

VOICE of the Camping Family – Family Campers and RVers

# CAMPING TODAY®

September 2017



***One of the most photographed landmarks on the Gulf coast, the St. Marks Lighthouse is the second oldest lighthouse in Florida and the oldest on the Gulf coast. One of the sights to see when attending the 2018 Retiree Rally.....Page 12***

Grand Design Recreational Vehicles have reached another milestone with their 40,000th recreational vehicle being produced..... **Page 19**

Outdoor Industry Association releases state report on outdoor rec impact.....**Page 20**



<b>2018 Award Recipients</b>	<b>page 4</b>
Awards of Merit, Humanitarian, Chapter of the Year and Conservation Essays	
<b>Eagle Scout Earned by Pennsylvania Teen</b>	<b>page 16</b>
Read about Zachary Etters accomplishments	
<b>Finger Lakes District of New York</b>	<b>page 19</b>
See poster they created to promote FCRV to help build our membership	

DEPARTMENT	
From the President.....	3
Retiree Rally.....	12
Campvention 2017.....	14
Director's Desk .....	15
Milestones.....	8
FCRV Activities.....	17
Products .....	22
Farewells.....	25
Upcoming Events .....	25

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VP of Programs: George Walters  
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**All articles/information for Camping Today should be sent to DeWayne Johnston by the first of the month prior to publication.**



# From the President - Shari Weber



I write this as Harvey is affecting a lot of people including some of our members. It is gratifying to see all the help being provided for people so devastated. We have members who had to evacuate and are now assessing their situation. Please keep our members in your prayers as they deal with very difficult times.

Linda & Dave Hennie and Vickie & Larry Roop who were our co-chairs for Campvention in Lima did a great job. All who attended had a great time. Thanks to the Great Lakes team for all of their hard work. New teen royalty crowned during campvention are Beth O'Neal, 2017 International Teen Queen and Peter Kuburski, 2017 International Teen King. Beth is from Illinois and Peter is from Michigan. Both young people are eager to attend campouts, so please invite them. Our teens do a great job of representing us.

Let me also take a moment to congratulate all the award recipients at campvention. These folks have worked very hard for our organization and were recognized at campvention. Plaques were received by Scott & Jill Serbousek, Gerry & Betty Owens, and Ray & Jane Thornton, Citations by Angie & Ed Shaneyfelt, Marv & Edith Kramer, and Ron & Reba Ray. Juanita Woolworth was recognized for her lifetime of devotion to Family Campers & RVers with the Hank Nathan Lifetime Achievement Award. Debbie Ludwig and George Walters were recognized with the Award of Merit. The Humanitarian Award was given to Bob & Lou Paul. If you did not read about these people's achievements last month, please go back and do so. You will be amazed at the things our members do for us and for their communities. Without people like these folks, our organization would not exist.

## Camping Family

There have been many life events occurring with our members since campvention. The thing that impresses me is how many of our members cross state/provincial and international borders for their friends.

We truly are family when we gather together for these life events. Keep enjoying each other!

## Trustee positions up for election

The positions of President, Vice President Programs and Recording/Corresponding Officer are up for election in 2018. The nominating committee has been appointed. They are Larry Roop, Chairman and a past President, Barb Dodson from Missouri and Region 2, Connie Black from Illinois and Region 4, Joe Boswell from New Jersey and Region 5, George Reynolds from North Carolina and Region 6 and Lew Acre from Ontario and Region 7. They would like to identify at least two candidates for each position. If you or someone you know are interested in serving our organization as a Trustee, please contact someone on the committee. Larry's email is [fcvind@aol.com](mailto:fcvind@aol.com). The nomination period closes November 30, 2017.

## Change of hours in the national office

During the summer the national office has closed at noon on Friday. Starting after Labor Day they will go back to 9 to 5 eastern time on Monday through Friday.

## Campvention 2018

July 9 – 13 we will be in Doswell where the racehorse Secretariat was raised. Region 6 is already at work. Marjorie & Don Bates, Ron & Reba Ray and Gerry & Betty Owens have their team working hard planning a great week for us.

Until the next campfire,

Shari



***Our thoughts are with the people of Texas and Louisiana as they deal with the devastating hurricane, flooding and aftermath.***

# FCRV Awards

These awards were presented at  
Campvention 2017

## Letter To Trustees From Juanita Woolworth

Dear Trustees,

I want to thank you so much for the prestigious Hank Nathan Life Achievement Award. As I said at the ceremony everything that Don and I did for NCHA / FCRV was for the association. I never thought anything about receiving an award.

The association that I love so much is my family. I have always felt that my reward is the many friends I have made throughout the years. However, I am very grateful for the beautiful award and I will cherish it forever. I was so surprised. Thanks again.

Juanita

## Bob and Lou Paul – Humanitarian Award



Bob and Lou Paul represent everything that is good in the FCRV Organization, and also set good examples of how a person should help in their own community.

Bob has spent time helping in the library at the High Point Elementary School in Nixa, Missouri, shelving books. For the past several years Bob has gone on mission trips with the God's Appalachian Project (GAP) in coal mining towns in Kentucky. He is also in a chain saw group within his church. These men cut wood and donate it for people in their area who heat with wood and can't afford to buy the wood. This group also went to Branson when it had been hit by a tornado and helped low income families by removing trees that had fallen on their homes and cars.



**Bob stocks the freezers with ice cream  
at The Least of These Food Pantry in  
Nixa, Missouri**

There is a minister that has opened a new church in Rockaway Beach, Missouri. This is a very depressed community. They have had a lot of drug problems there. Once a month Bob helps prepare and serve food in Rockaway Beach for the children. When this program started it was feeding only the children, but it now feeds about 200 people. Not only do they receive food but they also get Christian education. The school teachers there say that since this program started they can see that the children behave better in school and are more interested in learning. The Church has established, with the help of Bob and other members of Bob's church, a place where the people can also receive clothing. This new church in Rockaway Beach is changing that community.



Bob also helps unload food trucks, on a monthly basis, at the Least of Thee Food Pantry, which serves Christian County residents.

Lou Paul received the Volunteer of the Year award in 2015 from the Nixa School District. She tutored students and helped in one of the third-grade classes.

Lou has written grants for the food kitchen in Springfield, Missouri. She also interviews families to determine eligibility to receive toys through the food pantry for Christmas.

In 2016 Lou spent several days manning phones for the local radio station for pledges to adopt families at Christmas.

For eight years, Lou has worked with parents of special education students to give them ideas and instructions on how to help their children do better in school. She also gave the parents information about additional resources that might be able to help them.



*Lou volunteers as an accompanist for a singing group who ministers to folks in care facilities.*

### FCRV

As Pitch N Pull chapter members, they have contributed donations at monthly campouts for food banks, animal shelters, and contributed to help senior citizens in need who the club adopted at Christmas.

Bob Paul was the 2016 Vice-President of the Pitch N Pull Chapter.

Bob was a flag bearer 2009 Campvention in Sedalia, Missouri.

Lou was the Chair Person for the Goodie Bags for the 2016 Campvention in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Lou was also the Chair Person for the opening ceremonies at Shawnee.

Lou was the Chair Person over the scrap books at the 2009 Campvention in Sedalia, Missouri.

## **Debbie Ludwig - Award of Merit**



Debbie is the South Central West Regional Director and was appointed to position in 2013. She maintained contact with all state directors in the region. Maintained contact with the states without state directors in the region.

She was chairman of campvention 2016 in Shawnee OK and held regular planning meetings. Due to a delay in signing the contract for the campvention site, the dates we originally contracted for became unavailable. Debbie worked with the facility to identify different dates and worked diligently to make the later date work for the organization. Debbie also worked with the facility to renegotiate for items that were omitted from the original contract. The end result was a campvention that provided income for the national organization as well as a great campvention for the attendees.

Even through personal struggles and health concerns, Debbie put together a team who worked together and put on campvention successfully.

## George Walters - Award of Merit



George is the FCRV VP Programs and was appointed to position 2012.

George fulfills his responsibilities as a Trustee in a most dedicated and thorough way. He works well with his reports.

Besides being a Trustee he is Entertainment Chairman for the Retiree Rally (for a number of years). He is Co chairman of the Variety night held at the Retiree Rally and also performs on this night.

He performs in the FCRV band at our National Campvention and willingly participates in other high jinks that the Trustees may get conscripted into.

He is Entertainment Chairman for Campvention 2018.

He busts a gut performing all these activities.

## ALF Campers of Illinois - Chapter of the Year



ALF Campers were chartered in 2007 and have fifteen members.

### MEMBERSHIP GROWTH ACTIVITIES

Alf chapter members volunteered in the FCRV booth at the St. Louis RV show along with members from the Missouri chapter. After the show, we held a Get Acquainted Meeting in Illinois. Scott Serbousek, Alf member, presented a 30 minute "Who Are We" presentation about FCRV. After the presentation, recruits socialized with 4 of our chapter families to learn more and see if they are a good fit. With the help of several Alf members at the Get Acquainted Meeting we were able to sign up 6 new families for the State of Illinois.

The Alf Chapter volunteered and ran the FCRV booth at the Belleville, IL RV show. After this show, we held a Get Acquainted Meeting in Illinois. Scott Serbousek, Alf member, presented a 30 minute "Who Are We" presentation about FCRV. After the presentation, recruits socialized with 4 of our chapter families to

learn more and see if they are a good fit. With the help of several members at the Get Acquainted Meeting we were able to sign up 2 new families for the State of Illinois.

A total of 9 cadet memberships were handed out in 2016 by Alf Campers at the Get Acquainted Meetings and each cadet membership renewed in 2016.

We had 5 new members camp with the Alf Campers in 2016.

## **CAMP**

1,508 TOTAL CHAPTER MILES

ALF Member, Micki Luensmann took first place in the CAMP program at Nationals in 2016. Alf Member, Micki Luensmann is the IL state CAMP director.

## **DASAT**

The state director for DASAT is ALF Chapter president, Jill Serbousek. She ensures there is a DASAT activity at each of the Illinois State campouts.

6 members of ALF participated in the June Illinois State DASAT program about National Safety Month. This activity included reading through facts and stories on a bulletin board related to the topics covered by National Safety Month. Each person completed a question sheet to receive credit for their DASAT activity. The topics covered were:

- Medication safety and prescription painkiller abuse
- Driving, biking, and working safely
- First aid and emergency preparedness
- Preventing slips, trips, and falls

One Alf participated in the September Illinois State campout DASAT program on fire extinguishers. Each attendee got to practice with a real fire extinguisher to learn how to put out a fire.

## **CONSERVATION**

Rhonda O'Neal submitted a Conservation poster in the adult category at Campvention in 2016.

In August, 9 Alfs participated in the Operation Clean Stream event at Castlewood State Park in Missouri to pick up trash along the river banks in the state park.

In September, 6 Alfs participated in the Cardinals Green Team for one game where they helped the Cardinals organization pick up aluminum and plastic recycling during the game.

## **WILDLIFE REFUGE**

Two ALF members applied for and received wildlife grants at Campvention.

On October 8, 2016, seven ALF Members attended the Annual Wolf Fest at the Endangered Wolf Center. Wolf Fest is held at the Endangered Wolf Center, located on the grounds of Washington University's Tyson Research Center. The Endangered Wolf Center is a 501c(3) non-profit and receives no funding from the state or federal governments. Wolf Fest is one of their biggest fundraisers of the year. An FCRV grant check in the amount of \$250 was given to the Wolf Center while at this event.

On November 20, 2016, fourteen ALF Members visited the Treehouse Wildlife Center for a behind the scenes tour. This included a presentation about the organization, up close and educational interactions with some of their permanent resident wildlife ambassadors, and a full tour of the facilities. We had a substantial award to give and it was great to have a lot of Alfs there to show our support and learn more about where the



*Out on a hike*



*Secured a Wildlife Grant for Tree House Wildlife Center.*



money is going. An FCRV grant check in the amount of \$850 was given to the Treehouse Wildlife Center at this function.

Mike O'Neal built a bird house and placed second in the bird house competition at Nationals.

In August, 3 ALF Members attended the Annual Charity Polo Match for the Endangered Wolf Center. All proceeds from the match went to the Endangered Wolf Center.

### **TEENS**

Alf teen, Beth O'Neal is the Illinois State Queen and the National 1<sup>st</sup> runner up. The chapter donated \$100 to Beth to help with costs of the Teen Queen program at Campvention. Beth actively participates in ALF Activities at campouts.

### **YOUTH**

2 ALF youth participated in the "Camping Is" poster contest at Nationals in their age group One ALF youth participated in the Nature Photo contest at Nationals and took first prize in her age group.

### **RETIREEES**

2 Alf families attended the Retiree Rally in Louisiana in 2016.

### **SCHOLARSHIP**

ALF Chapter has a Scholarship program that offers scholarship opportunities to its members. We are working on fundraising to build it up for future graduates. ALF members participate in state activities to promote the Illinois state scholarship fund such as auctions, raffles, etc.

In 2016 Beth O'Neal was awarded a scholarship from the Illinois Scholarship Fund.

### **HISTORIAN**

ALF Campers submit a scrapbook every year at Nationals achieving several awards. In 2016, ALF's submitted a digital scrap book (photo book). The photo book took 3<sup>rd</sup> place and was the first chapter to submit a photo book rather than the traditional style scrapbook.

Jill Serbousek led the effort to create the Illinois State photo book to submit for Nationals. Illinois was the only state to participate in this contest in 2016 so it received 1<sup>st</sup> place.

Jill Serbousek hosted a seminar at Campvention 2016 to teach others how to use Shutterfly to create a photo book and share photos among chapter members in order to preserve chapter/state history.

### **PUBLICITY PROMOTING CHAPTER ACTIVITIES**

The ALF Website ([alfcampers.shutterfly.com](http://alfcampers.shutterfly.com)) is our main promotional tool. We keep our events, contacts and news available there so that prospective members can learn more about our chapter and FCRV.

The ISA Website ([ilfcv.shutterfly.com](http://ilfcv.shutterfly.com)) lists each of the chapters in Illinois and is maintained by Jill Serbousek.

### **PUBLICITY PROMOTING FAMILY CAMPERS & RVERS**

ALF Campers promote FCRV at EVERY campout by displaying our Come Camp With Us Banner and the 2014 Chapter of the Year Banner. By putting these signs up at our "host" site each campout, we attract fellow campers who wonder about the signs and the large gathering of people at one site. Once they approach we give them the FCRV brochure so that they can get more information. In 2016 we gained a new chapter family that had chatted with us at 2015 campout.

### **DISPLAYING LOGO ON RIG**

100% of ALF Chapter members have the FCRV Logo displayed.

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITY**

5 ALF members participated in the Great Cycle Challenge to benefit the Children's Cancer Research fund. In the month of June, the 5 members of the Alf Campers Team were able to raise \$2,145.91 for the Children's Cancer Research Fund. The team was ranked 66<sup>th</sup> overall nationally and 9<sup>th</sup> in the team category.

In November, 5 Alf members made 10 fleece tie blankets for St. Louis Children's hospital. These were donated to the hospital in December.



In December, all Alf families contributed to 2 families that we adopted for Christmas. We were able to provide 2 families with a wonderful Christmas by donating many gifts and money toward their heating bills.

## Volunteering/Community Involvement. What Does That Really Mean?

What does community involvement mean to you? To one FCRV Chapter it means a lot of different things. ALF Campers do a lots of community volunteer work. Most of it encompasses the FCRV programs. How many are aware of what the programs are?


**C.A.M.P (Campers Actively Moving Program):** Family Campers and RV’ers “Campers Actively Moving” Program is designed for campers who travel without use of motorized vehicles (exception; motorized wheelchairs). Family Campers and RVers would like to encourage as many of our members as possible to participate in any or all activities of this program, for these activities encourage good health, good fun, and good fellowship.

ALF Campers regularly do hikes, bike rides, Yoga, swims, and floats at campouts, however they also incorporate community service and conservation into their activities.

In the month of June, ten ALF Campers members participated in the Great Cycle Challenge. They biked 3863.7 miles and raised \$5681.65 for Children’s Cancer Research Foundation.

In August, some members will take to the streets, again, and Peddle for Autism. The ride benefits an Illinois Center for Autism.

In September, some members will be riding in the Moonlight Ramble, which benefits the following groups: Hosteling International, Kingdom House, and Gatway180.



### ALF CAMPERS

Cancer is the biggest killer of kids from disease in the USA, 38 children die every week. Please donate now and support our challenge to fight kids' cancer!

We've Ridden

**3,863.7 mi**

to fight kids' cancer

Our Rankings

National: **29th**

Category: **3rd**

#### OUR RIDE STATS

No. of rides: **207**

Longest ride: **86 mi**

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#### OUR FUNDRAISING STATS

No. of sponsors: **117**


National ranking: **29th**

Category ranking (Community Group): **3rd**


### OUR MEMBERS

13 team members


Jill Serbousek




Scott Serbousek




Brian Wilson




Terri Wilson




Micki Luensmann




Peter Luensmann




Teri Homan




Rhonda O'Neal



Lisa Van Buren



Michael Homan



# Family Fun Day





## 2017 Pet Parade Cat winners

**Owner Look Alike** - 1st Angel & Kip Cushing  
2nd. Ava & Sonya Smye

**Best of Show** - Angel & Kip Cushing  
2nd (tie) Ivory & Lois & Wayne  
Zuhoski

## Conservation Winning Essays

### The Dark Sky Is Essential for Life

**Katie Kurburski - Grade 11**

One of life's most cherished and rare commodities are its night skies. With the constant growth of population and urbanization of communities, many areas are filled with light pollution. For future generations to have access to see stars, the northern lights, and even the moon, the night sky needs to be protected. With the International Dark Sky Association, they are trying to preserve these sights. Their main goal is to designate areas throughout the world to have light polluting free places. This gives many the opportunity to catch a glimpse of the unfiltered night sky.

Darkness is needed for many things that most people do not often think about. Having dark nights does not just impact the human population, but also wildlife. Many animals rely on the darkness to find food and travel. Animals like bats, possums, and owls all maintain survival during the night. They are structured to have instincts and abilities that only occur during the night. To keep animals from becoming scarce they need to have an environment that will help them thrive. Light pollution is a degradation to their well-being, and it is up to us to ensure their survival.

83% of the United States live in cities, which are filled with light pollution. Many children grow up without having memories of the dark skies. Humans need darkness not only to sleep, but to also produce melatonin. Melatonin is essential to the human body to help fight certain cancers and regulate sleep cycles. Darkness is also needed to restore the body with energy. Not only can dark skies aid in the survival of wildlife, but it is an essential part of the proper functioning of humans.

The initiative to preserve the night sky has reached six different countries and has established 63 different Dark Sky parks. Not only are they control-

ling light pollution in certain areas, they also strive to educate others on the importance of the night sky as well as how it affects the environment. The next time you travel to your favorite camping location or decide to sit on your back porch and stare at the open sky, imagine the scenery of a sky illuminated with stars, constellations, and the serene moon. Where would we be without that immaculate scene? It is vital that we protect the night sky to cherish the moments that we spend beneath its beauty.

### From Shelf to Landfill

**Macie Marie Stuckwisch - 8th Grade**

When you go to the store do you buy a case of bottled water? Or do you use a reusable bottle? A case of water costs about six dollars. A good reusable bottle costs about fifteen dollars, but you only buy it once. Let's say each family in the United States buys a case every other week each year. How much does that cost? With the population in the United States today being 323,127,513 people with an average of each family being four people that's about 80,781,878 families! With there being fifty-two weeks in a year and each of those families buying a case of water every other week that would cost them one hundred fifty-six dollars per year. That's a lot comparing it to just buying each member of the family one quality reusable water bottle for about fifteen dollars, just sixty dollars per family, and just refilling it with tap water for pennies

What if it's just inconvenient to keep refilling a reusable water bottle you may ask? Well you can recycle those plastic bottles. Thirty-five billion plastic bottles end up in landfills each year. If you recycle plastic bottles they can and will become new objects. They can become new bottles, t-shirts, jackets, sleeping bags, and even carpeting. Just by recycling ten plastic bottles you will have enough fiber to make a cool new t-shirt, or sixty-three bottles can make a sweatshirt. You can also use caps from any container and melt them down to make a bench. For every ton of plastic that is recycled 7.4 cubic yards of landfill space is saved. Recycling can also help reduce the number of plastic water bottles that end up as litter in roadways and water sources.

Recycling is very important as waste has a huge negative impact on the natural environment. Harmful chemicals and greenhouse gasses are released from rubbish in landfill sites. Recycling helps to reduce the pollution caused by waste. Recycling also reduces the need for raw materials so that the rainforests can be

preserved.

So now you know why recycling is important, so you're probably wondering how to set up an area in your home that's easy to collect recycling. It's first important to find a spot in your home that is near a door or window. Then put a plastic bin marked for plastic collection outside, near that area. Then it's convenient to just drop them out that window or open that door and into the bin. Just remember by recycling your plastic water bottles, you can positively impact the environment every day.

Now you know reusable water bottles are cheaper and more effective than buying bottled water but aren't convenient for everyone. You also know that recycling is helpful for the environment and how to make a convenient way to recycle in your own home. I hope you will use this information to make a positive change in your bottled water usage. Remember, each and every one of us can make a little change with a big impact on our environment.

## Retiree Rally 2018



by Barb Turner, 2018 Publicity Chair

'Spring Break' is the theme of the 47<sup>th</sup> FCRV International Retiree Rally, chaired by David & Linda Hennie. Even though the rally doesn't officially begin till Tuesday March 20<sup>th</sup>, arrive early (March 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>) to extend your Florida experience. Early days will be \$25 a day.

Looking ahead to Tallahassee in March, perhaps you'll come early and visit the following places:

**The St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge** (1255 Lighthouse Rd, St Marks, FL 32355 – about 25 miles south of Tallahassee) might be of interest to you, especially if you are



interested in lighthouses. The refuge is home to the St. Marks Lighthouse, which was built in 1831 and has withered over 100 storms. The lighthouse is the second oldest light-

house in Florida. In the 1820's, the town of St. Marks, Florida, was considered an important port of entry. The town served as a port for the prosperous planting region of Middle Florida and some counties of South Georgia. Growers hauled their agricultural products down to the port town in wagons by way of an early road that connected the then territorial capital of Tallahassee to the town of St. Marks. Later, this road would be widened and improved upon by the Tallahassee Railroad Company and would become the state's first railroad.

The refuge includes several Gulf of Mexico coastal habitats, such as saltwater marshes, islands, tidal creeks, and the estuaries of seven north Florida rivers. It is home to a diverse range of plant and animal life and also has a long history of human use.

**Goodwood Museum & Gardens** (1600 Miccosukee Road, Tallahassee, FL) boasts beautiful gardens as well as interesting history. The estate known as Goodwood was assembled in the 1830s by Hardy Croom of North Carolina. Plans for a full-time Florida residence were dashed when he, his wife and three children perished in the sinking of their steamship while enroute to Florida. Bryan Croom, Hardy's brother, completed the Main House at Goodwood and established it as the centerpiece for his extensive Florida landholdings.



Goodwood was a popular center for Tallahassee society from the 1850s through the 1880s. The Main House is open to the public. It is one of the finest antebellum plantation houses ever built in this region. It features some of the earliest fresco ceilings in Florida. The collections and furnishings are all original to the house.

The gardens at Goodwood are unique. Some people who have visited the gardens say the gardens look unkempt, but actually they have been restored to capture much of their early 20th century design and presentation. Goodwood garden staff and volunteers dedicate their work to the preservation of the gardens by using only heirloom plant material that was available in North Florida at the turn of the 20th century. Significant horticultural features of the property include an extensive collection of Old Garden Roses,



heirloom bulbs, large Sago Palms, centuries old live oak trees and magnolias. Much of the charm of Goodwood resides in the picturesque, relaxed, informal and un-manicured presentation of the grounds. Visit Goodwood Museum & Gardens while in Tallahassee for the Retiree Rally.

Visit **Florida State University** while in Tallahassee. The university is one of the largest and oldest of the 11 institutions of higher learning in the State University System of Florida. It had its beginning as early as 1823 when the Territorial Legislature began to plan a higher education system. Today It is a research university with very high research activity as determined by the Carnegie Foundation. The university comprises



16 separate colleges and more than 110 centers, facilities, labs and institutes that offer more than 300 programs of study, including professional programs. Florida State is home to Florida's only National Laboratory – the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory and is the birthplace of the commercially viable anti-cancer drug Taxol. Florida State University also operates The John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art, the State Art Museum of Florida and one of the largest museum/university complexes in the nation. Start your visit to the campus at the Visitors Center where you'll be welcomed and given information on how to best experience the university. To get a sneak preview of what you can expect, visit [http://www.visit.fsu.edu/lib/pdf/WalkingTour\\_2014.pdf](http://www.visit.fsu.edu/lib/pdf/WalkingTour_2014.pdf) with walking tour suggestions.

Visit a local farm or fishing village.....Area farmer's markets offer locally grown fruits, vegetables, baked goods and a Southern staple – boiled peanuts -- and attract early crowds on weekends. Just a short drive from Tallahassee is **Sweet Grass Dairy**, noted for its award-winning cheeses. It offers cheese-



making classes at its store in historic downtown Thomasville, GA. Sweet Grass Dairy is a producer of handcrafted raw and pasteurized cow's milk cheese. Sweet Grass Dairy utilizes rotational grazing in its dairying practices which emphasizes keeping animals on open pastures instead of concrete barn

floors. Their regular cow cheeses include Thomasville Tomme, Georgia Gouda, and Asher Blue. A few special cow cheeses are Clayburne, Black Swan, Heat, Cyprus, Harvest, and Lil' Moo.

For some of the finest smoked country sausage and stone ground grits found anywhere, make a trip to **Bradley's Country Store** just outside of Tallahassee (12 miles from Tallahassee) on the scenic Centerville Road, one of the area's nine famous canopy roads. This family owned and operated store has been a local tradition since 1927 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Over the years, Bradley's customers have come to expect the finest quality country sausage and other products. Bradley's also produces such country rarities as hogshead cheese, liver pudding, cracklings, coarse ground country milled grits, and corn meal. Bradley's is also a supplier of Burger's Ozark Country Cured Hams.



The famous sausage is put on the counter only after careful selection and slaughter of the hogs, and the application of a special seasoning. Bradley's uses only top quality hogs, buying from producers they know and trust, occasionally supplementing their supply by buying prize 4 – H hogs from the local fair. After processing, the sausage is cut into 75 pound lots and seasoned with the time - proven recipe developed nearly a century ago by Grandma Mary Bradley, containing black pepper, red pepper, sage, and salt. No preservatives or additives are in Bradley's Sausage. After the sausage is seasoned, some of the meat is stuffed into natural casings and then hung in the smokehouse to cure using the smoke from oak and green hickory. Bradley's Homemade Smoked Sausage will give you a delicious, age – old taste experience that will remind you of mornings in your Grandma's kitchen.

Nearby **Apalachicola**, actually about 80 miles from Tallahassee, was once a thriving shipping port, especially oysters which were recognized by many as the finest produced in the Gulf of Mexico. Due to decrease in oysters for harvesting, there is a possibility

that the oyster harvesting will be shut down for up to 18 months. Even though ‘oystering’ may be shut down, you can experience historic Apalachicola, a quaint small southern town with a strong maritime culture, an eclectic group of locally owned shops and galleries, restaurants which serve fresh local seafood. You’ll also find miles of uncrowded pristine beaches, an endless supply of shallow bays and waterways, excellent fishing and acres of National and State forests to explore. A day outing from the Rally grounds, perhaps, on one of your early day?

Early days or extended days in Tallahassee offer many opportunities to explore and experience the area. ‘Spring Break’ in Tallahassee and the Retiree Rally await you.



# Campvention 2018

**July 9 - 13, 2018**  
**The Meadows Event Park**  
**Doswell, Virginia**

**‘Where Our Country Began’**  
**FCRV Campvention 2018**

by Barb Turner, Publicity Chair



***The Mansion at The Meadows Event Center -  
 Executive Board meeting, Trustees meeting room,  
 Teen Queen & King tea and ball***

mansion which is called Meadows Hall will be a beautiful location for luncheons, tea and ballroom for the teens, and meetings. Meadow Pavilion will house the youth and teen center. Outside there are two 20,000 square foot asphalt pads for parking and a 5 ½ acre festival loop. There will be a food vendor that can be open for breakfast and lunch. Outside the Meadow Hall and Meadow Pavilion there are big shade trees, a perfect location for Family Fun Day.

There are approximately 175 sites with full hookups: water, electric, and sewer. In response to the request for totally

‘Where Our Country Began’ is the theme of the Family Campers & RVers 58<sup>th</sup> Campvention which will be held at The Meadows Event Center Fairgrounds, Doswell, Virginia, July 9-13, 2018. Early days will be July 7 & 8. The location is also the home of the breeding grounds of the famous immortal racehorse Secretariat.

Campvention 2018 is being hosted by the Southeast Region (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia) of our organization.

The site facilities: the Farm Bureau Building that is just over 63,000 square feet which will be used for the commercial vendors, stage, and other activities. The



***The Meadows Pavilion - Teens & Youth Centers***



hobo parking at campventions, Campvention 2018 will be **Hobo-style Parking for everyone!** This means that if you want to camp with someone special, you arrive together. You enter the grounds together. There will be no saving of sites for anyone. There will be a Special Needs Parking area. Those who arrive after all the full-hookup sites are filled will have water & electric and will be given a voucher for a free dump of your unit at your site. The committee is encouraging you to arrive early to claim your site.

The campvention site is approximately one mile from King Dominion Amusement Park, a one-hour drive from Washington, D.C., Jamestown, Yorktown, Williamsburg, and battlefields. Dip your feet in the Atlantic Ocean? The coast of Virginia is 2- 2 ½ hours away. Within a few miles, you can visit museums and a lot of history of the Revolutionary War and the Civil War. Doswell is near several Presidents' homes that are tourist attractions. You'll even be able to purchase tickets to ride the train to some of these places instead of driving. Future Campvention promotion will include more specific information.

The cost for the 2018 Campvention in this new area for our annual gathering? Pre-registration: \$290; extra family in the unit: \$135; daily camp pass: \$20 per day.

The committee encourages you to mark your calendars, register, and plan your trip to Doswell, Virginia next July. You won't want to miss this new venue!

## Selling Tickets for Handmade Quilt



Region 6 is selling tickets now through the 2018 Virginia Campvention. The beautiful handmade quilt squares contain a patch from every Campvention

from 1960 thru 2018. Along with the quilt there will be an afghan and 3 original pieces of art work. For info contact Shirley MacKenzie at [onecedarjunction@gmail.com](mailto:onecedarjunction@gmail.com).



## Director's Desk



Greetings from South Central West Region 2 Director, Debbie Ludwig. Our region comprises of Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas. We have approximately 228 families in the region.

Region 2 held the 2016 FCRV National Campvention down in Shawnee, Ok, at the Oklahoma Exposition Center. It was a beautiful complex with fully air conditioned buildings and full hookup with 50 AMP service. We tried a couple of new ideas for this Campvention, one being the reverse parade. It was enjoyed by the attendees and hopefully it will become a tradition within the organization. I have to mention that there was great experience getting to know the people in the region and to have a lot of people from outside of the region help us with this huge endeavor. I thank you all for all of your help and time that was devoted.

Our region just hosted the Regional Campout in Lebanon, Tennessee. This was done under the leadership of Michael Hardison. There were quite a few campers there and Michael had activities planned for the attendees.

Missouri Association, along with our neighboring state of Illinois, had a show and tell/recruiting booth, at the St. Louis RV Show in January of this year. Both states had members sign up for cadets and/or memberships.

At our Missouri State meeting/camp out in May, we had a couple of 50 year FCRV members who were recognized, (previously mentioned in Camping Today) David and Larry Demonet (twins). David and Larry moved to Missouri from Pennsylvania, where they had lived for many years.

A couple of 10 year FCRV awards were also presented to Glen and Margie Marley and Mike and Mar Croxton at the State Camp Out.

Our SCWR Regional was held in Lebanon, TN, July 1-5, which worked well, before heading to Lima for Campvention.

At the Campvention in Lima, we had a Humanitarian Award presented to Bob and Lou Paul. Also, our SCWR Regional Director, Debbie Ludwig, was given a Merit Award.

Our Missouri State Teen Queen, Kaitlyn Musselwhite, competed in the FCRV Campvention Teen Pageant at Lima. This was her first year of competition and she has gained some valuable, future knowledge.

We are now preparing for our Missouri State fall meeting/camp out, the second weekend of September.

This is just a few of the activities being help in our region. If you are ever in our area and looking for a great time, please contact us.

Happy Camping,  
Debbie Ludwig

## Hello and a big welcome from Region 7!



This is Camy Hicks from the beautiful province of Ontario; our other provinces are Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Each one unique in it's own history and geography. I have to tell you that Hugh, my late husband and I have lived in each of these provinces.

Coincidentally, these are the founding provinces which formed the Dominion of Canada in 1867, making 2017 the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and resulting in a year-long birthday party here.

One thing of note to pass along to all Field Staff: from now on, the National Office requires a copy of all receipts to accompany expense vouchers. This is an important change to keep in minds, otherwise your requests will be delayed or returned.

On the horizon, Region 7 will host our Regional Campout August 2018, and Campvention in July, 2020. I promise to post updates as they are confirmed.

At this time, speaking for both myself and Lynn Nolan in Quebec, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your recent (and ongoing!) condolences and attendance of Celebration of Life, in the loss of both our husbands, my Hugh and Lynn's Bill.

Campers are wonderful people.



## 59th Wedding Anniversary Celebrated



Dick and Phyllis Wert, Lock Haven, PA, long time members of the Bald Eagle Ridge Runners Chapter celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary, August 17th.

## ZACHARY ETTERS EARNS EAGLE SCOUT RANK

Zachary Michael Etters, son of Michael and Tammy Etters, members of the Bald Eagle Ridge Runners Chapter of FCRV received his Eagle Scout insignia at a formal Boy Scouts of America ceremony on August 5th, 2017 at United Methodist Church in Howard, PA (Center County). Among the congratulatory presentations was a letter from Family Campers



***Zachary is presented with a letter of congratulations from FCRV President, Shari Weber represented by Norm Wolf from, PA FCRV.***

& RVers National President, Shari Weber. PA FCRV's Norm Wolf from was on hand to make the presentation for Weber.

Zachary entered Scouting in kindergarten as a tiger Scout in cub Pack 353. He continued to earn all the ranks from Bobcat, Wolf, to Bear before becoming a Webelo, earning a multitude



of belts and pins. Zachary completed his time in Cub Scouts by earning the Arrow of Light. He also earned the Religious Award, God & Me, the World Conservation Award, the Outdoor Activity Award, Leave No Trace Award, National Summertime Pack Award, and Emergency Preparedness Award.

Upon entering 6th grade Zachary started off as a Tenderfoot in Troop 54. Quickly he moved through the ranks, achieving Second Class, First Class, Star Scout, and as a Life Scout transferred to Troop 353. He has held the position of Scribe, Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, and Senior Patrol Leader. He is currently Senior Assistant Senior Patrol Leader in Scouting in Troop 353. Zachary has earned CPR Certification, Cyber Chip, Leave No Trace Award, Fireman's Chip, Totin' Chip, Paul Bunyan Woodsman Award, and 30 merit badges.

In 2014 Zachary was recognized at Boy Scout Camp for having the highest qualifying score in archery for the compound bow. In 2015 he was inducted into the Order of the Arrow and is currently a member of the Monken Lodge. His Eagle Scout Project was renovating the kitchen area at the J.K. Yearick Center in Howard, PA. It included repairing walls, relocating cabinets, installing new countertops, creating a pass through, and installing new flooring. On June 13, 2017 was reviewed by an Eagle Scout Board of Review, which included representatives from the Juniata Valley District as well as members of the committee for Troop 353. Advancement to the rank of Eagle Scout was granted.

Scoutmaster of Troop 353, Tom Long said, "I'm proud to say that Zachary Michael Etters has fulfilled the requirements to become an Eagle Scout and exemplifies the ideals of Scouting." A number of dignitaries and officials of organizations congratulated Zachary with presentations. Zachary presented the Eagle Mentor pin to two individuals who assisted him in reaching the rank of Eagle Scout, his grandfather, Ralph Fravel and his father, Michael Etters. He also thanked the various Boy Scout leaders who helped him along the way.

Editor's Note: Zachary is entering his senior year of high school. His sister, Brittany, an FCRV scholarship winner, recently graduated from college and plans to enter law school.

# FCRV Activities

## Duck Races Held

Adults in the Bald Eagle Camping Club have held duck races as a tradition for years, but at a Martin's Grove campout, they held one for kids. Numbered rubber duckies are dropped into the creek, float downstream and are caught in fishing nets. Winners are determined by earliest arrival



Winners l-r Barret Yarnell, Griffin Confer, Ed Nyman, Joyce Nyman, Allison Vaonada, Brayden Foley.

## 2017 NORTHEAST REGIONAL

A rainy Friday didn't dampen the spirits of the 45 FCRV families who attended the 2017 Northeast Regional Campout, Aug. 17 – 20 at Shir-Roy Campground in Richmond, New Hampshire. Hosts for the weekend were the Connecticut members.



**Pig Races - Roll the dice and root ahead**

Lots of activities were on the schedule including campground hike, kayaking and canoeing at a nearby lake, a mountain hike, nightly bon fire, youth and teen games, bingo, bocce, washer toss, horseshoes, poker run, cribbage, hospitalities by PA, NY, MD, teen hot dog and youth popsicle sales, adult / teen volleyball, youth

s'mores, teen pizza party, and a CT pancake breakfast.

Rally prizes were distributed in a different way. Attendees and participants in the various activities were given tickets which they deposited in a bag beside each prize and like a Chinese auction, it was winner's choice.



**Box Car Relay - Pit stop for a drink**

boxes so they could carry them and ran relay races with pit stops while the audience cheered them on. The kids did well, but when the adults tried it a few wipe-outs occurred.

The Regional meeting was held Saturday morning with FCRV V.P. Operations, Sue Fromholzer as leader. She thanked Denise and Richard Hudson, Glen and Donna Dains and the committees for their work on the campout. New York is next in the hosting rotation. Date and place to be announced for 2018. She also urged people to recommend candidates for the next national FCRV election and a general question and answer session was held. The Box Car Relay, awards, door prizes and hospitality rounded out the evening.

The weekend concluded Sunday morning with a prayer service and hitch-up breakfast. Thank you, Connecticut for a great weekend.

**GAME AWARDS** – Bocce - Donna Bates, Carolyn Downey, Washer Toss - Bill Butkus, Richard Stichler, Cribbage - Jim Lewis, Pig Race – Phyllis Wert.

Two special evening activities were the "Pig Races" and "Box Car Relay." Participants in the pig races put on a plastic pig nose and rolled large dice to advance through 6 positions. Each heat winner then was entered in the final event. Kids made cars out of bottomless cardboard



**Poker Run (walk) had skill test at each card stop**

## Stuhr Museum Sludge Trudge

By Sandy Kendall

The Stuhr Museum Sludge Trudge is an annual event held in August in Grand Island, Nebraska. It is an event where runners (and sometimes walkers) navigate a course that involves mud, muck and mayhem. In 2017 approximately 350 runners (and walkers) participated. Runners started off being sprayed by the Grand Island Rural Fire Department as they journey around Stuhr Museum grounds. Runners had the option of either 5k or 10k. Challenges included: tires, hay bales, a maze of cattle guards and carrying a log for about 100 feet. The



runners then go through wet lands, the river and then climbing over the event's signature mud hill. The hill, which is around 10 feet tall, is watered with a sprinkler during the competition to keep it extra mucky. Following the course participants are served pizza and drinks and the fire department help to hose down the participants with warm water. A great time is had by the participants and those that volunteer at the event. This year six women from "Caring Women" from General Federation of Women's Clubs and Nebraska Federation Women's Clubs volunteered. Our members direct the participants and give them encouragement as they challenge themselves to go the distance. This year there were so many young people (age five to eight) involved. It was such a joy to see families spending time together. Our members enjoy this event so much and are always looking forward to volunteering in the future.



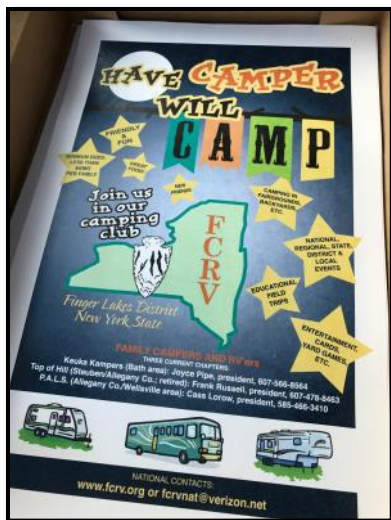
For many years the members of FCRV in Nebraska volunteered in April to help clean and freshen up "Railroad Town" at Stuhr Museum. Our members cleaned, nailed boards on the wooden walkway, help with the windmill, anything needed by the museum, to make their season in "Railroad Town" a success.

If you are in the area Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer is a must see. Our history is vitally important



## Finger Lakes District Poster

We wanted to share what the Finger Lakes District of New York State is doing to promote our declining membership. We are putting these posters up in area stores, restaurants, RV sales businesses, campgrounds, etc.



## Texas State Association Fall Campout



November 3 – 5, 2017 at Oakdale Park in Glen Rose, Texas will be the location of 2017's TSA Fall Campout. We hope the returning Snowbirds and other visitors will again join us for our upcoming adventure in visiting the historic sites, museums and shopping opportunities of Glen Rose.

We plan a potluck on Saturday night with games and crafts provided at other times during the rally. Camping fee is \$28.00 per night, payable by check or cash at the rally. Credit cards are not accepted.

The campground address is 1019 NE Barnard Street, Glen Rose, Texas 76043. Some of us will be going early and would love to have you join us.

Please give Kathie Johnson a call at 713-898-3204 or email [kathiejohnson@suddenlink.net](mailto:kathiejohnson@suddenlink.net) to let us know to be looking for you. E-mail Kathie and request a pre-registration form.

## Grand Design RV® Hits 40,000th Unit Milestone

**Middlebury, IN 2017-** GRAND DESIGN RECREATIONAL VEHICLES® announces production of their 40,000th towable recreational vehicle.

In October 2016, Grand Design announced production of their 25,000th unit and just 9-months later they have reached another milestone with their 40,000th recreational vehicle being produced. In addition to this production milestone, retail customers are continuing to embrace Grand Design brands resulting in strong year over year retail unit sales growth of over 61% through May of 2017, according to Statistical Surveys Inc.



*Imagine Travel Trailer*



*Reflection 5th Wheel*

“It is humbling to see all of our brands continuing to have such notable growth in their respective categories. All three Grand Design fifth wheel brands are ranked within the top 10 models for highest year to date retail units sold in North America, which is a true testament to our innovative product designs, quality built products, the hard work of our dealer partners and ultimately the retail customers support,” stated Don Clark, President and CEO of Grand Design RV.

As the third largest producer of RV's in North America, Grand Design continues to outpace the growth of the industry. According to Statistical Surveys latest report through May of 2017, Grand Design's year to date retail unit sales growth is over five times higher than the growth rate of the combined towable industry.

Grand Design RV, headquartered in Middlebury, Indiana, manufactures the market leading Reflection Fifth Wheel and Travel Trailer, flagship Solitude Extended Stay Fifth Wheel, luxury Momentum Toy Hauler and lightweight Imagine Travel Trailer product lines. Since its founding in 2012, Grand Design RV has become one of the fastest growing RV companies in history and is rated among the highest quality RV manufacturers. Grand Design RV is a wholly owned subsidiary of Winnebago Industries (NYSE: WGO).



**Momentum Toy Hauler**

For more information go to <https://www.granddesignrv.com/>

## RV Education 101 Debuting New Blog For RVers

Courtesy of RV Business



RV Education 101 announced a new RV 101 blog site to help assist and educate RV owners and potential owners on how to safely and properly use and maintain RVs.

“We are happy to announce the launch on our new RV blog site, titled ‘RV 101 with Mark Polk.’ Our goal with this blog is to make available qualified RV information to help RV owners learn about using and maintaining their RVs,” said co-owner Mark Polk in a press release. “I see things in some RV blogs and RV related videos that make me nervous. All too often folks buy an RV, spend six months on the road and start a blog or produce videos with erroneous and inaccurate information.

“Don’t get me wrong, there is nothing wrong with starting a blog, but if you do and it is technical, the information presented in the blog or video should be accurate and qualified. Our core business model is RV 101 (new and beginning RVers), so our new blog will concentrate on articles and videos in four distinct categories: Beginning RVers, RV DIY & Maintenance, RV Tips & Tricks and RV Products.”

[The new RV 101 blog](#) coincides with many other websites and social media venues RV Education 101 offers with the goal of helping educate RV consumers.

RV Education 101 co-owner Dawn Polk added, “We started our first blog ‘RVing with Mark Polk &

Friends’ in 2013. We did not really market and promote the blog or attempt to attract followers; it was simply a site where RV owners could go to learn more about their RVs. Today, on average that blog receives about 900 daily views. We get about 300 views from search engines, 300 from Pinterest and the remainder from Facebook and our other social media sites. The current blog format is established and it would be difficult to update or change the site, so our thoughts were to start fresh with a new blog site.

“We wanted the new RV 101 blog to be more appealing with rich photographs, informative videos and text to help illustrate each post. Our goal with this blog is to capture followers and continue to build the site with at least one new post weekly. It will be a win-win for everybody. Readers have access to valuable and informative RV content, and we have a venue to promote our RV training products to a targeted audience.”

RV Education 101 plans to participate in the Amazon Services LLC Associates Program, as an affiliate, to help offset the time and cost involved with hosting and maintaining the new blog.

“This way when a certain product or installation process is discussed in a post we can offer suggestions about specific products to our readers,” said Dawn Polk.

For more information [visit RV 101 with Mark Polk](#).



## OIA Issues State Report on Outdoor Rec Impact

Courtesy of RV Business

Outdoor Industry Association (OIA) released the state-level Outdoor Recreation Economy Report featuring economic data for all 50 states across the Unit-



ed States, the largest and most comprehensive state-by-state report of its kind. The data underscores a growing economic force that generates billions in consumer spending and directly contributes millions of good-paying, American jobs in communities across the country.

Earlier this year, OIA released its national [Outdoor Recreation Economy Report](#), which found that the outdoor recreation economy generates \$887 billion in consumer spending annually and directly sustains 7.6 million American jobs. The state report released today offers a deeper look into a thriving sector that's helping to create healthier economies and healthier communities.

"No matter your political affiliation, where you live or your walk of life, the outdoors brings us together," said Amy Roberts, OIA executive director. "From Maine to California, consumers are spending more on outdoor recreation as millions of Americans depend on it for their livelihoods. Outdoor recreation is a powerful economic engine that contributes to businesses and healthy communities in each and every state and is a vital and sustainable sector that relies on investing in and protecting America's public lands and waters."

All 50 state reports can be viewed [here](#).

"The outdoor recreation economy continues to thrive across rural and urban America," said REI President and CEO Jerry Stritzke. "These new state-by-state numbers show how Americans from every corner of the country love to spend time outdoors. People from all backgrounds continue to hike, camp, boat, fish, ski, and paddle. You name it. It's a rich part of the nation's heritage. And when we follow our passion and opt outside, we create economic activity across all 50 states. This is a sustainable, growing sector of the economy—one that drives positive return-on-investment throughout the country."

With the outdoor recreation economy poised to continue to grow, there are actions that can be taken to support its positive economic impact. OIA urges elected policymakers to do the following:

- Adequately fund state and local parks and trails to make them attractive and accessible to families and friends seeking to get outside.
- Take steps to raise awareness of the importance of the outdoor recreation economy.
- Develop and plan urban areas in a way that means every citizen can get outside and recreate within 30 minutes of their home.
- Support policies that encourage outdoor innovators to start businesses.

Outdoor Industry Association issued the first Out-

door Recreation Economy state-level report in 2012 and has made significant improvements to the report since then. This second edition of the state report takes a broader view of the growing industry and its shifting demographics. The sample that was drawn for this study was designed to represent the U.S. population on the basis of gender, age, education and race.

Respondents were solicited through Survey Sampling International (SSI), a longtime leader in survey research. The report was made possible through the generous support of REI, Patagonia, The North Face, W.L. Gore, People for Bikes, The Teddy Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP) and The Outdoor Foundation.

## Cummins RV Four Week Facebook Program

Cummins RV is rolling out a four week Facebook program for RV enthusiasts across the nation to share their favorite RV campsites, stretches of road, and other tips and tricks of the road. For five weeks, beginning August 16, 2017, Cummins RV will post a new question/topic to its Facebook page, inviting fans of the brand to respond, sharing their thoughts and reaction to the questions, with prizes given away for participation.

Check out the Cummins RV Facebook page [here](#) for more info.

## Camp Safe By Entering To Win Our Steripod Toothbrush Protector Family-Pack Giveaway!

Keep your family's toothbrushes fresh & protected this with Steripod clip-on toothbrush protectors, available in a rainbow of bright colors so you know which toothbrush is yours!

Avoiding cross-contamination from other toothbrushes and all kinds of nasty airborne contaminants is easy when you're living #thepodlife. Simply clip-on a Steripod to color code and protect & freshen your toothbrush.

To enter to win, like Steripod on Facebook ([Facebook.com/Steripod](#)), and tell us why you want to win a Steripod family-pack in the comments section below! Bonus points for posting a photo using #thepodlife.



## DOMETIC SUPPORTS MOBILE SHOWER SHUTTLE EFFORTS



**Dometic** recently donated Fan-Tastic Vent products to Cleansing Hope Shower Shuttle; an organization that provides clean mobile showers for the homeless.

When Dean Dodd, founder of Cleansing Hope Shower Shuttle in Sacramento, California, reached out to Dometic for Fan-Tastic Vent Fans for his second converted bus, Dometic jumped on the opportunity to support a great cause.

"Coming from a background of homelessness myself and knowing what it's like to not be able to get a shower, I had a heart for those who are still without. In 2015, the idea came to me. Together, with a dream team of builders, we set out on an 11-month build project to make Cleansing Hope Shower Shuttle come to life," explains Dodd, who runs the Mobile Shower Shuttle himself three days a week. "We are restoring hope and dignity through providing the basic need of getting clean with our showers. We develop relationships with these people and see lives changed over time. We are seeing about 50 people each day."

Mobile Shower Shuttles are proven to be a key factor in assisting the homeless to a better life. Being able to take a shower and clean up has given many the opportunity to find a job and a safe place to call home.

Dometic is thrilled to be able to be part of providing clean showers to those in need.

## Products

### ENGEL Coolers Pet Food Storage Container



The BRAND NEW PRODUCT every pet owner needs: keeps your pet's food fresher, longer

When traveling, pet owners - myself included - will often take more time prepping and packing for their fur baby than for themselves or their hu-

man family members.

The piece of the puzzle that sometimes is overlooked is Champ's pet food. We all remember to bring it along, of course, but sometimes it's an open bag that has been haphazardly clipped closed; or perhaps it's in a large ziploc bag or some makeshift bucket/basket. Is that really the best way to keep Fido's food fresh and tasty?

Enter the ENGEL Coolers Pet Food Storage container.

Insulated and airtight using ENGEL's exclusive drybox technology, the 19QT pet food storage container will keep your best friend's food fresher, longer - especially in your RV, car, boat or at home. Even if you only travel with/use dry food, this cooler will help prevent the oils in the pellets from turning rancid. And - they are guaranteed to keep roaches and ants out of Fluffy's vittles. The container provides odor-free pet food storage in a compact and lightweight design. It comes complete with an additional treat storage tray too - so your loyal furry companion can have all the comforts of home wherever you are.

Pet owners can learn more and purchase the Pet Food Storage Container for \$54.99 at <https://www.engelcoolers.com/engel-pet-food-container.html>.

### Release N Run Leash Collar + Leash in One

Designed for the mostly off-leash dog, the Release N Run is a dog collar with a built-in 4 foot retractable leash—allowing the leash to fully stow in the dog's collar while not in use.



Imagine heading out for a run with your dog on his/her leash, and as you hit the trail simply let go of the handle and the leash will retract into his/her collar. You both get to run free while jogging together.

**It's Strong!** Made with climbers webbing, Cordura® and Spectra® cord, the RNR is strong enough for dogs weighing up to 110lbs. Spectra, made by Honeywell® is one of the world's strongest and lightest fibers. The internal retracting mechanism, originally designed for extended use in salt water by scuba divers and for the tethering of tools and weapons for the police and military, has been designed for maximum strength and durability.

To ensure a comfortable fit we offer four sizes determined by your dog's neck size and approximate weight.

## Thermacell Products

**NEW** Thermacell Backpacker. You can have 80 continuous hours of protection from these blood suckers on your next camping trip. Now that is worth experiencing for yourself. Let me know if you need a product sample to review.

**Thermacell Backpacker** has a lightweight, minimalist design:

- Weighing 114g/4.0 oz
- Compact and portable: 97mm H x 50mm W x 67mm L
- Fuel efficient - up to 80 hours of protection from even the smallest 100g gas canister
- Works only with camping gas canisters (not C15)
- Integrated Piezo lighter
- Water-resistant nylon carry pouch included



Similar to other Thermacell products The repellent is *allethrin*, a copy of a repellent that naturally occurs in chrysanthemum flowers Repels mosquitoes, black flies, and no-see-ums Will not harm humans or pets. Creates a mosquito protection zone. Works within minutes of being turned on. Creates a 15 by 15-foot (225 square-foot) area of repellency; the size of an average deck, patio, or campsite.

- All Thermacell Mosquito Repellent products use the same refills
- Odorless and no open flame
- No contact with skin or clothing
- No lotions, no sprays, no candles
- Unlimited usage with refills

The **NEW Thermacell Halo** also creates a halo of protection from mosquitoes with the click of a button. It is the easiest way to enjoy the outdoors day or night bug-free!

**Thermacell Halo** for Mosquito Protection



When enjoying your deck or patio with your family and friends, the Thermacell Halo protects from mosquito borne illnesses in just minutes.

**Thermacell Halo Features**

- Create a 15 x15 ft Mosquito Protection Zone
- Silent, virtually odor-free, no open flame
- 48 hour fuel system – use up to 4 butane cartridges at once
- ZoneCheck feedback system shows status

## Mini Firefighter

Regular price ~~\$24.95~~ **\$22.95 Sale**

### Features



- Small lightweight fire extinguisher suppressant which eliminates fires **easily, quickly, confidently** and **safely**
- Perfect for the home, kitchen, auto, office, RV, boat, BBQ, Garage, and Camping
- Extinguishes flames by **suffocating** and **cools** the surface to **prevent re-ignition**
- 2million+ sold worldwide so far!
- An all-in-one by extinguishing more types of fires against the main fire classes:

**A - Wood inc. Paper, Cardboard, Fabric, Plastic**

**B - Flammable Liquids/Gas inc. Gasoline, Diesel**

**C - Electrical**

**K - Cooking Oils and Grease**

- Can be easily stored mostly anywhere – incl. **kitchen draw** and **car's glove compartment**.
- **Non-toxic, non-irritant** and fully **Biodegradable**
- **Easy clean up** – just wipe with a damp cloth. Leaves no residue
- Easy application. No instructions needed. **Simply "Shake and Spray"**
- Expands up to **40 times its size**
- Anyone can use it, **especially easy for seniors to hold and use**
- **Reusable** until empty
- 4-year shelf life and is date-stamped
- Tested to the requirements of **UL 711A** and up to **35,000 volts**. DOT 2P & 2Q.

### Product Specifications:

Capacity: 8.45oz (250ml)

Height: 8.5"

Diameter: 2"

Weight: 0.8lb

Storage: -40F to +158F

Guarantee: 4 years

Operating range: 3 to 4 ft.

*Disclaimer: Always call 911 before attempting to tackle any fires of any size.*



## LUVERNE Intros Journeyman HD Truck Bumper

Courtesy of RV Business

LUVERNE Truck Equipment, an American manufacturer of truck, commercial van and SUV accessories since 1963, has released the new Journeyman HD replacement truck bumper.

According to a press release, the American-made bumper features one-piece construction and a tested 30,000 straight-line pull rating.



The Journeyman is a bumper and brush guard combination built from 10-gauge steel and schedule-40 pipe, welded together into a one-piece design. This not only adds maximum strength to the front end of the truck but also provides a solid foundation for the welded 2-inch-by-2-inch receiver tube.

Journeyman also features a dual-layer finish as the bottom layer is a rust-resistant zinc primer to protect the steel frame. The top layer is a durable textured black powder coat that maximizes rust protection and resists scratching and chipping. The Journeyman is also equipped with protective rubber facings on the vertical uprights – a feature that competitor models do not offer.

The Journeyman offers a punched steel screen and the LUVERNE signature logo reveal. The steel screen keeps sticks, stones and other road debris out of the truck's grille, and can be removed on certain models, if necessary, to avoid interference with forward-facing cameras or sensors. The signature vehicle logo reveal adds even more protection for the grille.

All Journeyman HD replacement bumpers are made with a vehicle-specific design for no drilling necessary. The product is currently available for the Ford Super Duty F250, F350, F450 and F550 with more vehicle applications coming soon. A two-pack version to reduce shipping costs and lower prices is also available.

For more information on this product and more, visit [www.luvernetruck.com](http://www.luvernetruck.com).

## The Whizzy Ride e-bike R1



The Whizzy Ride e-bike R1 is a fashionable, intelligent, portable, foldable, electric bike. With unique design and the best quality, our e-Bike is making a super dream for fashion-favored riders.

This is a perfect combination of advanced technology and aesthetic art.

You can go anywhere you want: visit parks, beaches - just use the bike roads or sidewalks.

- ◆ Forget the parking problems and parking fees. You can easily park even in busy cities and crowded places.
- ◆ Our bikes are foldable in seconds so you can transport them in your cars, or take on yachts or boats.
- ◆ Use our bikes as transportation to work, school, for shopping, or just ride for pleasure.
- ◆ Don't worry about theft - an alarm and keyless entry will give you peace of mind.
- ◆ No gas expenses, no gas smell!
- ◆ Use Bluetooth speakers or connect your phone through the USB port and listen to your favorite music during a ride.
- ◆ Be ECO-friendly - use carbon emission free and noise free transportation!

### ERGONOMIC DESIGN



- ◆ Genuine leather saddle, soft and comfortable.
- ◆ Taiwan Design with top-level anti-friction material, safe and anti-explosion.
- ◆ Unique K shape structure.

### USER TO E-BIKE INTERACTION

- ◆ Waterproof stereo Bluetooth speaker.

- ◆ Intelligent start system with remote key. Easy to lock and unlock.
- ◆ Real-time temperature display gives you meticulous care

### FRIENDLY OPERATING SYSTEM

- ◆ Front and rear dual break system ensures safe riding
- ◆ Brake to power-off device, activating any brake function will stop power supply
- ◆ Front wheel equipped with a special suspension device that can decrease vibration efficiently during the ride.



## SUPER FASHIONABLE APPEARANCE

- ♦ Forward-thinking design concept from the Netherlands
- ♦ Simple 3-dimension K shape design brings ultramodern visual effect
- ♦ Bold and unrestrained color concept makes e-bike smaller and portable
- ♦ All imported aeronautical material, bright color and rustless, low weight of 40 lbs.
- ♦ Low weight but structure strength ensured
- ♦ Super large LED headlight

## LEADING TECHNOLOGY

- ♦ Unibody Construction – Advanced aeronautical aluminum, unibody, high density and strength with a max load of 120KG. Passed SAE test.
- ♦ LG Battery – High performance LG battery with fast charging and long endurance ability.
- ♦ Motor with German technology, environmentally-friendly, low noise, good brake performance
- ♦ Craft – Liquid braking craft protects surface. Difficult to scratch, also ensures a comfortable sense of touch.

## THIS 'N THAT

- Keystone RV rolled its 100,000<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> wheel off the assembly line in July. Introduced in 1998, Montana has been the number one selling 5<sup>th</sup> wheel in the U.S. for the past 5 years.
- Dometic recently introduced the CT Bluetooth app for iOS and Android to control single zone heat and air conditioning.
- Recreational Vehicle Dealer Association of Canada has stepped up to help the Red Cross British Columbia Wildfire Relief Fund.
- Go RVing Canada has launched a new enhanced web site to encourage the RV lifestyle. [www.gorving.ca](http://www.gorving.ca).

## Farewells †

**Carl Henning**, 85, 6-16-17, Brighton, Maine, formerly Connecticut. Joined FCRV in 1965, held many offices. Travelled all over U.S. and Canada with wife of 61 years, Dodie. Pine Tree and Podunk Wanderers Chapters.

**Carol Lindeman** 8-2-17, Lyndhurst, Ohio & Florida, Past OH Field and District Director with husband, Clay. Longtime active members.

**Shannon Lee Crookedacre**, 56, 8-17-17, Flint, Michigan, father of 2016 Teen King 1st Runner-up, Shawn Crookedacre. Although battling brain cancer for 18 months, Shannon was able to attend 2017 Campvention. Tails-A-wagon Chapter.

**Gene Jennings**, 82, 8-26-17, Greenville, New York, 50 year volunteer fireman, longtime active FCRV member.

**Ward VanArsdale**, 8-30-17, Lincoln, Nebraska, Rollin' Turtles Chapter, longtime member.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 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 Wolf from --nwolfm@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<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>

### **September 22 - 24, 2017 - Iowa Fall State Campvention**

Riverview Park, Marshalltown, IA. Come join us for a fun campvention! FREE Pre-registration & Saturday night meal! Entertainment, prizes, games, and social time!

### **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](mailto:fcrv-veterans@outlook.com).

### **November 3-5, 2017 - Florida State Association Fall Rally**

Blueberry Hill RV Resort, Bushnell, FL. The camping fee will be \$30.00 per night. We are planning the usual games, a picnic type dinner on Friday, a catered meal on Saturday(\$), breakfast on Saturday and some unexpected fun. So let's all come out and have a good time. Please call the campground at (352) 793-4112 to make your reservation and send the form below along with \$10 to make your reservation with FSA. If you have any questions, please call Emma or Bob Moore at (863) 234-1173 or (863) 234-1153.



**Enjoy the Fall Camping Season!**





**47<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL RETIREE RALLY**  
**NORTH FLORIDA FAIRGROUNDS**  
**441 PAUL RUSSELL ROAD, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32301**  
**EARLY DAYS: MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup> – MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup>**  
**RALLY DAYS: MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> – MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup>**

**FAMILY CAMPERS AND RVERS**



LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST: \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE/OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE/PROVINCE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/POSTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

LAST NAME OF OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ ST/PROVINCE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/POSTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE# \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

WHICH ARE YOU REGISTERING FOR? CAMPING: \_\_\_\_\_ CAMP PASS: \_\_\_\_\_ IS THIS YOUR FIRST RETIREE RALLY: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU A VETERAN: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF VETERANS IN YOUR UNIT: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL 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/PROVINCE: \_\_\_\_\_

**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, WALKERS, OR THOSE WITH LIMITED MOBILITY PROBLEMS: \_\_\_\_\_**

**GUEST 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 indicate they are your guests. We strongly suggest they enter the camping area at the same time you do. We are guests or NON-FCRV members of: \_\_\_\_\_.

**FEES:**

**EARLY BIRD PARKING (MARCH 16 – 19): FEE IS \$25 PER NIGHT WITH WATER AND ELECTRIC. EARLY BIRD FEES WILL BE COLLECTED AT TALLAHASSEE.**

**RALLY FEES: MARCH 20 – MARCH 25 AND LEAVE MONDAY: INCLUDES: 5 nights of camping, water, electric, Ice Cream Social, 2 evening meals, entertainment and all activities connected with the Rally.**

	<b><u>Pre-registration (paid in advance in full)</u></b>	<b><u>At the Gate</u></b>
Two people in a unit:	\$225.00	\$250.00
Single person in a unit:	\$195.00	\$220.00
Camp Pass (2 people or second couple in a unit)	\$125.00	\$150.00
Camp Pass ( 1 person or extra person in a unit)	\$ 85.00	\$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](mailto:pramlow@aol.com).**





## 58<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers CAMPVENTION

HOSTED BY: REGION SIX

SOUTHEAST REGION

### "WHERE OUR COUNTRY BEGAN"

THE MEADOW EVENT PARK, 13191 DAWN BLVD, DOSWELL, VIRGINIA 23047

EARLY DAYS: JULY 7 - 8, 2018 RALLY DAYS: JULY 9-13, 2018

EARLY DAYS PARKING: \$25 PER NIGHT

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATIONS: JUNE 3, 2018



REGISTRAR ONLY:

REG #: \_\_\_\_\_

CH #: \_\_\_\_\_

AMT: \_\_\_\_\_

SN: \_\_\_\_\_

LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE/OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST/PRV: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

LAST NAME OF OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ ST/PRV: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ SEND MY CONFIRMATION LETTER IN PDF: YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

IS THIS YOUR FIRST CAMPVENTION? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

#### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN YOUR UNIT:

#OF ADULTS: \_\_\_\_\_ TEENS: \_\_\_\_\_ YOUTH 9-12 \_\_\_\_\_ YOUTH 5-8 \_\_\_\_\_ YOUTH 0-4 \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN UNIT: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LIST THE NAMES AND AGES OF ALL TEENS AND YOUTH:

NAME	AGE	NAME	AGE

#### CAMPVENTION PARKING:

THE GATES WILL BE OPEN ALL DAYS FROM 8 A.M. TILL 8 P.M. THERE WILL BE AN OVERFLOW AREA FOR THOSE ARRIVING LATE, HOWEVER THERE ARE NO HOOKUPS. THE FIRST 150 UNITS THROUGH THE GATE WILL HAVE FULL HOOK-UP. PARKING IS HOBBO STYLE WITH NO SAVING OF SITES. IF YOU WANT TO PARK NEXT TO SOMEONE COME IN TOGETHER. THOSE WITHOUT SEWER WILL BE GIVEN A VOUCHER FOR ONE FREE DUMP.

#### SPECIAL NEEDS INFORMATION

CHECK IF REQUESTING A SPECIAL NEEDS SITE: \_\_\_\_\_

NO SPECIAL NEEDS SITES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE GATE. YOU MUST BE REGISTERED.

#### REGISTRATION:

EVERYONE MUST FILL OUT A REGISTRATION FORM INCLUDING SECOND FAMILIES AND CAMP PASSES. SUBMIT PAYMENT WITH REGISTRATION FORM. ALL FUNDS SHOULD BE US. CURRENCY OR CHECKS. NO CREDIT CARDS.

	REGISTRATION	AT GATE
ONE FAMILY IN UNIT.....	\$290	\$300
EXTRA FAMILY IN UNIT.....	\$135	\$140
WALK-IN CAMP PASS.....		\$20 PER DAY

#### THINGS TO SEE AND DO:

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG, KINGS DOMINION AMUSEMENT PARK AND BUSCH GARDENS WILLIAMSBURG, BIRTH PLACES OF: ROBERT E. LEE, GEORGE WASHINGTON, HOMES OF: PATRICK HENRY, PRESIDENT JOHN MADISON, STONEWALL JACKSON SHRINE, NUMEROUS FORTS, MUSEUMS AND BATTLEFIELDS.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: FCRV 2018 CAMPVENTION

MAIL TO: BILL AND PENNY RAMLOW

341 HOLLY COVE ROAD #8

WHITTIER, NC 28789

CONTACT THEM AT: 305-822-6589, 813-545-6083 OR

EMAIL: [pramlow@aol.com](mailto:pramlow@aol.com)

REFUND POLICY: IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND, ALL EXCEPT \$25 WILL BE REFUNDED

WE WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER FOR: \_\_\_\_\_