV Lake Conservancy - Valemcoa PA \$400 To help fund continuing efforts of the park reference walking trails, and natural habitat for the animals..

Ft Atkinson Historical Park - Ft Calhoun, NE - \$400 To provide funds to plant period plants and pollination plants.

WILDLIFE BIRD HOUSE CONTEST



YOUTH - 1st Mason Mitchell, MD 2nd Morgan Phipps, MD

TEEN - Michael Mitchell, MD

ADULT – 1st Jack Glassman, ONT

2nd Ron Brown, ONT Several bird houses were donated for Wildlife fund raising.

WILDLIFE PHOTO CONTEST

YOUTH – 1st Christina Mitchell, MD \$15 2nd Corina Black, IL 3rd Mason Mitchell, MD

TEEN – 1st Jennifer Snodgrass, OH \$20 2nd Amy Wittmeyer, NY 3rd Macey Stuckwisch, IN

ADULT – 1st Lois Zuhosky, NY \$25 2nd Florence Fox, KS 3rd Karen Snodgrass, OH

2017 CONSERVATION AWARDS

Best Conservation Projects – Mike Burns NY, Macy Stuckwisch IN, Denise Hudson NY

Best State / Prov. Project – Nebraska

Best Chapter Project – Pagoda Ramblers PA

Conservation Directors – Ken & Sandy Kendall,NE Judy & Carl Drexler PA

Director's Award – Lykens Valley Roamers PA – Year Round Recycling

POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

0 - 5 Otto McIntosh MI

6-8 Wyatt Yerger PA

9 -11 Ian Burns NY, 2nd Kaydance Harrington PA

12-14 1st Elsie Holden ONT, 2nd Kellie Brown PA, 3rd Al LaManna NY,

15- 19 1st Macy Stuckwisch IN, 2nd Natalie Rosenberger ONT, 3rd Carrie McHale NY **20** + 1st Denise Hudson CT, 2nd Rhonda O'Neal IL, 3rd Carol Burns NY.





ESSAY WINNERS

Grades 5 – 8 Macey Marie Stuckwisch IN, "From Shelf to Landfill" \$50

Grades 9 – 12 Katie Kurburski MI, "The Dark Sky is Essential for Life" \$50

Camping Is... Contest Results 2017

The Camping Is... contest allows children to illustrate what camping means to them. Children up to age 4 color a pre-made coloring page available for download from www.fcrv.org, while children ages 5-12 create a poster using any artistic medium they choose. This year we had 26 entries from eight different states and one province. The results of the 2017 contest are as follows:

Coloring Page Age 0-2

1st – Matthew Turner, OH

2nd – Sarah Cincotta, WI

3rd – Emma Ritter, PA

Coloring Page Age 3-4

1st – Connor Ritter, PA

2nd – Katherine Turner,

OH

 3^{rd} – Mya Bardos, IN

Honorable Mention (tie) – Ellie McQuiggen, ON and Ryan Yanke, CO

All Aboard for Campvention 2017

Posters Age 5-6

1st – Caleb Cincotta, WI

2nd Carter Wood,NY

3rd – Mayen Bardos, IN

Honorable Mention (tie) – Sasha Lapelle, CT and Otto McIntosh, MI

Posters Age 7-8

1st – McKenzie Bardos, IN

2nd – Norah Cincotta, WI

3rd – Nathan Sarano, CT

Honorable Mention (tie) – Cameron Scott, ON, Christopher Turner, OH and Taryn Christensen, CO

Posters Age 9-10

1st – Kaydance Harrington, PA

2nd – Madison Bardos, IN

3rd – Harlie Christensen, CO

Honorable Mention – Colin Dion, CT

Posters Ages 11-12

1st – Morgan Dimock, CO

2nd – Vanessa Batista, CT

3rd – Amber Emerson, ON

Site Decoration Contest

The theme for the contest was "Bring Your Trains to Lima". The winners received a model train car with \$25 included from Geneseo Campground who sponsored the contest.







The Best of Theme The Kurburski Family



Most Realistic Brenda Skipper



Funniest of Theme
Deb Kapp



Most Creative Brenda Simmons

Watch for next year's site decorating contest details in future issues and join the fun.

The Parade Awards



Best State/Province Display
Ontario



Best Youth Display
FCRV Youth



Best Teen Display
FCRV Teen Royalty Court



Trustees Award & Parade Stealer
Ontario

Engineer Hats

Several asked where they could get the engineer hats. Here's the information for ordering.

-

Engineer Hats

www.TrainParty.com

1-800-761-4294

100 E. Benton St.

La Plata, MO 63549

Barb Turner's Campvention Pictures

Click link or copy & paste into browser

https://photos.google.com/share/
AF1QipOMXLNexfNHa95xBJdqoQNNmTNrSAgOhkuECjGVEnhKIAIEKLUE5x8DTAqI3d7BA?
key=VXVTU0NPOWo0QkM0bktWalZVSC1GS

3FnNGlyNzdR

NCHA (FCRV) NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

Carl and Lynda Wood, Directors

Since 1990, FCRV has awarded \$372,000 to help 350 FCRV youth to further their dreams. In 2017, the NCHA (FCRV) Scholarship Inc. will award 9 scholarships, the amount of the awards will be \$14,000.00. We responded to 15 requests for applications, receiving 12 completed forms at the Scholarship America. All of their selections were reviewed and the FCRV Scholarship Board approved the nine recipients.

The value of the Scholarship fund as of April 30 was \$262,581.94. We use 6% of the value for scholarships giving us \$15,500.00 to draw from.

Once again, we have a recipient of the Schu Memorial Scholarship, in conservation, ecology or outdoor activities. This year's award will go to a candidate attending SUNY College of Environmental Science in Syracuse NY, Miss Amy Wittmeyer.

2017 Scholarship Award Winners: Total awarded \$14,000.00

Kaitlynn Johnson	Omaha, NE	\$1,500
Elizabeth Kurburski	Harbor Springs, Ml	\$1,500
Emily Kurburski	Harbor Springs, Ml	\$1,500
John Kurburski	Dewitt, Ml	\$1,500.
Nicholas Kyte	Belleville, ON	\$1,500
Jessica Moats	Ames, IA	\$1,500
Hannah Robb	Louisville, KY	\$1,500
Kaitlyn Roy	Kitchener, ON	\$1,500
Amy Wittmeyer Schu Memorial Scholar	Hamburg NY ship Award Winner	\$2,000

The Scholarship Board wishes to thank the staff at the Scholarship America for their continued support of our program. We specifically wish to welcome Staci Anderson our contact with Scholarship America.

As President Weber announced several months ago in Camping Today, the Scholarship Board was asked to consider changing the name of the Scholarship fund to honour the memory of our founder, Hank Nathan. Following considerable discussion, the Scholarship Board voted to recommend to the Trustees that the fund name be changed to the National Campers & Hikers Association Hank Nathan Scholarship INC. The Trustees accepted that recommendation at their March meeting. We are currently following the change of name process through the NY State Division of Corporations. Watch for further announcements on this in future issues of Camping Today.

This year's donations to scholarship found on page 27



Retiree Rally 2018



FCRV Spring Break – 2018

By Barb Turner, Publicity Chair

Did you enjoy Spring Break in sunny Florida as a college student....many years ago? If you did, you



might remember, or, maybe you don't want to remember, what you did. If you didn't enjoy sunny Florida at that time of your life, the FCRV Retiree Rally, March 20 -25 at the North Florida Fairgrounds, Tallahassee will provide that experience at this time of your life. And, those who did enjoy Florida decades ago on Spring Break, you'll enjoy it again from a

new perspective!

'Spring Break' is the theme of the 47th FCRV International Retiree Rally, chaired by David & Linda Hennie. Even though the rally doesn't officially begin till Tuesday March 20th, arrive early (March 16th – 19th) to extend your Florida experience. Early days will be \$25 a day. The rally fee is \$225 for two people in a unit, \$195 for a single person in a unit, Camp Pass (2 people or second couple in a unit) \$125, or Camp Pass (1 person or extra person in a unit) \$85. These rally fees include 5 nights of camping (water & electric), ice cream social, 2 evening meals, entertainment and all the activities connected with the rally. (The registration form is in this issue of Camping Today.)

The North Florida Fairgrounds is located at 441 Paul Russell Road, Tallahassee, Florida 32301. The fairgrounds is a 100-acre complex which includes 300+ water & electric sites. There will be restroom/ shower facilities.

Tallahassee is the state capital of Florida and is an 'All American City' where you'll be surrounded by many attractions including canopy roads, scenic routes, the St. Marks River, the St. Marks Wildlife Preserve, the Tallahassee Museum of History & Natural Sciences, the Museum of Florida History, the Maclay Gardens, Wakulla Springs, Florida Caverns, St. Marks Bike Trail, and the Ocklockonee River Dam. Beautiful beaches on the Gulf of Mexico are only an hour away. In the next few months, we'll

share more info on these attractions as well as others. If you enjoyed the carnival in Canton last year at the rally, you can look forward to the beach party in Tallahassee. Be sure to wear & share your thongs! Clarification – flip flops! There will be a bikini contest.....for dogs. A wet t-shirt contest.....for guys! And many other fun activities.

David & Linda Hennie and the Retiree Rally 2018 Committee are working on providing an outstanding Beach Party experience for all the attendees. You won't want to miss it. Fill out the registration form. Mail it in. Gather your Beach Party attire and accessories over the next few months. Tallahassee in March with your FCRV family will be an experience to include in your memory bank for those days when you say, 'Remember, when.....'



Additional information on Kay Shaffmaster. She is survived by one brother, Bill, 99, daughter Wendy (Bill) Mcquiston, sons Alan and David, and 3 grand-children.

Mother and I were very close friends and had many great adventures together.

Wendy Mcquiston





Greetings from the Far West, Region 1 Directors, Jeff and Shirley Kendle. Our Region is comprised of Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. We have approximately 749 members in the Region.

Colorado celebrated their 30th Annual Spring Fling campout in May in Brush, Colorado. There were eighty-nine rigs and fourteen walk-ins in attendance. For once Mother Nature cooperated as we had sunshine all four days. The weekend was filled with seminars, games, karaoke, teen and youth activities, remote control airplane demonstrations, enter-

tainment, and much more.

Nevada tried to hold their Spring Fling in March but the intense wind and blowing dust made them pack up and return home early. Hope they have better luck next vear!

The Colorado Retiree Rally was held in June at Lakeside KOA in Fort Collins, Colorado. Sixty rigs were in attendance. Attendees spent the week taking tours of the Fort Collins area, learning about Colorado history, participating in tournaments, CAMP walks, and games. Thursday evening featured a potluck with entertainment following. Friday morning breakfast was provided to all campers before they hit the road for home.

Remember, whenever you're with friends or family camping, it's always a memorable experience. May your camping adventurers this year with your FCRV family add to those memorable experiences.

Famous NCHA/FCRV Ohio Member

By Sara Eaglespirit



Library. http://grandmagatewood.com/



Branson's **Silver Dollar City Attractions Named Top Picks for Summer Family Travel**

The arrival of summer spotlights a great American tradition: family summer travel. And as families look for ways to pack adventure into their limited time off – and please all ages – parks and attractions that offer a broad range of rides and activities, such as Silver **Dollar City theme park in Branson**, rise to the top for weekend get-aways as well as full vacation trips.

Cited for a combination of "scream-worthy" thrill rides as well as family attractions and rides for smaller kids, Silver Dollar City was recently named to the list of Best Amusement Parks for Families from TripAdvisor's family travel site Family Vacation Critic, and in Top-Rated TripAdvisor Attractions in 50 States. Carried by outlets from MSN Travel and AOL to the Today Show's website and Facebook, the national recognition gives families more reasons to vacation in Branson, profiled along with Silver Dollar City as one of the 17 Best Affordable Destinations in the USA by U.S. News & World Report. And for true thrill seekers, Silver Dollar City's world-famous wood coaster Outlaw Run was recently recognized by MSN Travel as one of the Most Terrifying Roller Coasters in the World for the Ultimate Thrill.

Another Silver Dollar City Attraction, White Water water park garnered its own superlatives, named to the Travel Channel's Top U.S. Water Parks, with the new half-million dollar Coconut Cove kids' play area featured in MSN.com's New Water Park Additions for 2017.

Now through July, Silver Dollar City features the family-focused festival Star-Spangled Summer, featuring the Harlem Globetrotters, with 9 new Guinness World Records for trick shots, in the final year of The Globetrotter Experience show. The festival also presents stunt dogs, champion cloggers and cartoon characters through July 16. Then the park's night ride event Moonlight Madness, July 15 – **30,** brings ride-in-the-dark fun on the park's 40-plus rides and attractions, including Outlaw Run, named Best New Ride of 2013 worldwide and featured in Guinness World Records 2015. Also presented are evening street dances and performances by international touring group Rockapella.

Another affiliated attraction, the Showboat Branson Belle, presents the new noon show Country On The Lake, a "Party on the Lake" concert cruise featuring hits from classic rock to today's country favorites, plus the popular evening show Celebrate and Princess & Pirate Cruises for kids.

Information on Silver Dollar City, White Water and the Showboat Branson Belle is at 800-831-4FUN(386) or www.silverdollarcity.com.

YOU MIGHT BE AN RVER IF

- Your home sweet home has a steering wheel and gets really bad fuel mileage.
- When you dislike your neighbors, you move
- When you talk about dry camping you don't mean IT'S BORING.

Emma

- When you talk about a dump valve you don't mean a body part.
- A thorough house cleaning takes 15 minutes.
- When your RV is in storage for the winter you visit a different RV dealer every week to get your fix.
- Your first cross country trip in your new RV is a tour of repair shops.
- Your RV is less than a year old and you're dreaming about the next one you'll buy.

FCRV Activities

Penn Camp

Sharp's Campground near Indiana, PA was the location for a successful Penn Camp, June 2017. The turnout was lighter than usual, but those attending had fun.



The Come Camp With Me banner was up



Patty Campbell (r), Jeannie Kelly (l) and Petey Galloway served breakfast.



Mary Truesdale led a sing-along Saturday evening followed by a campfire

2017 Northeast Regional - "Come Travel with CT"

The quirky state of CT is at it again. We are hosting the 2017 Northeast Regional Campout this August, but we are not camping in CT, instead, we will be camping in New Hampshire. That is where we got the theme, "Come Travel with Ct." who would of thunk. Many activities and games are being planned for both the young and not so young. There will be prizes galore, and in true CT. fashion, there will be major prizes, so don't be surprised if you win a tiny Snickers bar, or even two. The dates are Thursday August 17 - Sunday August 20, with early days starting on Monday August 14. One never knows what to expect from CT, so if you want to see for yourself please join us.

Disclaimer: if you find you did not have a good time, please don't tell anyone. (lol) If you find you had a great time, tell everyone.

Registration on FCRV website

THIS 'N That

- RV Business reports that RV, auto and truck sales have fallen back slightly in June. However RV Sales in Canada are up.
- Chinook RV Manufacturing is setting up shop in Elkhart County, Indiana investing 2.5 million dollars and creating over 200 jobs.
- Holiday weekend tip Make your campground reservations well in advance. Demand for campsites are at their peak due to the extra travel on holidays.
- ◆ To get the latest RV recall information go to www.NHTSA.gov. Cross check with your VIN number.



Grand Grill Daddy

Meet the Grill Daddy Brush Company, the leading grill brush and accessory company in the industry. Their product line is a family of grill brushes and grilling and camping tools. With prices starting at \$7.99 and going up to only \$49.99 for the Grand Grill Daddy, these tools are a no brainer and a steal if you

ask me.

Sold in all major retailers, from Williams Sonoma to Target and Walmart, Grill Daddy Brush Company is highly accessible and widely successful. Their wide range of products leaves many gifting options for the grilling extraordinaire in your life as well.



Most recently, there's been tons of buzz about the dangers of wire bristle fall out, as seen in this article by CNN. However, Grill Daddy is proud to be the first in the grill brush market to offer a solution to this problem with its latest patented technology, **Bristle-Lock**TM. This technology combines a unique weave of stainless steel and copper that actually impregnates the bristles into the metal, requiring over 5X more force to remove them compared to other leading grill brushes.

Not only is the dangerous problem of bristle fallout eliminated, but this is also a perfect product for organic and chemical-conscious consumers. It is made of PVC (the same material as water pipes) and cleans with the **POWER OF STEAM**, thus only requiring water and eliminating any harsh chemicals or other grill cleaning solvents on the market.

NAPIER OUTDOORS SPORTZ TRUCK TENT 57 SERIES

Your adventure awaits with Napier Outdoors Sportz Truck Tent 57 Series

The world's #1 selling truck tent has a fresh new look!

The Sportz Truck Tent 57 Series assembles in the back of your open-bed pickup truck, creating a comfortable and restful sleeping area for two



adults. Featuring more than 5.5' of headroom and a patented sewn-in floor eliminates the need to clean your truck bed prior to use.

With eight models to fit virtually every

truck on the road, it's no wonder the Sportz Truck Tent 57 Series is the market leader! The durable tent comes with a full rainfly to keep you dry through the stormy weather, two side vents and two large windows to encourage optimal ventilation.

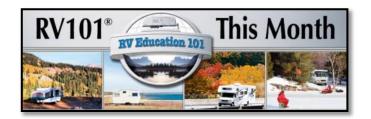
The tents rear access panel allows for easy accessibility to the trucks cab for added convenience and storage. The 4' x 4' awning provides ample shade and securely fastens to the tailgate, offering extra space for relaxation!

The Sportz Truck Tent 57 Series easily packs into an expandable and lightweight carrying bag, ready to travel wherever your truck may take you! Napier Truck Tents are perfect for fishing, hunting, tailgating, off-roading and family camping trips. Join the millions of explorers who have already discovered how Sportz Truck Tents offer campers convenience and flexibility for all of their outdoor adventures.

NAPIER OUTDOORS

Napier Outdoors is the world's largest developer and distributor of Vehicle Camping Tents. Since 1990, Napier has been changing the way people view camping, by reshaping and merging the automotive and outdoor industries together. We were the first to revolutionize the camping industry with our innovative and exciting vehicle tent concepts.

Napier distributes Vehicle Camping Tents to automotive manufacturers and retailers across North America, Europe and Australia. Our vehicle tents are the number one selling Truck and SUV Tents in the World!



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). http://rveducation101.com/

Product Update - Last month we featured Knuckle Lights for night walking safety. We left out price - rechargeable \$59.95, battery powered \$39.95 and order info at www.knuckleklights.com.



Sandy Pines Campground Now Open in Kennebunkport

New Maine Camping Destination Offers Nostalgic Seaside Experience & Resort-Level Amenities for Every Style of Camper – Glampers, RVers, Tent DIYers and 'Tiny Home' Enthusiasts

Kennebunkport hoteliers Tim Harrington and Debra Lennon have unveiled their first venture into the great outdoors, Sandy Pines Campground. Located minutes from Goose Rocks Beach, Sandy Pines caters to every type of camper with stay options ranging from park model 'tiny homes' and safari-style glamping tents designed by 12 New England designers to newly renovated tent and RV sites, with full hook-ups. Regardless of guests' preferred accommodations, each reservation comes with ocean breezes and elevated amenities infused with nostalgic New England charm.

"While renovating the old Salty Acres grounds, we aimed to translate our style of hospitality into an outdoor experience that focuses on what people really come out here to see – Maine's natural beauty," said co-founder Debra Lennon. "I think we've achieved that goal while making the experience appealing to every kind of camper. Whether our guests are pitching their own tent for a weekend or spending the season in a 'tiny home,' they enjoy the same access to the premium amenities and community programming."

At the center of the Sandy Pines experience is the beautifully designed Grand Lodge, the 'neighborhood' hub of activity that is also home to the rustic General Store and fully-stocked with essentials including a section dedicated solely to s'mores. Also near the Grand Lodge is Kids' Kamp, a kids' activities center with arts & crafts, classic board games and outdoor adventures. Regularly hosted social events like lobster bakes, ice cream socials and live outdoor music ensure guests can meet their neighbors, make new friends & memories and easily join the campground community.

Other Sandy Pines amenities include a snack bar with old fashioned ice cream bars; park-wide Wi-Fi; rentable bikes, kayaks & standup paddleboards; heated saltwater pool; playground; and outdoor games like giant Jenga, bocce, badminton and volleyball.

Sandy Pines' accommodation options ensure every guest is a happy camper. Those who don't want to

rough it while enjoying the outdoors can rent one of the 12 safari-style glamping tents (starting from \$174 a night). Each was created by a New England designer to be one-of-a-kind with unique features such as four-post beds, child-friendly teepees and antique furnishings. Every 16' x 24' tent includes well-appointed sleeping & living spaces complete with bedding, seating, furnishings, lighting and decor.

Traditional campers can choose one of the 100 tent sites, each with its own fire pit & picnic table, and pitch their own tent for just \$30 a night. Guests without gear can add the Coleman Experience to their reservation and arrive to a site that's fully outfitted and set up with high-quality gear from 'the outdoor company.'

Sandy Pines welcomes road warriors to their 150 newly renovated RV sites, ranging in size and features, but all include access to electric & water hookups as well as fire pits & picnic tables. Sites begin at \$55 per night with full hook-ups.

Travelers who fall in love with Sandy Pines and want to stake their claim to a more permanent piece of paradise can purchase a customizable park model RV (starting at approximately \$100K). These charming 'tiny homes' feature the modern conveniences of a home packaged into a cozy 650 square feet. The models come with a spacious addition and are fully furnished with high-end kitchens, full bathrooms, air conditioning and heating.

To book a reservation or find more information, visit www.sandypinescamping.com. Follow Sandy Pines Campground on Facebook at Sandy Pines Maine and on Instagram at @sandypinesmaine.



Carl Henning, 85, 6-6-17, Maine & Connecticut, Podunk Warriors, Pine Tree Chapters, active in FCRV 52 years.

Lois Monroe, 6-13-17, Ashtabula, Ohio, S. Texas, Past OH Field Director.

Shirley Mae Schaedling, 80, 7-1-17, Sanford, Michigan, long time member.

Mark Girton, 7-12-16, Ohio, long time member.

Charles 'Peanuts' Wolfersbeger, 7-15-17, Campbelltown, Pennslyvania, Penn Romanies Chapter

FCRV Scholarship Donations: July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

07-07-16	229.05	KENTUCKY -CAMPING COLONELS	CHAPTER DISBANDMENT
07-07-16	52.00	SOUTHEAST REGIONAL	CHURCH DONATIONS
08-09-16	125.00	NATIONAL CAM PVENTION	CAMP DONATION
09-08-16	100.00	DELAWARE FCRV	MEMORY OF Eric Griffin
10-18-16	70.00	FAMILY FUN DAY	
10-18-16	100.00	ONTARIO FIRE FLIES	MEMORY OF Hugh Hicks
11-18-16	150.00	MIDWEST QUACKERS	MEMORY OF Hugh Hicks
11-18-16	100.00	GREAT LAKES REGIONAL	MEMORY OF Hugh Hicks
11-18-16	100.00	LYKENS VALLEY ROAMERS	MEMORY OF Hugh Hicks
12-19-16	100.00	FCRV	MEMORY OF Hugh Hicks
12-19-16	300.00	FCRV	MEMORY OF Hank Nathan
12-28-16	60.00	POLLACK FAMILY	MEMORY OF Hank Nathan
12-28-16	50.00	CHARLES BITTMAN	MEMORY OF Hank Nathan
01-23-17	150.00	JENNIFER RODRIQUES, ETAL	MEMORY OF Hank Nathan
04-04-17	100.00	PA STATE ASSOCIATION	MEMORY OF Harry Sherry
04-04-17	100.00	PA STATE ASSOCIATION	MEMORY OF Hugh Hicks
04-04-17	25.00	JOAN MICELLI	MEMORY OF Hugh Hicks
04-04-17	25.00	JOAN MICELLI	MEMORY OF Lou Gibson
04-04-17	50.00	JOAN MICELLI	MEMORY OF Hank Nathan
04-04-17	25.00	JOAN MICELLI	MEMORY OF Charlotte Howerton
04-04-17	25.00	JOAN MICELLI	MEMORY OF Barbara Harper
04-04-17	25.00	JOAN MICELLI	MEMORY OF Marie Clugh
04-O4-17	25.00	JOAN MICELLI	MEMORY OF Jean Kibbler
04-04-17	25.00	JOAN MICELLI	MEMORY OF Edmond Crook
4-04-17	276.67	WEST ISLAND QUESTERS, QUEBEC	CHAPTER DISBANDMENT
06-13-17	111.52	ARNOLD & CATHERINE BRUNO	ON BEHALF OF ATC
	2,499.2	4	

Submitted July 9, 2017 Carl and Lynda Wood





AUGUST

August 3 - 6. 2017 - Heartland (Region 3) Regional Campout

LaMoure County Park Campgrounds. Located 1 mile north of Grand Rapids, ND, on Highway 34, in south central North Dakota. If FCRVers prefer, the Travel Inn Motel (701-883-5373), 9 miles from LaMoure, is also available. Activities include CAMP hikes, conservation and DASAT programs, a flip flop banner craft, hospitalities, evening entertainment, pot luck Saturday evening, and an included Sunday morning pancake breakfast. Registration per unit is \$12.00, along with \$20.00 per night camping fees.

Contact Sherry, <u>701-269-2257</u>, or e-mail <u>imac2@csicable.net</u> for additional information and/or a registration form

August 17-19, 2017- Northeast Regional Campout

Richmond, New Hampshire, Shir Roy Campground. "Travel with Connecticut". Connecticut FCRV invites you to join us as we hit the road to visit southern New Hampshire. Camping will be hobo by state. Each site has water & electric, with dump stations on grounds. Camping Fee is \$140 per family, due by August 8, or \$150 at the gate. EARLY BIRD: Arrive Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday to explore the area. \$35 per night, payable with registration or at the gate - cash or check only! Arrive anytime after 9 a.m. on Monday - no scheduled activities will take place until Thursday afternoon. Click here for the registration form.

SEPTEMBER

September 1 - 4, 2017 - Nova Scotia Provincial Campout

Hants County Exhibition Grounds, Windsor NS. "Proud to be Canadian celebrating 150 years" is this year's theme for the 47th Nova Scotia Provincial Campout. Come and join us as we celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary with games, theme parade, jam sessions, CAMP hikes, hospitalities, entertainment, fun and food. Registration \$5 cd , late registration (postmarked after 15 August, 2017) \$15 cd. Camping fees \$25 cd per night. Send to Robert & Cecilia Haughn, 1904 W LaHave HWY 331, Pleasantville, NS, B0R 1G0

September 13 – September 17, 2017 - PA State Retiree Campout

Bald Eagle Ridge Runners Campground in Beech Creek, PA. Light Sunday Night Supper, Games, Bingo, Covered Dish (meat supplied) and Hospitality. Bring an item for the Silent Auction, Brown Bag Auction, Bingo and Snack for Hospitality. Directions to the campground, From the West, Take route I-80 to Exit 158 (Milesburg) Rt. 150 N to Beech Creek. After crossing steel bridge, turn left, follow creek until crossing another large bridge, turn left immediately into campground. From the East, take route I-80 to Exit 178, follow Rt. 220 and take exit for Mill Hall, then Rt. 150 S to Beech Creek. Turn right before the steel bridge, follow creek until crossing another large bridge, turn left immediately into campground. For further information contact Norm Wolfrom --nwolfrom@verizon.net, 570-220-9682.

September 15 – September 17, 2017 - NCFCRV Fall Statewide Campout

Mayberry Campground, Mt. Airy NC. Phone for Reservation: 336-789-6199 – Tell them you are with FCRV Traveling Tarheels Retirees will be camping the $12^{th} - 14^{th}$

September 22 - 24, 2017 - Blue Water Mixer Fall 2017

Eastern Michigan Fairgrounds, Imlay City, MI 48444. Activities include Bingo, Soup Kettle, Project Sales and much more. A free weekend will be drawn for those registered by Aug. 12, 2017. Basic electric available!!! Fees: \$10.00 registration fee, \$35.00 camping fee. NO Canadian checks or money orders, Please. Click here for registration form.

OCTOBER

October 6 – 8, 2017 - Michigan Halloween Campout

Hudsonville Fairgrounds, Weekend \$50, pre-registration \$25, 2nd family in unit \$25, Day pass \$17 per car, Thursday arrival \$17. Desert walk, games, costume judging, trailer decoration, pumpkin carving, trick or treating, pot luck dinner. send check payable to Halloween Campout to Cindy Westra, 501 S. Iva Rd., Merrill, MI 49637.Include # of youth, teens. Info 619-915-2293, clwestra10@att.net

NOVEMBER

November 9 - 11, 2017 - FCRV Veterans Campout

ABC Campground, Branson, MO. \$35 per night, full hookup, 50 amp., To register contact Ron Braley at fcrv-veterans@outlook.com.



Enjoy the rest of the summer!



47th INTERNATIONAL RETIREE RALLY NORTH FLORIDA FAIRGROUNDS 441 PAUL RUSSELL ROAD, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32301

EARLY DAYS: MARCH 16TH – MARCH 19TH RALLY DAYS: MARCH 20TH – MARCH 25TH



LAST NAME:	FIRST:	SPOL	JSE/OTHER:				
ADDRESS:	CITY:	STATE/PRO	VINCE:	_ZIP/POSTAL:			
LAST NAME OF OTHER:	ADDRESS:	ST/P	ROVINCE:	ZIP/POSTAL:			
PHONE#	OTHER:						
WHICH ARE YOU REGISTERING FOR?	CAMPING:CAMP PA	SS: IS THIS YOUR FI	RST RETIRE	RALLY:YESNO			
ARE YOU A VETERAN:YES NO NUMBER OF VETERANS IN YOUR UNIT:							
EMAIL ADDRESS:	MAIL ADDRESS: CONFIRMATION LETTER SENT IN PDF FILE: YES NO						
CONFIRMATION LETTERS WILL BE SENT BY EMAIL. IF YOU WISH IT SENT BY MAIL TO ANOTHER ADDRESS THAN THE ONE ABOVE, PLEASE PROVIDE THE ADDRESS IN THE SPACE BELOW:							
ADDRESS:	CITY:	STATE:	_ZIP/PROV	NCE:			
SPECIAL NEEDS PARKING:							
TO BE PARKED IN SPECIAL NEEDS (HANDICAP) AREA, YOU MUST HAVE ON FILE WITH THE REGISTRAR AN UP-TO-DATE:							
DOCTOR'S CERTIFICATE, STATE LICENSE REGISTRATION INCLUDING HANDICAP PLATE, OR HANDICAP PLACARD.THIS AREA IS							
RESERVED FOR WHEELCHAIRS, WALK	RESERVED FOR WHEELCHAIRS, WALKERS, OR THOSE WITH LIMITED MOBILITY PROBLEMS:						
GUEST ARE WELCOME:							
Guests/Non-FCRV members are w	Guests/Non-FCRV members are welcome. They may be in their own unit or with you. Have them complete a						
registration form and indicate they	[1] [1] [1] : [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1]			ng area at the same			
time you do. We are guests or NOI	N-FCRV members of:		<u>_</u> .				
FEES:							
EARLY BIRD PARKING (MARCH 16	- 19): FEE IS \$25 PER NIGH	IT WITH WATER AND ELE	CTRIC. EARL	Y BIRD FEES WILL			
BE COLLECTED AT TALLAHASSEE.							
RALLY FEES: MARCH 20 - MARCH				water, electric, Ice			
Cream Social, 2 evening meals, entertainment and all activities connected with the Rally.							
		n (paid in advance in ful	<u>II) A</u>	t the Gate			
Two people in a unit:	\$	\$225.00		\$250.00			
Single person in a unit:		\$195.00		\$220.00			
Camp Pass (2 people or second co				\$150.00			
Camp Pass (1 person or extra pers				\$110.00			
REFUND POLICY: Refunds must be requested in writing by mail or email or phone call to the							
Registrar. Refunds requested before March 9, 2018 will receive the following: two people in a unit: \$200, one							

person in a unit: \$170.00, Camp Pass two people: \$100.00, Camp Pass single person: \$60.00.

After March 9, ONLY THE CAMPING FEE WILL BE REFUNDED. CAMP PASSES WILL RECEIVE NO REFUND.

Make checks or money order (US CURRENCY ONLY) payable to: FCRV/NCHA RETIREE RALLY 2018. 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.