

# CAMPING TODAY®



March 2018



**Annual Quartzite RV Show attracts over 125,000.  
Read more ....Page 17**

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

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VP of Programs: George Walters  
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# From the President - Shari Weber



March has arrived! It is the month of Spring. We watch dormant, brown plants become green and growing. I hope to see our great camping organization enjoy the growth of Spring. Many of you are working on shows where you are inviting folks to enjoy FCRV. Have you invited someone to "Come Camp With Us!" recently?

## Job postings

We have several positions open on the executive board right now. Two of them are Membership Director and Website Editor. A while back Joanne Eckmann resigned as our Membership Director. She did a great job continuing what she and Bill did after Bill passed away. We are now ready for a new director to help us in growing our membership. Vickie Roop has been our website editor and did a terrific job. She is now working on publishing our electronic "Camping Today" and has indicated she would like us to find a new website editor. This is also very important because our website is a communication tool that keeps in touch with our members as well as reaching out to potential members. There are job descriptions elsewhere in this edition, please take a look and if you or someone you know has the needed skills, please contact Scott Serbousek, Vice President Planning & Development or me to indicate interest.

## Election

This month you will find bios and platforms for folks running for three Trustee positions. Please be sure to read those. When your ballot arrives about the middle of the month you will be ready to cast your vote for the people who will fill the positions of President, Vice President Programs and Recording/Corresponding Officer. Your support of the election by participating is appreciated by all of the trustees. The newly elected trustees will be installed during the general membership meeting in July.

## Membership retention

Once in a while we have challenges arise that cause a difference of opinion on how things should be done. Sometimes these differences cause people

to say unkind things and people begin to feel unwelcome and decide to not renew their membership. All of us are volunteers trying to do the best we know how to do. When a challenge arises remember to be open to new ideas and work together to find a mutual solution. We are better in unity than fighting on separate sides. A challenge is sometimes simply an opportunity that needs cooperation to bring it to a good conclusion. Embrace the opportunities as they come, have fun and remember to smile and be friendly to our camping family.

## Putting the best face on Family Campers and RVers

No matter what we are doing as a group we should be wearing our logo (new or old). Whether you are camping or just dinning out, please wear your logo shirts or name tags. We are always noticed. People ask questions when they see a group having fun together. Recently I heard a story that emphasized this. A member from Kansas has a niece who lives in Seabring FL. She happened to be at the same restaurant as our Florida snow birds having lunch together. The niece told her aunt that she had seen the group, but couldn't remember our name. She did however remember that we are those people who wear name tags. You are good at remembering to display logo when you are camping together. Let's just go one step further and remember logo whenever we are gathered together. It is noticed!. Each and every one of you is an ambassador for Family Campers. Let's make sure we put our best foot forward.

## Scholarship

This is the time to be working on your scholarship application. Contact Carl & Lynda Wood, Scholarship Director ([fcrvscholarship2014@gmail.com](mailto:fcrvscholarship2014@gmail.com)) for the necessary forms. Carl & Lynda will also be glad to inform you of the deadlines for submissions.

After the passing of our Founder, Hank Nathan several of you suggested we change the name of our scholarship program to honor Hank. You may be wondering what happened with that effort. Well, we simply had some challenges with the filing office. Soon there will be an announcement as a result of this effort.



## Awards

April 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to get award nominations to Sue Carlsen. Consider nominating someone for recognition. The awards committee awaits your nomination. There are a variety of awards to recognize the extra efforts our members make. Our top two awards are Plaque and Citation which are given to individuals and families. There is an award for Lifesaving for someone who went to extraordinary efforts that affected the life of someone. The Humanitarian award is given for outstanding humanitarian work. Chapter of the Year is awarded to the chapter who has the most participation in the programs of FCRV. The Hank Nathan Lifetime Achievement Award is given to someone who has given a lifetime (more than 25 years) of support to Family Campers. Awards forms and more information are on fcrv.org. In addition to these awards, our programs have awards to recognize outstanding achievement. The information for those is also included at fcrv.org.

## Upcoming Events

Our next national rally is put on by the retiree program. Linda & Dave Hennie, Chair invite you to "Spring Break". Lots of volunteers are preparing an unforgettable Spring break in Tallahassee FL. More information about this event which begins on March 20<sup>th</sup> is at fcrv.org as well as within this newsletter. All are welcome.

Doswell VA is our destination for campvention. It is "Where Our Country Began". The campvention team headed by Marjorie & Don Bates, Ron & Reba Ray and Gerry & Betty Owens are hard at work preparing a memorable time for all of us. The registration form is included in this newsletter as well as on the website fcrv.org.

In addition to our national rallies there are regional and state/provincial rallies to enjoy. Enjoy the camping season as often as you can.

Until the next campfire.....

Shari



## Update/Correction

### Tampa RV Show

Kibler let us know that this year was not the first time FCRV had a booth at the Tampa RV Show. "In 1998 when Jean and I moved to Florida we attended the Tampa RV Show in that or the following year and found Evelyn Womack, Florida District Director setting up an FCRV booth. We introduced ourselves and offered to help her and Mac, as they didn't have much help. The next year our Lemon Bay Sea Oats chapter set up and managed a booth at the show." Ed is a past FCRV Commercial. Director.



### Jim Lewis RV Tips

..... I welcome all the good comments on this one..... When we travel, which is all the time, we use Google maps to do a satellite view of the park and area before we get there to be sure we fit. In order to find a park we will search Where'd you Stay RV for recommendations. Or use apps like: RV Parks, Google Maps, Passport America, KOA, and RV Park Reviews. All free apps..... now volunteer your favorite apps for 'our' tip of the day. Remember there are Free campsites, Moose & Eagle clubs, Core of Engineer Parks, State and National Parks, municipal parks, BLM camping, etc.

**Tip of the day.....** water in any form, rain, snow, ice, or just from washing your RV can do devastating damage if it leaks into your RV. If it leaks into a wall, basement or ceiling and gets the insulation wet, it can create dry rot and black mold. Check all of your roof joints for cracks and seal them with DICOR self leveling sealant if you have a rubber roof. **DO NOT USE SILICONE CAULK**, it can damage your roof or just peel off. Also wash your roof with a soft brush and a very mild detergent. Then look (on your hands and knees) for any punctures or any staples used to hold the Lu-an down before the rubber roof is applied. Also, check for wet carpets after a rain.. leaky window seal. Under the sink for a loose P-trap connection. Remember, water infiltration is your RV's worst enemy.



## ELECTIONS ARE COMING!

This year there are candidates for three positions on the Board of Trustees for FCRV, so we need to hold an election.



Would you like to  
save time and money  
when you vote  
during the FCRV  
election?

**SEND US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!!**

Simply provide us with your email. That way you can vote using your computer, saving you a stamp, and making sure that your ballot does not get lost or misdirected in “snail mail”. Send us your email at [fcrvnat@verizon.net](mailto:fcrvnat@verizon.net), or call the office at 1-800-245-9755

**DON'T WORRY: No one gets “left behind”**

For those members who do not have email addresses, the paper balloting system will still be an option. Candidate positions and profiles can be found elsewhere in this issue. Ballots will be mailed no later than March 15<sup>th</sup>, so watch your mailbox!

## Candidates for President

### Shari Weber

#### Biography



Craig & I have been married 46 years. We have been members since 1980 and enjoyed camping in a popup tent trailer, then a travel trailer. Since 2008 we have been full time living in our motorhome. Our dream of owning a campground was achieved in 1994 when we purchased Geneseo Campground. Our family includes two daughters, a son-in-law and three grandsons.

Craig & I have been active in our organization since joining together in 1980. We held chapter positions in the different chapters we belong to. Illinois State leadership includes Treasurer and Teen Director. We chaired the teen program at the DuQuoin campvention implementing the opportunity for teen associations to host a night at the teen center. In 1995 we were appointed to the newly created Adult Activities Program. In this position we created the Happy Camper program for campvention which introduced a member by having campvention attendees find clues about the member. We started the site decorating contest which began with taking trees to Forest City in 2000. Site decorating has been enjoyed at campventions since then. In 2003 Shari was elected National Director and served that position until 2012 when the position was redefined to Vice President of Operations. Achievements in these positions include revamping awards, creating a new award and developing new guidelines for chapter of the year. As a leader I tend to work toward making decisions based on finding the place of agreement.

#### Platform

My vision for Family Campers continues to put emphasis on membership retention and growth along with leadership development. As we move forward our organization must adapt and adjust. Positive change needs to occur prior to being forced to make a

change. There are lots of outside factors pulling at people's resources of time and money. We must make our activities appealing, inviting and relevant for people to choose us over other opportunities available to them. I believe we have already seen many changes that have had a positive impact on the organization. I will work diligently to assure our organization continues to do everything it can to promote the great family camping and programs we have to offer. I will support action that updates and improves our programs to assure they are relevant to today's campers and RVers. I will encourage training that enables our volunteers to create events and programs that are fun and relevant. Strong leadership and fun events will make recruiting leadership and retaining membership an easy task. Teaming up with you, the member and the other six people trusted with the leadership of the business of Family Campers and RVers I will work to maintain our family camping group as the best camping and RVing organization in the world. We are already the friendliest people in the world!

## Candidates for Vice President of Programs

### George W. Walters

#### Biography

#### General Philosophy:



He believes that the trustees you elect should demonstrate leadership by example. That is why he has taken on more tasks than are listed in the Field Manual as the job description for his position.

He has been Florida Bandmasters Association District Chairperson and Treasurer, he was elected to the FBA State Board of Directors, he is a Certified Band, Orchestra and Choral Adjudicator, an Honor Band Conductor in Georgia, Florida and Kenai, Alaska (20+). He was Associate Conductor of the South Florida Youth Symphony (10 years), Professional Musician and band leader (24



years) Public School Band Director (34 years), elected Teacher of the Year in 2 schools, nominated and elected as a Legacy Educator for Outstanding Leadership in Music Education, Adjunct Professor-University of Miami (10 years). Recently he was appointed to the Lake City Community Concert Association Board (2 years).

He has been President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Newspaper Editor for various FCRV chapters. He has been the FCRV Retiree Choir Director (5 years), Variety Show co-chair (5 years), Entertainment Chair (6 years including the 2018 Campvention), FCRV Band Member (7 years-one as band leader in Craig Weber's absence), FCRV Trustee for 6 years as VP-Programs. He was the 2017 recipient of the FCRV Award of Merit, he recently traveled to Doswell Va. for the 2018 Campvention planning days, and participated in the 2018 Tampa RV Super-show.

He is married to Debbie Walters for 44 years and they have one son, Jason, who works in the IT industry,

### Platform

The FCRV Programs are the entities that draw many campers to our organization; they are a major reason that Debbie & I became FCRV members. When we were first introduced to FCRV by one of my band students, we realized that in addition to enjoying other camper's company, the outreach of our programs makes FCRV a very special organization. We aren't corporate owned or run, and our programs reach far beyond the immediate area of our rallies. My platform is simply to strengthen and support the programs we currently encompass, add new programs when appropriate (such as our recent addition of the International Veterans Program) and look for ways to publicize the important work that each program provides to our members and the communities we visit. My philosophy is now and shall continue to be 'find good people to head each program and leave them alone to do their job'.

Our membership also needs to be better informed about our programs. We are a camping club that helps others and promotes family values wherever we hold chapter activities or rallies. If our members see the programs, family values, and camaraderie of camping with fellow members, we will go a long way towards achieving our goal of becoming the group *"where strangers become friends and friends become family."* When potential members learn of the many programs we offer, the family values we encompass, and the volunteer opportunities available to them, we will become the organization others will want to join.

## Lorne Douglas

### Biography



Lorne has been married to Mabel for 45 years. They have 3 children. Their daughter Megan was National Teen Queen for 2015. They have been FCRV members for nearly 20 years and have attended most campventions during that time. Lorne has been active at the executive level of his local chapter, the Sarnia 4T's. He has been vice-president of the Ontario Provincial Association and is currently president.

They were Ontario teen directors for 10 years and field rep for independents. They have received the National Merit award in 2012. They were part of the planning committee for Campvention in 2006 and 2012 and will be involved in Campvention 2020.

Lorne is active in the Masonic lodge in Ontario. They currently spend the winter in Florida and home in summer in Petrolia Ontario when not in a campground with other members or their children and 3 grandchildren.

He looks forward to serving FCRV to help maintain and strengthen our great organization.

### Platform

I would like to work with board members to maintain and strengthen our organization. I think we should review all our programs to see if they need updating and to enhance them to attract more interest. I will ask for input from fellow campers and if possible implement any new ideas to help us grow. I would like to improve communications throughout the organization. I would like to see our teen and youth programs grow as they are the keys to our future. I will make myself available to assist in any way.

Thank-you for your support and enjoy the New Year as we start the next camping season.

### March Trivia



- 1919 -The first US international airmail service began, between Seattle, Washington and Victoria, B.C., Canada.
- 1961 - President John F. Kennedy issued an executive order establishing the Peace Corps

## Candidates for Recording /Corresponding Officer

### Sue Carlsen

#### Biography



Sue Carlsen is the incumbent candidate for this position. Since joining NCHA in 1983, Sue has been actively involved at all levels of the organization.

- 2012-Present - Recording/Corresponding Officer (National Trustee)
- 2010-2012 – Corresponding Secretary (National Trustee)
- 2004-2010 – Michigan State Director
- 1992-2004 – Michigan Assistant State Director
- 1987-1992 – Michigan Teen Director
- 2010 Campvention – Steering Committee
- 2004 Campvention – Secretary
- 1988 Campvention – Teen Committee
- Co-hosted four Michigan State Association campouts
- MSA Board member – 18 years
- Michigan Field Director – 12 years
- Chapter secretary and newsletter editor
- Received FCRV Plaque in 2010
- Received FCRV Citation in 2004

Sue retired from the University of Michigan in 2005, where she worked as a graduate program administrator. Prior to her career in education, Sue worked 20 years as an executive secretary in the automotive industry.

Sue and Chuck Carlsen have been married 53 years; have three daughters, eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Sue enjoys being retired which allows more time to spend with friends and family.

#### Platform

I applaud the Nominating Committee for recruiting two contenders for this position. As a trustee, I am encouraged to see new leadership step forward. As the incumbent candidate, however, I find myself in a contest. This position and I have grown in concert over the past eight years. During my first term as Corresponding Secretary, I recommended combining that position with the duties of the Recording Officer

which subsequently became the Recording Corresponding Officer. I was the first person to be elected to that position. Last year, I accepted the national Awards Program, further expanding my responsibilities. Serving the organization as a trustee has enriched me personally. In order to accurately take minutes at trustee and Executive Board meetings, I learned to talk less and listen more. I quickly realized the benefit of increased understanding of FCRV at a national level. There are various factors which affect the growth or loss of members and sponsors, locations for campvention, etc.; and each trustee has his or her personal point of view. I have found it's much easier to make a suggestion than a decision. We trustees are limited to the resources available, mainly volunteers and finances. My goal is to deliver more value for your investment keeping in mind that every member has choices to make. I will continue to consider every aspect of a situation before making a decision. I chose to run for this office once more. The outcome is up to you. I ask for your continued confidence.

### Cheryl Descoteaux

#### Biography



Cheryl Descoteaux is a candidate for the office of recording/correspondence officer for the 2018-2020 term.

She joined FCRV in Connecticut approximately 20 years ago and has been actively involved throughout her membership. She has held the office of secretary, vice-president and president of the Connecticut chapter. She relocated permanently to South Carolina about 3 years ago, joined the South Carolina organization, and has been active since joining. She currently holds membership in both Connecticut and South Carolina and feels that this is beneficial to both organizations. She is South Carolina Retiree Queen. She is co-chairman of hospitality for the 2018 campvention.

She started her work career in 1967 as a legal secretary. She worked in that position all of her working life, retiring in 2011. She worked part time in that field while raising her two children, as well as working as a real estate appraiser for 12 years. She has always worked in an office environment.

She has been married 40 years, has two children and five grandchildren. She enjoys retirement, camp-



ing, crocheting, traveling and volunteering. She has volunteered at her local library's literacy program, helping to teach English to Spanish and Japanese residents. She also volunteers at other local Hospice retail store.

### Platform

My goal is to promote the benefits and membership base of FCRV. We must be receptive and try to incorporate new ideas and ways to accomplish this. The retirees are a treasure trove of knowledge and experience and are an excellent membership source. I believe we must try to interest young families. Family life can be hectic, often times exhausting. If we can convince them to camp with us as a break from that busy schedule I believe we can show them the advantages of this organization and how rewarding a membership will be in their lives. I will be receptive to ideas and suggestions and work with anyone to try to bring in young families. I believe this is the future of FCRV and we must do all we can to gain their interest, just as those long-standing members interested us as young families, so many years ago.

Every organization must change and evolve in order to stay viable. FCRV is going through some changes that may, or may not, be pleasurable to some. I believe these changes are inevitable, but all change should be tempered with tolerance and patience, never losing site of the wealth of knowledge and commitment given to this organization by our experienced and long-standing members, the backbone of FCRV. If elected, I will do everything I can to hold to this belief, work with all to move our organization into the future, while holding to the time honored traditions of FCRV.



# Retiree Rally 2018

**Tallahassee, FL**

**March 20 - 25, 2018**

## From our Retiree Directors....

Calling out to all retirees.....after all the cold weather and snow we have had so far, we are ready for some Florida Sunshine. Come join us in March for the INTERNATIONAL RETIREE RALLY, March 20-26, 2018. Early Days starts March 16.

Dave and Linda Hennie have planned for a great time, with lots of fun and laughter. We are looking forward in seeing you all there. Don't forget it's Spring Break!!

Ron & Reba Ray  
National Retiree Directors





# Campvention 2018

**July 9 - 13, 2018**

**The Meadow Event Park**

**Doswell, Virginia**

## Confirmation Packets

**Many confirmation packets went out 1/30 and 2/8 but some have not responded that they received them. If you have received your packet, please respond to Penny Ramlow at [pramlow@aol.com](mailto:pramlow@aol.com)**

## Carry Me Back to Old Virginny, Where It All Began, FCRVers!

By Barb Turner, Publicity Chair

**Old Virginny, Where It All Began** has perhaps a new meaning to our FCRVers as we anticipate gathering in Doswell, Virginia July 9-13 for our 58<sup>th</sup> Campvention. This destination site provides a new venue, a new area for our organization.

Besides visiting with old friends, making new ones, and participating in the variety of activities during Campvention, as avid campers and RVers a whole new area to explore opens up for us. From your homes to Campvention perhaps opens new territory for you. Do your research. Ask yourselves: what are things I want to see; where do I want to spend a little time exploring. Where you want to spend a little time, be sure to make your first stop the local tourist center. Not only will you find brochures/information, ask for suggestions for 'off the beaten path' experiences. We personally have found

places we didn't find online. These places were usually unique and so enjoyable.

As the Southeast Region has been sharing, Virginia is 'Where It All Began' beginning with the first permanent colony of Jamestown in 1607 through early settlement as our ancestors carved out a resulting nation. In actuality, historians will tell you that the first peoples to inhabit what we know as Virginia today probably arrived over 12,000 years ago.

As with any nation/area, Virginia's history reflects the process of early settlers trying to survive in an alien environment through the growing pains.....the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Civil War, Reconstruction and on. Many of those times are periods we're certainly not proud of today, but they are our history. Hopefully, we are learning from them. With all of that in mind, visit Jamestown, Yorktown, Williamsburg, Monticello, Mount Vernon, Washington, D.C., Shenandoah National Park/Skyline Drive, Chincoteague and Assateague Islands, Manassas National Battlefield, Virginia Beach.....the list can go on and on. Do your research. Find obscure sites, as we did many years ago when we found Guinea Station as I wrote about last fall.

Campvention 2018 offers so many opportunities to be campers and RVers outside the Campvention activities. But, of course, we can't forget the FCRV gathering of friends and 'soon-to-be' friends in Doswell July 9-13!

**Campvention is the best time ever!!**

**Get your registrations in which greatly helps the 2018 committee prepare for your arrival! See you in Doswell, Virginia in July!**

## Golf Cart Applications

Found elsewhere in this issue

Deadline June 15, 2018



## CAMPVENTION IS DRAWING NIGH.....

We are looking forward to seeing all of you in Doswell, Virginia July 9-13. We have planned activities for all of you. **SEE YOU IN DOSWELL!!**

Marjory & Don Bates  
Campvention Chairs



### Campvention Parking Hint

George & Ernie Reynolds, Parking Chairs

Parking at Campvention 2018 will be hobo parking which means if you want to park with someone or a group, you come in together. At Exit 98 stay in the LEFT lane to the FIRST TRAFFIC LIGHT. Turn LEFT into a Very Large Truck Stop. Gather; then proceed to the Campvention site.

### Campvention Hospitalitys

LaNelle & Leon Ishmael, Hospitalitys Chairs



The deadline to sign up for hospitalitys at Campvention is May 15. We will have the forms at the Retiree Rally.



### FCRV International Band

Craig Weber,  
FCRV International Band Director

The FCRV International Band has been a Campvention tradition for over 50 years. Each year volunteers give a little bit of their Campvention time to practice and to play for their FCRV family. Over the past two years seven dedicated band members have continued to offer their time and talents to our FCRV family. Each year we ask for more band volunteers and get no response. It becomes increasingly challenging to find music for such a small group and to provide an entertaining and quality performance.

This year we are planning a program of Patriotic music to compliment the Campvention theme. The music is fairly easy and with only a couple hours of

practice we should be able to provide a quality program. **WHAT WE NEED IS YOU.** The more, the merrier. Just dust off and bring your instrument and join in the fun of the band.

Band members get a FCRV International Band Member badge, year bars to add to their badge for each year they participate, FCRV International Band Tuxedo T-shirt, free pizza dinner, hours of fun and the chance to give back to your FCRV Family.

As with many programs a lack of participation causes them to go away. Please don't let the FCRV International Band become history. Dust off your instrument and get ready to join in the fun. Share your love of music with the rest of your family. **WE NEED YOU.**

For advance copies of the music (in case you feel the need for extra practice) just e-mail Craig Weber at [camp@geneseocampground.com](mailto:camp@geneseocampground.com) with your name, address and instrument. Copies of the music should be available in early April.

Thank you to all who have supported the FCRV International Band both by playing and with financial contributions. I will be looking for you in Virginia.

### Wildlife Silent Auction

Joanie Stone National Wildlife Director



We will be having a Wildlife Silent Auction at National this year. So be contacting individuals for items for the auction. Remember the proceeds go toward the monies we award for Wildlife grants. Our members like the auction so let's have a Great One.

I thank you in advance for your participation.



### Need Website Help

Do you have experience working on a website using WordPress? Would you be interested in volunteering to help with the FCRV website? The job would entail updating the website with information provided by FCRV members in the areas of Camping Events, Contacts, Programs, News and Commercial. Camping Events and News are the ones that need updating the most. The others are updated periodically when there are changes. If you are interested or would like more information please contact Vickie Roop ([fcrvwebsite@aol.com](mailto:fcrvwebsite@aol.com)) or Scott Serbousek ([FCRVPlanDevelopVP@outlook.com](mailto:FCRVPlanDevelopVP@outlook.com)).



## MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR JOB POSTING

FCRV is looking for qualified individuals for an executive board position. The Membership Director position is open right now. An individual with good organizational skills, good communication skills, knowledge of spreadsheet and word processing software and creativity would be very successful in this position.

The following are the general expectations of the Membership Director

- ♦ Provide centralized management of membership retention and recruitment
- ♦ Voting member of the executive board
- ♦ Make recommendations and determine needs of membership recruitment and retention
- ♦ Advise the Board of Trustees and the Executive Board of membership statistics
- ♦ Answer correspondence.
- ♦ When necessary make presentations to the Board of Trustees and/or Executive Board to recommend solutions or changes in the membership program.
- ♦ Confer with State/Provincial Directors on appointment of respective Membership Directors.
- ♦ Report to Vice President Planning & Development providing written reports 3 times a year
- ♦ Implement Marketing strategies
- ♦ Recommend and implement growth strategy
- ♦ Support State/Provincial directors in their membership growth activities
- ♦ Recognize state/province highest growth at campvention each year
- ♦ Inform awards chairman which states are being recognized to receive a plaque
- ♦ Administer
  - a. Ambassador Club
  - b. RV Show booths and grants

Anyone interested in this position should contact Scott Serbousek

[FCRVPlanDevelopVP@outlook.com](mailto:FCRVPlanDevelopVP@outlook.com). Scott can answer questions about the position as well.



### ***SPRING TRIVIA***

- The fall and spring equinoxes are the only two times during the year when the sun rises due east and sets due west
- The first spring flowers are typically lilacs, irises, lilies, tulips, daffodils, and dandelions



## 70th Anniversary Celebration



**Melvin & Phyllis Gass, Ohio**

The 70th wedding anniversary of Melvin and Phyllis (Shane) Gass on March 17, 2018 will be celebrated with a family dinner at a later date. Melvin retired from the KitchenAide division of Whirlpool and Phyllis retired from the law office of Shipman, Utrecht & Dixon Co., LPA. Children are Denise (Ken) Zirkle and Dennis (Tammy) Gass. Two grandsons Matthew Shane Zirkle and Rusty Allen Gass. They have 3 great-grandchildren. They were NCHA/FCRV members for 37 years and members of the Roamin Trojans for the same number of years. Phyllis held various offices in the Trojans and was newsletter editor for a number of years. They were very active in OSA and Phyllis was OSA secretary for 8 years and SERVE (educational committee) Chairman for over 10 years. They were both very active on the SERVE Committee and chaired the rest area safety break fundraisers at several Ohio rest areas and the mouse game fundraisers at the Ohio Swiss Festival for many years, all of which earned thousands of dollars for the SERVE scholarship fund.. They attended 26 campventions, Phyllis was photographer for the campvention book at two campventions in Ohio and they were Information Chairman at campvention in Michigan in 2004. They were awarded a national plaque and are members of the Ohio State Association Hall of Fame. In 2016, due to health problems and old age, they sold their trailer which ended 55 years as avid campers. They have many, many wonderful memories of all the good times they had with the hundreds of friends they made as members of NCHA/FCRV "where strangers become friends and friends become family". Anniversary wishes can be sent to Melvin and Phyllis

Gass at 408 Lincoln Ave Troy, OH 45373 or better yet phone calls would be great at 937-335-6839.".....Mel & Phyllis are special folks who are achieving a remarkable achievement this month. Their email address is [gasshaus408@gmail.com](mailto:gasshaus408@gmail.com)

## JESSE BRAYMAN NOMINATED FOR A GRAMMY



*Jesse and his wife, Heidi Erickson  
on the red carpet*

At past Campventions a young drummer in the FCRV band, Jesse Brayman stole the show with his talent. Today, this past Connecticut Teen King is a recording and sound engineer and has recorded several well known musical groups including the classical choral group, the South Dakota Chorale. The group received 3 nominations for their recording of "Tyberg Masses" – Best Coral Performance, Best Engineered Classic, and Best Surround Sound. Jesse was the sound engineer. Unfortunately the Grammy went elsewhere, but the nomination itself was a great honor.

Jesse grew up in FCRV with his parents, Anne and Mark Brayman of Connecticut. They said, "Even though he did not receive the Grammy, we are proud of his achievement."

Mark & Anne provided the following:

Jesse was interested in music from a young age. He loved drumming, anything he could create a beat on he did, including wood around a club campfire. He started formal music training in the fourth grade

which continued through college. He became interested in the recording process as a teenager in our basement. He started writing his own music then he would record himself playing the drums. Then he would combine that recording with himself playing the guitar and finally add vocals. While he really enjoys music and continues to play several instruments, it was the technical aspect that peaked his interest leading to his career choice. Jesse followed in the steps of his High School music teacher and Band Director to the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. This College offered both Sound Recording Technology and Music studies, which were his focus.

After he graduated in 2008 he went to work for Soundmirror, Inc. in Boston. A company he interned with during College. His work with Soundmirror took him around this country recording many symphonies, orchestras and chorales. Of which he turned several into albums. He also was able to work on other interesting projects such as The Goat Rodeo Sessions Album, which included Yo-Yo Ma, Stuart Duncan, Edgar Meyer and Chris Thile. All recorded at James Taylor's recording studio.

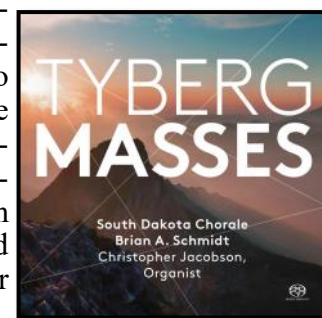
His work with the Oregon Symphonies album, Music for a Time of War, resulted in his first Grammy Nomination in 2012. He was nominated for Best Engineered Album, Classical.

Jesse now works as a sound recording engineer for Ab initio Software Corporation in Lexington, Massachusetts. They continue to encourage him to pursue creative ventures as a member of The Recording Academy. So when the South Dakota Chorale requested his involvement in their most recent project, Tyberg Masses, he was able to join his former colleagues at Soundmirror to complete the nominated album.

Jesse and his wife Heidi Erickson reside in Acton, Massachusetts



*Parents, Anne and  
Mark rolled out the red  
carpet for home  
celebration.*



*Tyberg Masses album by the  
South Dakota Chorale re-  
ceived 3 nominations*

# FCRV Activities

## Hello from Nova Scotia

By Gilles & Barb Dore,  
Nova Scotia Provincial Director

Our 2017 camping season started in April with the Provincial Association and the Directors meeting to plan our summers activities. COBWEB was our first campout of the year it was hosted by the Directors and held during the long weekend in May at the Exhibition Grounds in Windsor NS. Although we had strong winds all weekend, we renewed friendships, exchange winter stories, hospitalities, games, and a fantastic breakfast on Sunday morning.

In June and July the Hub Campers of Truro and the High Tide Drifters of Kentville respectively hosted a campout weekend for all members of Family Campers and RV'ers, both were very successful and were filled with many activities including games and lots of food.

Labor day weekend brought our biggest gathering of the year, the Provincial Campout, held at the Windsor Exhibition Grounds in Windsor Nova Scotia. The theme this year was "Proud to be Canadian celebrating 150th birthday". We had themed parade, unit decoration contest, hospitalities, pot luck for Saturday supper and corn boil for Sunday supper, games, great entertainment on Saturday and Sunday evenings. with the weather cooperating we had a fantastic campout. Next year theme is "HILLBILLIES"

At all of these events a church service is held and the monies collected go the "Christmas Daddies telethon". this is held every year the first Saturday of December to provide gifts for underprivileged children throughout Nova Scotia.

## Greetings to all, from. The Night Owls of Aberdeen South Dakota and surrounding area

Just a brief history of what this is about. Almost six years ago. Gerry Pfirsch and the members of the Night Owls, started a project. Every spring and fall, the members would go to. The South Dakota State Parks at Mina SD. and Richmond SD. They

would do a full park clean up. Mina in the spring. Richmond in the fall. This still continues to this day. But this year the State Parks wanted to do something different. They have an old

run down Amphitheater. We were asked this year if we would do some work at the Amphitheater instead of a park clean up. After meeting with the park staff to see what had to be done. An e-mail



was sent out to. The Night Owls of Aberdeen SD. We also invited our friends from Jamestown ND. The Roaming Buffalos. E-mails starting coming back and they all said. Yes we will help the park out with the work they wanted to do on the Amphitheater. So on Oct. 6, 7, & 8. We met at Richmond Lake State Park. Now being this was an FCRV, outing. It was not all work, we had great food, fellowship, and yes a nice fire at night.

Here is a list of people that helped out. From the Roaming Buffalos, Tom & Rhonda Ravelly, Ted & Deb Kapp, Clint Tompt, Sherry Mcguire. From the Night Owls. Sue Woodward, Judy Hauge, Gary & Olive Eldevik, George & Janet Bresler, Gerry Bartz, Ron & Mary Dietz. There were also 11 dogs, that camped with us.



Below is a letter of thanks from the park staff

*I would like to personally **Thank** each and every one of you, that came to help clean-up the amphitheater, and grounds at Richmond campgrounds the weekend of October 5th-7th 2017. **Thank You** for everyone's time and hard work, the benches and screen turned out looking great, this will be a huge asset to the park to be able use this area once again.*



*It is people like yourselves, that dedicate their hard work and time to the South Dakota State Parks System that truly make a difference.*

*Without volunteers in the park system it would truly be harder for us to do our jobs well and keep the parks looking as good as they do.*

*Sincerely,*

**Robert Teachout** | District Park Supervisor  
South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks  
37908 Youth Camp Road | Aberdeen, SD 57401  
605.626.3488|[Robert.Teachout@state.sd.us](mailto:Robert.Teachout@state.sd.us)

## OPERATION LONE STAR

By Joanie Stone - Explorers Chapter



As you're all are aware, the devastating impact of Hurricane Harvey in Texas was really bad. The Explorer Chapter of Omaha, Nebraska decided to continue their tradition of helping others by helping with Operation Lone Star. Member, Jan Frank-

lin, brought to the members attention the project of Operation Lone Star. The project was asking for personal hygiene kits to be distributed to shelters etc. .

The members prepared ten individual hygiene kits for ladies and gentlemen, a total of 20 kits. The kits consisted of a gallon size zip lock bag filled with a wash cloth, dove bar soap, shampoo and conditioner, toothbrush and toothpaste, sanitary pads, (ladies), dove deodorant, comb, safety razor, shaving cream for men, and words of hope.

## Good Samaritan Project Lasts for Twenty-three Years

By Joanie Stone



The Explorers Chapter of Omaha, Nebraska continues its tradition of volunteer projects in the name of FCRV. Though

our chapter has decreased in size, we still have dedi-

cated members who like to do for others and continue the tradition.

One of the projects the chapter has done is work with the Ronald McDonald House in Omaha, Nebraska. The house opened in 1994 and every year since our members have fixed a Christmas dinner for those in the house as well as some other times throughout the years. In the month of December, the chapter fixes a dinner and has Santa to come to visit the children. The chapter purchases a gift for each sick child in the house as well as their brother or sister at the house. Santa has always been one of our members. In past years, Santa also would go up to the University Medical Center and visit the children there. This year we served 30 people in the house. The house only allows no more than six individuals to come and prepare the meal which must be done at the house.



The chapter also collects pop tabs and purchases items for the house such as paper products, cleaning supplies etc.

This has been a very rewarding project for our members as well as Ronald McDonald House.



*Mid-Florida Snowbirds gathered at the Golden Corral in Winter Haven*

## 2018 GREAT LAKES REGIONAL

The 2108 Great Lakes Regional will be held on August 1-5 at the Brown County Fairgrounds in DePere, WI. There are many things to do and see in the area.

Lambeau Field Stadium Tours and the Packer Hall of Fame are a must for visitors to the Green Bay area. For information on times and prices check the website: [packers.com](http://packers.com).

Family night 2018 (it is actually a practice ses-

sion) has not yet been announced. In the past, it has been held on the first Saturday in August. This is a chance for the general public to experience Lambeau Field from the stands.

The National Railroad Museum is only blocks away from the fairgrounds. It is very interesting and offers rides around the grounds. The Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the nicest ones in Wisconsin. Heritage Hill State Historical Park offers a living history lesson of the early settlers of Northeastern Wisconsin.

Door County, with its quaint villages, shops and restaurants is about an hour drive. There are numerous orchards and wineries in Door County.

We are also planning many things to do at the fairgrounds. They include cast iron cooking and care, line dancing and music. The usual games of corn hole, ladder golf, washer toss and bean bag baseball will be available. We are working on trying to set up a highway safety seminar given by Schneider Trucking.

Meals being planned are Friday morning breakfast and Saturday night supper. Saturday supper is being planned as a tailgate party. We ask that everyone come wearing their favorite sports apparel. (It does not need to be only football). Sunday morning is coffee, juice and donut holes followed by a church service.

This is not a complete list of everything and is subject to change.

Early bird days are July 30 and 31. The cost for early bird days is the current daily rate of \$30.00 per night which includes water and electric.

For more information and a registration form, contact us at [kcushing@wi.rr.com](mailto:kcushing@wi.rr.com) or call Jan at 262-914-5950 or Kip at 262-914-5951.

## Green Bay Places to Visit

### The Automobile is Art

The Automobile Gallery located in downtown Green Bay has 50 beautiful cars on display, representing every decade of the last 100 years. Tour the gallery featuring hot rods to cruisers Saturdays and Sundays. The gallery is housed in a completely refinished vintage Cadillac dealership. Don't miss the dragster mounted to the wall. The car collection rotates often, so return visits are encouraged. For gallery hours visit [www.theautomobilegallery.org](http://www.theautomobilegallery.org).

### National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help

Green Bay, WI is well-known as home of the Green Bay Packers, cheese, and great beer, but many people

don't know that it is also home to the only site in the United States where an apparition of the Virgin Mary has been officially approved by the Catholic Church. The National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help is located just outside of Green Bay in the town of Champion, WI. This is the location where in 1859, the Blessed Virgin appeared to a Belgian immigrant named Adele Brise and asked her to teach the Catholic faith. She followed this advice, and this location serves as a reminder of this apparition.

In 2011, the Vatican approved the shrine as a holy site. For a map, shrine hours and mass information, visit [www.shrineofourladyofgoodhelp.com](http://www.shrineofourladyofgoodhelp.com).

### Football, all...year...long.

Even though the NFL season doesn't start until late August, that doesn't mean that you can't get your fill of the Green Bay Packers when you visit any month of the year.

Training Camp begins in late July and runs all the way through the preseason. Practices are held at Ray Nitschke Field, which is directly across the street from Lambeau Field. Ray Nitschke Field has permanent seating which can accommodate 1,500 fans (there is additional standing room surrounding the field). Gates open 90 minutes prior to scheduled practice and close 30 minutes after practice concludes. A full practice schedule can be found at [www.packers.com](http://www.packers.com). Concessions, merchandise and restroom facilities are available.

After practice, head over to the Lambeau Field Atrium, which is open year-round for visitors. The Packers Hall of Fame and 1919 Kitchen & Tap are located inside the stadium. Don't miss out on a stadium tour, where you'll get a chance to see several behind-the-scenes areas such as the player's tunnel and take a selfie on the sidelines of the most hallowed football ground in the country. Learn more about Green Bay Packers Training Camp and Stadium Tours at [www.packers.com](http://www.packers.com).

**Titletown**, a new district located just west of Lambeau field is filled with summertime activities. Grab a coffee at 46 Below or at Leaps & Bounds inside Lodge Kohler. Then stroll through the park to play a game of shuffleboard, try your hand at foosball or pull up a chair and a good book from the kiosks. Activities are abundant in this park.

### National Railroad Museum

The National Railroad Museum is a blast for both kids and adults. The museum is open year-round, and

train rides are available from May 1 through October 31. View a variety of permanent and featured exhibits. Children are always excited to discover the world of railroads in the Jodey Lenfestey Children's Discovery Depot, a hands-on learning environment. In 2017, visitors can see the special exhibit entitled, *Transportation China Collection*. More details about the National Railroad Museum and current exhibits at [www.nationalrrmuseum.org](http://www.nationalrrmuseum.org).

### Green Bay Botanical Garden

Visit the Green Bay Botanical Garden to see the exquisite landscaping and architectural structures among 47 acres of lush gardens. This horticultural and recreational resource to the area also offers a variety of education programs to the community and visitors from photography to hiking to gardening. For event details and garden hours visit <http://www.gbbg.org/>.

## Annual Quartzsite RV Show Attracts Over 125,000

By Dave Barbulesco

Courtesy of RV Business

All the preliminary signals pointed to another gangbuster Quartzsite RV Show, an annual event in Arizona's scenic Sonora Desert that again backed its claim as "the largest gathering of RVers in the nation."

"When we first got to Quartzsite, we noticed an influx of early arrivals, which was confirmed by many local businesses," said Kenny King, who has overseen the show since its inception in 1984. "That's always an indication of pent-up anticipation. Plus, our exhibit space sold out in advance and many last-minute exhibitors were turned away."

Those early indicators proved to be on the mark as King reported that the crowd swelled to over 125,000 people during the Jan. 20-28 event, which, in turn, generated record sales for exhibitors.

"Retail sales were brisk with many all-time records being set early and often by several veteran participants," King told [RVBUSINESS.com](http://RVBUSINESS.com), noting that around 250 companies were represented occupying approximately 360 exhibit spaces. "One exhibitor claimed that they had just finished up the Barrett-Jackson classic car auction, one of the largest and premier events in that industry, and they had surpassed their total sales halfway through the second day of the Quartzsite Show."

Paul Evert's RV Country, King's exclusive RV dealer in Quartzsite, also reported brisk sales, including multiple high-end motorhomes and fifth-wheels.

Curt Curtis, owner of the multilocation dealer, reported to [RVBUSINESS.com](http://RVBUSINESS.com) midway through the show that the company was on track to sell 130-plus units, a 10% increase from the 2017 edition. "It's really been a great mix," he said. "We've been selling lots of toy haulers, bigger fifth-wheels, and gas and diesel motorhomes — both new and used. We're not seeing too many travel trailer buyers. It's just not that kind of show."

In line with reports from other venues in the early round of 2018 RV shows, King said that he observed a decidedly younger demographic among attendees. "The crowd seemed much younger than ever before," he stated. "Where once you would rarely see anyone under the age of 55 in Quartzsite, young families pushing strollers while holding other sibling's hands were prevalent. I think that's definitely a good sign for the show and the future of the RV industry."

In addition to RV-related exhibitors, King reported that the travel and tourism sector was strongly represented. "We had RV resorts and campgrounds from across the country, including some of the larger firms like Equity Lifestyle Properties, KOA and Good Sam," he said. "There were also several prominent companies, like J.C. Penny and Disney World, that were recruiting work campers. Our show has really turned into a huge draw for work campers." King maintains that one of the attractions for RVers is access to installation and service. "There were a dozen full-blown RV service bays that were busy the entire show," he noted. "The Blue Ox service area





had a wait time exceeding three hours as they were offering a special of free service and maintenance. Redlands Truck & RV Supply occupied a large portion of the service bays with approximately 30 service technicians offering immediate installation on everything from Michelin tires to Gale Banks Performance products and everything in-between.

“By all aspects, the show was a huge success,” he added. “It amazes me every year that people keep coming back. I still get sick to my stomach that first day, worried that nobody will show up. But when the gates open up and there is a 1/4-mile long traffic jam and 1,000 people in line, I figure we’re going to be OK.”



## MARVAC Paves the Way for Sales Tax Deduction on New RV Purchases

OKEMOS, Mich.—Since 2013, the Michigan Association of Recreation Vehicles and Campgrounds (MARVAC) has been advocating on behalf of Michigan RV consumers and RV dealers for a “sales tax on the difference” policy, which, after a rare move by the Michigan Legislature, went into effect in January 18, 2018.

“Educating and working with the politicians in Lansing and around the state was a major directive for MARVAC for the last five years,” said William Sheffer, executive director of MARVAC.

In June 2017, Senate Bills 94 and 95 were passed by the senate which allowed for a person trading-in a used RV to purchase a new RV to be taxed only on the difference between the value on the trade-in and the new RV price. For example, if the trade-in value of an RV is \$50,000 and a new 2018 RV is \$100,000, the six percent sales tax will only be applied on the difference, or \$50,000, Sheffer explained.

Governor Rick Snyder vetoed the bills in July 2017, but in an unusual move by the legislature, the veto was overridden. These bills mark the first time a Michigan governor’s veto has been overturned since 2002.

“This is a great deal for those who enjoy RVing but may have been holding off on purchasing a new RV,” said Sheffer. “In addition to being great news

for the RV consumer, RV dealers are thrilled because it gives them another sales tool.”

“These Public Acts 1 and 2 of 2018 are not only benefiting family-run businesses, but the state economy as a whole,” Sheffer said. “We are pleased the dedicated effort of MARVAC on behalf of RV enthusiasts across the state has come to such a beneficial outcome.”

With Michigan’s largest RV Show—the 52nd Annual Detroit Camper & RV Show at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi—running February 7-11, 2018, RV buyers will have an excellent opportunity to take advantage of the substantial new tax savings.

The Michigan Association of Recreation Vehicles and Campgrounds (MARVAC) is a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to encouraging growth in the recreation vehicle and private campground industries while contributing to the quality of Michigan tourism. For more information, visit MARVAC’s website, [www.marvac.org](http://www.marvac.org). MARVAC, 2222 Association Drive, Okemos, Mich. 48864-5978; 517.349.8881.



## Louisville Debut: Keystone’s Montana 3701K Fiver

By Rick Kessler Courtesy of RV Business

Keystone RV Co. has added the 3701LK fifth-wheel to its venerable Montana line, highlighted by a spacious luxury kitchen offering a host of high-end appliance.



At 40 feet, 6 inches long and a dry weight of 13,120 pounds, the four-slide 3701LK has a sticker price of about \$85,000, said Product Manager Jason Gill, adding that “RVers are going to love the rear kitchen layout.”

"The kitchen area has counter top space galore, with a rear range hood, Furrion cooktop, as well as oven, convection microwave, residential refrigerator. Also, you can get an 18-cubic-foot RV refrigerator," Gill said.

"The seating area itself is the layout that most RVers really like," he added. "It features reclining theater seats facing the television, opposing hide-a-bed sofas on both sides, and there's plenty of room to entertain there and in the kitchen area. Then, of course, we have our luxury upper deck that includes a king bed, nice size closet, washer/dryer prep, 30-by-50 shower, and porcelain toilet."

## Regency RV Xalta



**Fort Worth, Texas** --[Regency RV](#), announced that it will be featuring its new Xalta Class B motorhome to dealers and consumers at the Houston RV Show February 7 to 11 in the Topper's Camping Center RV display. A Texas tradition since 1965, the Houston



RV Show is Texas' largest RV Expo with over 600 Recreational Vehicles - including motorhomes, travel trailers, tent campers, fifth wheels and van conversions along with recreational vehicle-

related vendors representing campgrounds, resorts, parks and RV supplies. The newest Regency RV motorhomes will be located with the Topper's Camping Center RV display. Regency RV is proud to manufacture the Xalta in Fort Worth, Texas.

"This is first time we exhibited our new Xalta series motorhomes to dealers and consumers in the state of Texas," said Regency RV National Sales Manager, Dymon Farrer.

Farrer reported that Regency is looking forward to showcasing the Xalta motorhome with its Texas dealer of record at the show, [Topper's Camping Center](#). "We are putting our best foot forward in our home state and hope to receive feedback on what we are doing well and how we may improve going forward," said Farrer.

General Manager of Topper's Camping Center,

Larry Troutt, commented on the market space he sees Regency occupying. "Partnering with Regency RV is another step in furthering the full Go RVing experience. Having a unit that holds up to the competition with a more reasonable MSRP and to know that ours looks way better, makes us confident we have a very good chance to do real well with Regency products. To be with a Texas manufacturer is a big deal to us and we think it will be a big deal for our customers."



Farrer explained that the Regency RV products are not built on a conventional assembly line but rather one at a time. Regency RV and Wayne Davis are a select group of highly skilled craftsmen who have a 50-year reputation restoring classic American muscle cars and exotic automobiles for the most discriminating buyers worldwide. The history of the company also includes building thousands of Regency custom conversion vans and trucks.

[Link to video about Regency RV](#)



## Motorhome Towing Guide: Flat Towing vs. Trailering Pros & Cons (Also, See Which Cars Can Be Towed With 4 Wheels Down)

By Lynnette

Motorhome towing tips -- so you can bring your own vehicle with you whenever you're RVing. See the pros & cons of flat towing four wheels down vs trailering with a tow dolly, a list of vehicles that can be flat towed, and how to flat tow cars.



<https://rv-roadtrips.thefuntimesguide.com/motorhome-towing/>



### MARCH TRIVIA

1872 - Congress made 1,221,773 acres of public land in the area of what were later the states of Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho as America's first national park - Yellowstone National Park. Yellowstone National Park spans an area of 3,468.4 square miles.



## RV Maintenance Items You Should Always Have On Hand

By [Crazy Family Adventure](#)

DoItYourself RV

*Having these maintenance and repair items will prepare you for common issues that come up on the road and help prevent further damage.*

Some of these items are used for preventive maintenance, but many are there to help in a pinch. Having them on hand will prevent further damage and many will help you avoid needing to take a detour and seek costly professional help.

[READ MORE](#)

## Products



### BAJA DESIGNS ANNOUNCES ANGLED FLUSH MOUNT LIGHTS

SAN MARCOS, Calif. - Baja Designs has released a new Angled Flush Mount Light available in two configurations: Sport and Pro. The "Scientists of Lighting" designed the Angled Flush Mount Lights to easily mount to any flat surface while producing exceptional lighting output of 2,260 lumens for the Sport and 4,900 lumens for the Pro lights.

Included in each package is a mockup template and hardware created to make installing the lights as easy as possible. Using the provided template, a 3/8-inch hole will be drilled into the top of the surface where the light will be mounted for the power cord while two 1/4-inch holes will be drilled at the bottom for the mounting screws. Once the holes have been drilled, simply deburr the edges and feed the power cord through the top hole and use the supplied con-

ductor to attach to the light. A standard feature included with the Sport and Pro Angled Flush Mounts is Baja Designs' Work/Scene 120-degree reflector which disperses a large round pattern in the near field. Close range work spaces benefit from the near field lighting.

"There are a lot of individuals and companies who need close range lights for their work, and we're proud to provide a high-quality solution to those individuals," said Chris Fortunato, Marketing Manager for Baja Designs. "Industrial, commercial and agricultural vehicles need near field lighting as the work often requires working into the night. Our Angled Flush Mount Lights are bright enough and long-lasting to help them get the work done."

Chase trucks, camper shells, tow vehicles, trailers and more can be fitted with the Angled Flush Mount Lights. Exterior and interior trailer walls, trailer gates and doors, truck bedsides and tailgates make ideal mounting surfaces as they are flat and allow the mounts to be securely fastened. A rubber O-ring gasket is provided in order to ensure that the seal between the light and the mounting surface stays tight and does not allow moisture to enter.

### About Baja Designs

For 25 years, Baja Designs has engineered revolutionary ways to stay at the forefront of motorcycle and automotive LED lighting. The company's first product was a Dual Sport kit that made a pure off-road motorcycle minimally street legal. That intimate knowledge of motorcycle electrical capabilities led to a natural evolution to engineer the first HID motorcycle race light. As a result, Baja Designs lights have won every professional and amateur motorcycle and ATV Baja 1000 class for over 15 years. Baja Designs is a portfolio company of Kinderhook Industries. For more information and dimensional drawings, contact Baja Designs at 760-560-2252 or visit [bajadesigns.com](http://bajadesigns.com). Follow Baja: [Facebook.com/BajaDesignsOfficial/](https://www.facebook.com/BajaDesignsOfficial/), Instagram: [@bajadesignsofficial](https://www.instagram.com/bajadesignsofficial) or Twitter: [@BajaDesigns](https://twitter.com/BajaDesigns)

## Carefree Retreat Tailgate Annex Adds Living Space

Courtesy of RV Business

Carefree of Colorado's new Carefree Retreat Tailgate Annex attaches to the back of a toy hauler trailer, fully enclosing the entire tailgate to give





RVers more usable living space without upsizing their RV or affecting their towing capacity.

Elden Wood, vice president of sales, service and marketing, stated in a press release, “What we aimed for with the Carefree Retreat

is the easiest set-up in the industry. Aside from the extra space, we wanted to offer a flexible design. The walls of the Retreat can be configured three different ways — as a heavy-duty mesh, a clear plastic layer or a canvas privacy screen.”

Starcraft RV is offering the Carefree Retreat on its new GPS toy hauler along with inclusion on the “extreme package” in the 210LD and 230MLD trailers.

Jeff Kloska, general manager for Starcraft, noted, “We listened to what customers wanted in their toy haulers and incorporated that into the GPS. They liked the increased storage and living space, and lighter towing.”

To learn more about the Carefree Retreat Tailgate Annex click here: [Carefree Retreat Video](#).

## Sandhills Publishing Debuts RVUniverse Website

Courtesy of RV Business

Sandhills Publishing announced the launch of [RVUniverse.com](#), an online marketplace connecting buyers and sellers of new and used recreational vehicles. According to a press release, RVUniverse is the latest addition to the company’s portfolio that includes Truck Paper,



Machinery Trader, CraneTrader, TractorHouse, Auction-

Time.com and FleetEvaluator.

Listings from sellers across the country are organized categorically and include specs, photos, videos, machine location, seller information and contact tools. In addition, Sandhills also offers a suite of web-based business apps through the Sandhills Cloud that organize and streamline customer and inventory management, sales and marketing processes associated with retail, wholesale, and auction. Sandhills also provides a number of hosted tech services, including hosted websites, email services, and mobile apps for both iOS and Android, all backed by in-house tech

support.

Buyers and sellers leveraging the platform benefit from a number of partnerships between Sandhills and third-party service providers that simplify everything from financing and escrow services to insurance and hauling logistics, the release stated.

“RVUniverse is a focused, user-friendly online marketplace that makes it easy for buyers to find exactly what they’re looking for, and for sellers to reach those specifically in the market for recreational vehicles,” noted Sandhills Director of New Products Evan Welch. “Sandhills’ cloud-hosted apps, buyer services, and hosted technologies take its value a step further—not only connecting RV buyers and sellers, but effectively streamlining these transactions.”

To access the site visit [www.RVUniverse.com](http://www.RVUniverse.com).

## STREAMLIGHT® INTRODUCES DUALIE WAYPOINT®

*High-Performance Area Light Offers Individual or Combined Spot and Flood Lighting*

EAGLEVILLE, PA,— Streamlight® Inc., a leading provider of high-performance lighting, introduced the Dualie Waypoint®, a high performance spot and area light that allows for individual or simultaneous use of a forward-facing spot beam for distance and a bottom-facing flood light.



The alkaline battery-powered light, which delivers up to 750 lumens, combines the best of two popular Streamlight products – the Dualie® dual-function LED flashlight and the Waypoint® pistol-grip searchlight.

First responders, industrial professionals, and outdoor enthusiasts alike will appreciate the Dualie Waypoint’s flexible options, whether using it for illuminating low-lit pathways or performing close-up tasks. And combining both the spot and flood beams can help users to see what is ahead and around them so they can avoid slips, trips and falls.

“The Dualie meets the Waypoint in this all-purpose tool that can be used for virtually every long-range and close-up lighting need,” said Streamlight Vice President, Sales and Marketing, Michael F. Dineen. “Users can choose between an ultra-bright spot light or a flood light with a soft, wide beam to meet their distance and area lighting needs, or combine them to optimize navigation



and eliminate blind spots. And the Dualie Waypoint provides them with hands-free options for any situation.”

Featuring an ergonomic handle, the Dualie Waypoint hooks over doors, pipes, bars, cables, or ladder rungs for hands-free operation and its innovative D ring and kickstand allow for every lighting need. Because the light is sealed and floats, it even can be used for wet applications.

Offering high, medium, and low intensity modes, the new light uses the latest in LED technology and 4 “C” alkaline batteries (not included) to deliver both extreme brightness and long run times. On high, the front light delivers 750 lumens, 72,000 candela, and a 535-meter beam distance; the bottom-facing light offers 450 lumens, 240 candela, and 31 meters of beam distance. With the front and bottom lights combined, the Dualie Waypoint provides 750 lumens.

Run times for the light range from 3-55 hours when the two beams are combined to 3.5- 125 and 5.75-170 hours for the front and bottom lights, respectively.

The Dualie Waypoint features a push-button switch with momentary and click-on operation. The rotary switch behind the button selects the main (front) beam, bottom (area) light, or both for a combination of distance and pathway lighting in one setting.

The new light features a high-impact polycarbonate casing, an unbreakable polycarbonate lens, a rubberized lens cover, and is O-ring sealed. The light measures 6.75 inches long and 6.5 inches high; it weighs 2.06 pounds with batteries.

The Dualie Waypoint is IPX7-rated, and is impact-resistant tested to 2 meters.

The Dualie Waypoint has an MSRP of \$95.00 and a yellow and black design. The light comes with Streamlight’s Limited Lifetime Warranty.

ple Corp Chapter. Fran was a member of the Guardian of Our Lady Parish and the Clinton Senior Center.

She is survived by her husband of 56 years and their children, Phillip (Debbie), Emily Gadwah, wife of the late Glen Turcotte, and Adrienne Turcotte, Mark (Lisa), daughter-in-law, Kelly Turcotte and 12 grandchildren. She was preceded on death by her son, Kevin Turcotte who died August 17, 2017.

Barb Turner said, “I remember Fran as a duo with Phil as members of the Executive Board as well as participating in Campventions and Retiree Rallies. They attended some of the Mid-Florida Snowbird gatherings as well as being long time members of YARS.”

Marianne Riley said, “Fran and I were like sisters. I will always cherish our family and camping memories.”

Her longtime friend, Eleanor Duggan said, “Fran was always there when I needed help and always willing to take a job at campouts or rallies. We shared long talks and long walks and she was a special friend.”

Condolences may be sent to Phil Turcotte, 98 Woodruff Rd., Clinton, MA 01510 or [pfturc@comcast.net](mailto:pfturc@comcast.net).

**Joel Mohon**, 2-13-17, Hahnville, Louisiana, helped with LA Retiree Rallies.

**Doris Westover**, 76, 2-21-18, Plymouth Twp. Ohio. Anchona Chapter. Lifetime Member, worked on '91 Ohio Campvention.



## Farewells

### FRANCES TURCOTTE, MA STATE DIRECTOR



Frances M. ‘Fran’ Turcotte of Clinton, Massachusetts, 78 passed away February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018. Fran and Phil Turcotte are the current State Directors for MA, having served since 1995. They are members of the Nashoba Ap-

### Correction

In the February issue, DASAT Director gave advice on winter driving. The article gave the impression that snow tires are no longer used. Ralph MacDonald of Northern Canada let me know that snow tires are still available and widely used in his area and snow country everywhere. Living in W. PA, I know how useful now tires are.

DeWayne Johnston, Editor



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## MARCH

### **March 26 - ??, 2018 - Full Timers Post Retiree Rally Campout**

City Campground & Resort, N. U.S. Hwy 41, Lake City, Florida

Join us after the retiree rally from March 26 - ?, Contact Dick Buresh ([dickkathy@wwdb.rg](mailto:dickkathy@wwdb.rg))

### **March 26 – 30, 2018 – YARS Campout**

Sugarmill RV Park, 4857 McMillan Rd., Ochlocknee, Georgia. (50 mi. from Tallahassee) Make your own reservation at 229-2277-1451

## APRIL

### **April 24-29, 2018 - NCFCRV Spring Statewide Campout**

Raleigh Oaks RV Resort, Four Oaks, NC. Traveling Tarheels Retirees – April 24-27, 2018

All members – April 27-29, 2018

## MAY

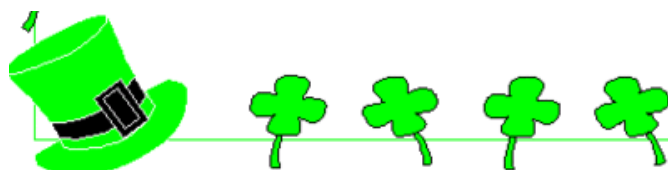
### **MAY 18-21, 2018 - OPA Spring Campout**

Hard Oil Days - Black Gold Rush, Brigden Fairgrounds, 2435 Courtright Lane, Brigden, Ontario 0N NON 1B0. Come with full water tank and empty holding tank, water available on grounds, gates open 9 a.m. Thursday. Roast Beef Dinner Saturday - Children free, 6-10 \$8, all others \$20 (separate ) pre-register by MAY 1, campout registration \$20, activity fee \$80, early bird Thur. 425 CDN, Send check payable to Spring OPA 218 to: Don & Bonita Willock, 1048 Fairlane Ave., Sarnia, ONT N7S 3JB 519-542-2244 [donbon-wil@sympatico.ca](mailto:donbon-wil@sympatico.ca)). include # of adults, teens, children, grandchildren. Hosts Sarnia 4T's. See application on FCRV website.

## AUGUST

### **AUGUST 1-5, 2018 GREAT LAKES REGIONAL**

Brown County Fairgrounds, Depere, Wisconsin, games, self guided tours, Saturday evening meal. Pre-registration \$15, by July 20, Activity fee at gate \$20, Camping \$25 per night, water & electric, payable on arrival. Send check payable to Wisconsin Field Directors Fund to: Kip & Jan Cushing, 21028 88th St., Kenosha, WI 53145. Info - [kcushing@wi.rr.com](mailto:kcushing@wi.rr.com), 262-914-5950, 262-914 5951. Registration form on FCRV website.







**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 21, 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 \_\_\_ ARE YOU A VETERAN? 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 HOBO 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 DOMIMION 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: \_\_\_\_\_

# **FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers NATIONAL CAMPVENTION Doswell, VA 2018**

## **APPLICATION: GOLF CART RENTAL**

(Print) FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST/PROV \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Golf cart costs including sales tax, \$250.00 for 2 passenger & \$300.00 for 4 passenger. They are rented from 7/09/18 -7/13/18. You must provide flashlight and reflectors. You must be 21 or older to rent the Golf Carts. Golf carts **MUST** be ordered **and paid for** in advance. **There will be no additional carts available at Campvention.**

NUMBER OF CARTS, 2 passenger \_\_\_\_\_, 4 passenger \_\_\_\_\_.

TOTAL AMOUNT PAID IN FULL \$ \_\_\_\_\_ US CURRENCY ONLY  
(checks or money orders, no cash please.)

**Make checks payable to: FCRV Campvention 2018**

**Mail check and application to: Dwight S. Bonifield, 5570 N Strawberry Ln. Castle Rock,  
CO 80108**

**NO APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER JUNE 15, 2018**

### **PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

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

**YOU WILL NOT HOLD FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers, VIRGINIA GOLF  
CARS INC., OR ANYONE CONNECTED WITH THEM RESPONSIBLE OR  
LIABLE IN ANY WAY.**

Please sign \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NO APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER JUNE 15, 2018**