

CAMPING TODAY®



March 2021



Bowler Debuts Tech-Laden Terra Firma Limited Edition.... Page 19

Election Information.....Page 4





From the President - Gerry Pfirsch



Well, everyone it is hard to believe but here we are in March! All of us are turning our thoughts to the new camping season with hope of putting the pandemic behind us in hopes of a better year. I believe that if each of us help and do our part we can have a better year. I feel that we have a

light at the end of the tunnel with vaccines becoming available and the supply getting better. I know I am looking to when it becomes available to me so that I can get together with you my camping family as well as when I can see the grandkids again. It will be nice to be able to go camping with friends and not be camping alone as my camping was last year. On the bright side I was able to camp but it was not as much fun as camping with the FCRV Family. Not being able to get together I know has taken its toll on us, but we still need to stay in touch with our Chapter members as they are our family. I ask each of you to reach out to your Chapter members and just say hi. Find out if they are doing ok and if they need anything. Sometimes it is just the fact that you reached out and said hi, that will make their day.

I know I always enjoy talking with the other Trustees when we meet by ZOOM each month. I know that we probably do not need to meet each month but by doing so we have that contact that I feel is needed to keep the organization moving ahead. You will be hearing from each of the Trustees here in Camping Today as a way of each of us sharing with you so that you can get to know us a little better. It also helps if we hear from you the members. We do our best to keep FCRV moving ahead and we are looking at many ways to improve FCRC. We also know that change is sometimes extremely hard to accept and to understand. I ask that if we as your Trustees propose a change it has been talked through and we bring it to you after incredibly careful and in-depth consideration and feel that it is for the overall good of FCRV. I hope that you know your Trustees do and will always have what is best for FCRV at heart in every decision that they make. With this when we ask and

when you have given us your prospective it will be considered, discussed, and reviewed.

It is disappointing that we cancelled the Retiree Rally, but your Retiree committee saw that it was in the best interest of you the members to do so. This was a hard call for them, and I applaud them for doing what is felt to be Best for FCRV. They are leaders that are charged with looking out for the best interest of FCRV and more so what is in the best interest of you the member. I know there are some that are upset that the Rally was canceled but it was done so for the greater good of you and FCRV. I honestly believe that we must be diligent, get out vaccines striving to keep the numbers down of spreading this virus and plan on Campvention. I honestly believe that we have a particularly good chance of Campvention being able to hold and it being a success. However, for this to happen it will take all of us to do everything we can to help stop the spread of this devastating thing we call COVID-19. Let us do everything that we can to help keep ourselves, our families, and our communities safe by helping to slow the spread of this devastating disease.

COVID-19 has given FCRV many challenges to overcome. I am sure it will give us many more before we beat this devastating pandemic. One of the challenges set in our path is the holding of Campvention as it is our main income as an organization and the financial shortfall that not having a function causes. This creates challenges for the Trustees and as you know has hurt our members and their finances as well. Your trustees know this and believe me it is on their mind and in their decision making as we govern this wonderful organization. Having said this, we depend on each of our members remaining members and bringing in new members. Membership is up to you and up to me as well. FCRV must continue to talk to new people and bring in new people to stay viable in this day and age. You may ask how we do that well there is only one way I can see and that is to continue to bring in members. We must be open to the needs and desires of the younger camping families. We need to find ways that will make them feel a part of the Chapter and have a desire to continue to

camp with us. We must find ways to open up and give them a vested interest in the chapter. Make them feel as being a part of the decision process and have a voice in what the Chapter is doing. A part of that is training the next generation and preparing them to take the reins and lead into tomorrow. There are times that we must open up to camping in a new place, consider finding out the places or the type of camping that that new member likes and have an outing at their favorite place. I think we need to allow them to host a weekend in a place that they like and just maybe your Chapter will have a new favorite place. I say give them a chance you might be surprised.

Well, that is all for now. Stay safe and plan to see you camping! Sometime this week tell someone you know about FCRV and ask them on one of your camping trips this summer.

Till we see you at the next campfire!

Gerry Pfirsch



ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The three positions up for election for the 2021-2023 term are Vice President of Operations, Vice President of Planning & Development, and Comptroller. The Vice President of Operations is elected by the Executive Board, and ballots will be emailed to them in mid-March. Since the candidates for the other two positions are running unopposed, our bylaws state that we do not need to hold an election (Article IX, Section 5, of the Field Manual). President Pfirsch will ask the Recording/Corresponding Officer to cast a single vote at the annual meeting in July. Please review the biographies, platforms, and photos of the candidates.

Vice President of Operations

Jeff Kendle - Biography



Jeff has been a member of NCHA/FCRV for 15 years. Two of his adult children are also members, one is the Sound/Lights Director, and his, 20-year-old granddaughter is the Youth Director.

Jeff is an Ohio native. He joined the US Army in 1963 and retired in 1986 and is a Vietnam veteran. His last assignment was First Sergeant of a Dental Activity. He spent 20 years as a DoD employee and held various administrative, supervisory, personnel, management, and budgetary positions.

FCRV Involvement

Served as President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Field Director for three chapters.

Served as Membership Director, Assistant State Director for one-year, three-years as Acting State Director, and four-years as Region 1 Director.

Set-up/participated in RV shows, Get Acquainted Meetings, and Chapter Night.

Assisted in forming three new chapters.

Held General Membership, Planning, and Field Staff Meetings to provide training to the Field Staff and Chapter Officers and plan state functions.

Assisted Chapters with issues or questions regarding FCRV.

Presented information regarding FCRV policies, National and State Rallies and available benefits.

Set up four Colorado Spring and Fall State campouts

Registration Chair for the 2015 Campvention and am the 2022 Campvention Chair.

Attended Campventions, state, and chapter campouts.

Platform

As an Acting State Director for 3 years and Regional Director for 4 years I have been involved in many duties that are required by this position.

My experience with the military, federal civil service, Acting State Director and Regional Director qualifies me to fill this position.

My objective is to get to know and work closely with the State and Regional Directors. I would look to them for their input, opinions and suggestions pertaining to functions of their regions and states, how they operate and how I can represent them at the national level. I would also look to them for ideas on how to make FCRV grow.

At the present time we need to focus on the decline of our membership. Emphasis needs to be placed on bringing in younger families/adults and retaining current members we have.

I would like to see the Regional and State Directors become more involved with each other. They may have ideas/suggestions to make things better for all of FCRV.

One thing is inevitable, FCRV must undergo changes or it will keep diminishing. We should not be afraid to recommend changes. They should be looked at, discussed, and carefully considered for implementation.

Vice President of Operations

Ivalee Vanderhoff - Biography



Earl and I joined NCHA in 1989 and during the years of membership in NCHA/FCRV, we have made friends all over the US and Canada. We wouldn't trade those friendships for anything. Earl retired in 2000 from Cessna and I followed with an early retirement from teaching middle school exploratory classes but did substitute teaching for the next 10 years.

- Some of the FCRV jobs I have done:
 - Assistant State Directors 2004 – 2007 and State Directors 2007 – now.
 - Chaired Regional Campouts.
 - Co-Chairman of Security Retirees Rallies.
 - Co-Chairman of Security National Campvention.
 - Team Leader Campventions.
 - Co-Chairman Campvention.

Platform

The job of VP of Operations is primarily to represent to the trustees the needs and questions from the Regional and State Directors. I would also plan to help the State and Regional Directors and all of the Field Staff of our chapters in any way needed. We may be struggling for membership, but we are not ready to give up on the group. It is too good of a group for folks to do that. As VP of Operations, I would expect to be the sounding board, coach, and coordinator for helping the Field Staff. That would also be true for the State and Regional Directors. Yes, there are changes happening in the organization, and we have to be open to change in order to grow. We can't stay the same, we have to change as appro-

priate to stay alive and well. Let's grow our membership and visibility together.

See you Camping down the road.

Comptroller

Debbie Swanson - Biography



My husband Dave and I have been married for 28 years. We have camped for all our years together and each of us separately since we were kids. We have been FCRV members since 2004 and have served in every position in the Fiddlers Green Chapter and have held offices on the state level. We also served on the committee for the campvention held in Vermont in 2014. When I retired in January 2015, we traveled the whole perimeter of the United States and attended the campvention in Gillette WY. While in college I was required to take two semesters of accounting while working on my concentration in Paralegal Studies. At the time I was more interested in the law instead of numbers. However, those two semesters of accounting allowed me to get my job with the Village of Springville, New York and retired after 27 years. While there, I was the Clerk-Treasurer for 4 years and retired as senior accountant.

Platform:

I hope to continue to advance the policies of my esteemed predecessor and to use sound financial principles to hold on to the funds we have and find ways of earning income without having to take additional monies from our current members. Also, I will continue my work to find new members for our chapter and the organization.

Vice President of Planning and Development

Matt Mantia - Biography

Professional/Personal Information.



Matt is active members in his local church. He is currently a Hospitality Minister, Eucharistic Minister and was past instructor of the Protecting God's Children Program at St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church.

He is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Member of the Iroquois County Law Enforcement Association.

Matt worked as Logistics chair for the Relay for Life for 1 year, and 3 years for the Ride for Life Cancer Ride in his local community.

He is retired from the Chicago Transit Authority where he was Superintendent.

He also was Safety Manager at First Transit. He handled Safety, Training and Human Relations.

He is a Veteran of the US ARMY.

FCRV Involvement

2008 Joined Family Campers & Rvers, became members of Kankakee Valley Wanderers.

2010 Elected President of the Kankakee Valley Wanderers

2012 Became President of the Illinois State Retirees. Appointed Field Director for two chapters.

2014-2016 Elected Illinois State Vice President. Worked on membership building at Commercial RV Shows and RV Dealers open houses. Also developed membership building meetings held at local campgrounds along with numerous get-acquainted meetings.

2019 – Present National Vice President of Planning and Development

Also worked to obtain commercial members of FCRV, obtain discounts to be available to FCRV members with various RV Dealers, Illinois Campgrounds, Restaurants and other businesses.

Attended numerous FCRV, International Campventions, Retiree Rallies, Regional, State and Local campouts in various states.

Volunteered in the various positions:

2016 Campvention worked as a tram driver

2017 Retiree Rally worked with the Security Team

2017 Chaired First-Timers Program at Campvention

2018 Co-Chair First -Timers Program and worked on Security Team for the Retiree Rally.

2018 Assumed responsibilities as Chairman of Transportation Services as well as coordinating with the Security Team.

Member of specialized Chapters such as Illinois State Retirees, YARS, and the Winter Texans

Platform:

Goals and Objectives for FCRV

My main goals and objectives for FCRV are to increase membership, commercial and marketing. You ask, How am I going to do this? Good question!

MEMBERSHIP:

I hope to recruit enough volunteers in each region, state & province that have the same vision we all have for the growth of our organization. They would work with the Director of Membership, after being recruited and trained. The training would consist of current and new ideas from the new recruits representing each and every region, state & province. The more we can get involved in each region, state & province the higher we can increase our membership.

COMMERCIAL:

My main goal is to develop a team in each region, state & province that can speak with their local RV dealers, Campgrounds and Camping / Outdoor stores to promote Family Campers and RVers.

MARKETING:

If my goals are successful in developing a good team for Membership and Commercial, some of our marketing issues will be resolved. There is always work to be done in these areas for the continuous growth of Family Campers and RVers.

Remember, we have to do this TOGETHER. One person cannot do it by themselves.





50TH ANNIVERSARY

FCRV INTERNATIONAL RETIREE RALLY 2022
MINEOLA CIVIC CENTER
1150 NORTH NEWSOM STREET
MINEOLA, TEXAS 75773

“Fishin for Fifty” FCRV International Retiree Rally 2021 Postponed till 2022 Mineola, Texas - March 29–April 4, 2022 Early days will start on March 25.

To Retirees:

After careful consideration about the 2021 International Retiree Rally, we have made a decision to postpone the Retiree Rally until 2022.

Even though many of us have gotten vaccine shots, we feel it might still be too early to be safe. Mineola Civic Center is a more compact facility than we are used to, so we don't feel we can social distance in the building, even though we would be wearing masks. We just want everyone to feel safe about coming, and we want everyone to stay healthy.

Also, our numbers are not up to where they need to be to make this rally feasible.

For those who have made their reservations and have paid their money, you will be reimbursed a full refund of the amount that you paid.

On March 23, 2021, we would like to host a Zoom meeting for anyone who would like to attend an Ice Cream Social. It will be BYOIC (bring your own ice cream). So get a cone, bowl, or glass; fill it with ice cream and come join us. For those who don't know much about getting on a Zoom meeting, it is easy. You can call in with your phone, or you can go on the internet on your computer, type in join a zoom meeting, and put in the ID number and then password, and you are there. If you don't have a computer, ask your family for help.

Along about March 15 we will send out letters from National with your ID number and password.

If you do not get this letter by the time of the ice cream social, then contact me, Reba Ray, and I will give you the information. You can contact me at reba256@yahoo.com or 706-302-6735.

We hope everyone will join us for this Ice Cream Social. The Ice Cream Social will last about an hour,

If you have never attended a Retiree Rally or not retired as of yet and would like to join, then please do so. We want as many people to attend as possible, so everyone is welcomed. This is our way of staying in touch with everyone and seeing everyone we haven't seen in a couple of years.

If you are new to the retiree rally and would like to ask questions, after the Ice Cream Social please stay on the Zoom meeting, and we can take questions. If we don't know the answer, we will find someone who does.

We have rescheduled the Retiree Rally for 2022 at Mineola, Texas. The dates for this rally will be March 29 – April 4, 2022. Early days will start on March 25. “Fishin for Fifty “

Let’s hope these vaccines will help and we can get back to our normal routines. We miss seeing everyone and all the hugs we get along the way.

Stay Safe and Keep Healthy

Ronald & Reba Ray

FCRV National Retiree Directors



61st INTERNATIONAL CAMPVENTION

FAMILY CAMPERS & Rver's

“WANDER WISCONSIN”

Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St.

Elkhorn, WI 53121

Campvention Days: July 11-16, 2021 fees cover
(6 nights)



CAMPVENTION 2021 PARKING INFO

The 2021 FCRV Campvention plans are under way. The campvention is being held in Elkhorn, Wisconsin. Watch for your registration in Camping Today. **This year’s parking for the campvention will be hobo-by-state. If you would like to camp with your state/province, your registration must be post marked no later than June 1st. Canadian registration must be postmarked by May 15, 2021.** Hope to see everyone in July.

GOLF CARTS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please Read!



Change in policy:

In the past the Campvention Team has sub-rented golf carts for use during Campvention. Starting with the 2021 Campvention, FCRV will no longer be the middle person for golf cart rentals. Members wishing to rent a golf cart may contact the company and make their own arrangements. FCRV will identify the company along with contact information.

The information is:

Brown’s Service Wisconsin Golf, Inc.

459 Madison Street

Walworth, WI 53184

Phone 262-394-5505

brownswisgolf@gmail.com

If you wish, you may have your golf cart delivered to the grounds the same time the carts that FCRV requests are to be delivered. Any issues you have with the cart, YOU will deal with the golf cart rental company yourself.



VOLUNTEER REQUEST

by Pat Wittmeyer, Campvention 2021 Registration Chair

As we move forward to Campvention 2021 the Teams are all assembling personnel to assist with various jobs in Wisconsin. Registration is no exception. Several people will be needed to assist campers at the gate with getting their site information, confirming personal information, and processing our attendees in a prompt and friendly fashion. Would you like to help? If so, please contact the National office (yours truly is overseeing registration for 2021!) by email at FCRVNAT@VERIZON.NET and let me know. Thanks so much!

CAMPVENTION 2021 PROGRAM BOOK INFO



Here's another article as we prepare to put on the 2021 Campvention at Elkhorn, WI. Sue Carlsen and Beth Standiford are putting together the Program Book and are looking for your input.

Is there someone in the organization for whom you'd like to show support? Your favorite Teen King or Teen Queen candidate? Is there someone you'd like to thank for a job well done? Perhaps someone is having a major milestone event in their lives and you'd like it to receive some special recognition (birthday, anniversaries, etc.) Or perhaps you'd like to remember one of our own who has passed and is missed so very much at campvention. Well you can do any or all of these things in the Program Book! Here's an example of what's possible:

Best wishes to our Teen Representative (THEIR NAME HERE).

You make our state proud!

Thank you, (person/group) for all the hard work you have done to put on such a great event.

John Doe – 1953-2019 – Campvention isn't the same without you

\$2.50 gets you two lines of print or \$5.00 gets you a business card sized box with your sentiment.

Send your check, payable to NCHA and send the wording you want on a separate piece of paper to

Beth Standiford, Recording Secretary
7 Oakrail Drive
St. Peters, MO 63376





CAMPVENTION TEEN ROYALTY INFO

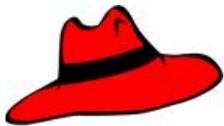


Hello!

As Campvention planning is fully in swing, I wanted to let you all know of the amazing things that are being planned for teens at nationals this year thanks to our wonderful chairman and co-chairman. I have also included the International Teen Royalty Registration form. I encourage all State Directors and Teen Directors to reach out to the teens in your state/province and encourage them to run in this pageant and participate in teen activities at Campvention. As a reminder, we are extending the age limit for ALL teen activities this year due to not having Campvention in 2020! I know from my experience as a teen, the friendships and memories you create will last a lifetime. We hope to see many of our teens join us this year at nationals and bring a friend along to experience all the fun that is planned! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out by phone or email!

Thanks,

Emily and Anne Kurburski, National Teen Directors, emilykurburski@gmail.com, (231) 526-7102



RED HAT - HARD HAT - NO HAT BRUNCH



by Ivalee and Earl Vanderhoff

Still waiting and praying that we can gather this summer. We were asked to make the Red Hat and Hard Hat different this year - so - it will be Red Hat, Hard Hat, No Hat Brunch. Let's have some fun. It will be outdoors at a pavilion so we can have lots of the fresh Wisconsin air around us to help with safety. Make your plans to join us.

CAMPVENTION 2021 SEMINARS



by Ray Suennen, Seminars Chair

If you or you know of someone who would like to be a seminar presenter during the 2021 FCRV Campvention in Elkhorn, Wisconsin from July 12 – 16, 2021, please contact Ray Suennen at raysuennen@yahoo.com or mobile phone 920-606-0289.

Ray will be presenting one seminar on cast iron cooking and another on seasoning and salvaging cast iron cookware, and discussing vintage cast iron cookware. Bring your cast iron pans for cleaning ideas and for show and tell.



FIRST-TIMERS INFO

by Donna and Delbert Powell, Matt and Marla Mantia

Hello from the First-Timer Chairpersons: Delbert and I, along with co-chairs, Matt and Marla Mantia, are planning to welcome you to the Wander Wisconsin Campvention in July

11-16, 2020. There will be a sign-in booth at registration; please stop by. We are busy putting together a welcoming/get-acquainted meeting for all to meet us, some of our National Officers, maybe even some of our Trustees. We welcome you to this year's Campvention in Elkhorn, Wisconsin.



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Youth Chairman, Judy Elenburg

My Co-Chairman, Betty Smith, and I have several activities planned for the youth this summer in Elkhorn, Wisconsin. These activities include some crafts and games. We will make different styles of paper airplanes to race and find out which flies better. Please bring a recent picture of your child. I hope to see you at the Youth Center each day.

Registration form at end of magazine.

VISIT JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN

by Barb Turner, Publicity Chair

As I am researching and writing this article about Janesville, about 30 miles east of the Campvention site in Elkhorn, the weather in so much of the country is a nightmare. But, in less than a month, spring will be here, by date but not necessarily in actuality. With the coming of spring, summer and Campvention 2021 will follow. With that in mind, let's explore another area which might be of interest to those who are planning on Elkhorn in July for our FCRV gathering.

Janesville, like much of Wisconsin, was inhabited by Native Americans when settlers from the East began to arrive. With their arrival, as in other areas of our country and part of our sad history, the Native Americans were removed, using the Indian Removal Act of 1830.

“American settlers John Inman, George Follmer, Joshua Holmes, and William Holmes, Jr. built a crude log cabin in the region in 1835. Later that year, one key settler named Henry F. Janes, a native of Virginia who was a self-proclaimed woodsman and early city planner, arrived in what is now Rock County. Janes came to the area in the early 1830s, and initially wanted to name the budding village ‘Blackhawk’ after the famous Sauk leader Chief Black Hawk, but was turned down by Post Office officials. After some discussion, it was settled that the town would be named after Janes himself. Thus, in 1835, Janesville was founded.”

Interestingly, though the town was named after a Virginian, Janesville was founded by New Englanders, ‘old-stock Yankees’ descended from English Puritans. The completion of the Erie Canal in the east made travel west easier for New Englanders wanting to settle in the Northwest Territory, which included Wisconsin. With settlement, trades and farming turned into industry in Janesville. Flour and lumber mills were built along the Rock River which provided power for these fledgling industries. Foundries and farm machinery manufacturing resulted from the surge of agriculture. “After decades of rigorous grain farming, the soil quality around Janesville began to degrade. Farmers responded to this by planting tobacco,” which became one of the most profitable and prolific crops grown in Wisconsin during the late 19th century.

In the late 1880s, a new wave of immigrants began to arrive; Germans arrived, seeking freedoms that were lacking in the Otto von Bismarck's German Empire. (“The 1880s witnessed massive immigration to the United States from all parts of Europe with over five million coming to America in that ten-year period.”) In contrast to the hostility to the newly-arriving Germans in many other areas, the Janesville residents welcomed the immigrants.

“One of the key developments in Janesville's history was the establishment of a [General Motors](#) plant in 1919. The plant was initially established to produce Samson tractors, a company acquired by GM co-founder [William C. Durant](#). Durant was encouraged by Joseph Craig, the president of Janesville Machine, to build a plant to produce the Samson tractors in Janesville, to which Durant agreed. In the years following World War I, the demand for tractors plummeted and the plant shifted its focus to the production of automobiles.”



“One of the most prominent turns of the century figures in Janesville was George Parker, who developed new pen technologies and styles and eventually established the Parker Pen Company. His developments included the ‘lucky curve’ ink feed system and the ‘trench pen’—a pen commissioned by the U.S. Army for use in World War I. Parker designed and established a headquarters and factory in downtown Janesville. The Parker Pen Company was handed down to George's son, Ken, who developed the revolutionary ‘Parker 51’ in the 1940s. A Parker pen was used by Dwight D. Eisenhower to sign Germany's Armistice agreement to end World War II in Europe, and subsequently General Douglas MacArthur used his 20-year-old Parker Duofold in the signing of Japan's surrender at the end of the War in the Pacific. The Parker Pen Company was one of the top employers in the area for over 70 years. The company was eventually sold off in a leveraged buyout in the 1980s.”

With such a rich history, Janesville offers a glimpse back into that history at the Tallman House (440 N. Jackson St.) which was built by William Tallman with work starting in 1855. “It contained many modern conveniences of the time, such as central heating, gas piping installed for lights, running water, walk-in closets with built-in storage drawers and an indoor privy. The original cost was \$33,000. Additional work finished in 1870 brought the total to \$42,000. The 60 feet house has six floors and 20 rooms.”



The residence was outstanding for the period, but there’s another story. The Tallman House once hosted Abraham Lincoln! “Lincoln visited Janesville October 1–3, 1859, a year before he was elected president. He had come to [Rock County](#) from [Milwaukee](#), where he had spoken at the [Wisconsin State Fair](#). William Tallman drove to Beloit to convince Lincoln to visit Janesville and stay at the Tallman house for the evening after a speech in Beloit. Lincoln then gave a speech in Janesville on Saturday, October 1, 1859. He left his boots outside his room at William Tallman's house at night, as was the custom, and didn't find them there in the morning. Because he was embarrassed to leave his room in stocking feet, he missed his train, so Tallman invited him to attend services at First Congregational Church with the family. Lincoln then stayed overnight and caught a train to [Chicago](#) on Monday, October 3, 1859. Lincoln's stay at the Tallman house is the only recorded time he stayed in a Wisconsin home.” Today, the Tallman House is Lincoln-Tallman House Museum; when in Janesville, consider taking the tour. (<https://rchs.us/event/traditional-tour/>)



The Wisconsin Wagon Company (300 N River St.) is another stop when visiting Janesville. The company built quality wagons, but with the popularity of that ‘new contraption’ the automobile which was affecting their sales, in 1915 it was decided to design and manufacture coaster wagons, ‘skudder’ cars, and other sidewalk toys. The Janesville Products Company became a ‘spinoff’ of the wagon company. Remember the ‘Saturday Evening Post’. The toys were advertised in the magazine, gaining a national reputation. “The Janesville Coaster was advertised as the wagon that ‘has more speed, gives the boys more fun. Keeps them out in the open, builds strong, nimble bodies and quick-acting minds. Runs so easily it makes play of hauling heavy loads of groceries, coal wood, ice, milk cans, etc.’ But the depression hit and although ‘Janesville Products’ attempted to build a less expensive wagon, and even



produced a prototype of a pinball machine, the factory closed in 1940.” In 1978, the wagons were ‘resurrected’ thanks to retired businessman seeking a special wagon for his first grandson. “Armed with a sketchpad he went to the community Historical Society and sketched an authentic Janesville wagon that was on display. He then dissected the remains of an original wagon discovered in a friend's garage and from those remains and sketches, built what was to become the first ‘Wisconsin Wagon Company’s’ Janesville Coaster Wagon. The Series II is a detailed replica in design and construction, and incorporates all of the features that made the original so popular. Material changes with the current wagons consist of using solid red oak and stainless steel hardware. But ball-bearing wheels, our trademark, has been continued to enable our wagon to roll smoothly through the years. Each is registered and has a numbered nameplate under the dashboard so future generations can determine the age of their heirloom.” Call at 608-754-0026 to schedule a tour.



As the temps improve and the snow melts, plan to attend Campvention 2021 in Elkhorn, Wisconsin and take a side trip to Janesville. Do your research. More ‘things to do’ and ‘sites to see’ will be added to your ‘must-do list’.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Janesville,_Wisconsin

<https://theawesomenetwork.com/bobby-griffith-rjmqka/why-did-german-immigrants-come-to-america-in-the-1880s-5f66be>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lincoln%E2%80%93Tallman_House

<http://www.wisconsinwagon.com/EpiphanyWeb/flexpage.aspx?ID=9>

Photos -

Tallman House pic - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lincoln%E2%80%93Tallman_House#/media/File:Tallman_House_3.JPG

Coaster wagon, Janesville wagon pic - <http://www.wisconsinwagon.com/EpiphanyWeb/flexpage.aspx?ID=9>

Wisconsin Wagon Company - https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g59989-d6940121-Reviews-Wisconsin_Wagon_Company-Janesville_Wisconsin.html

Skudder car - https://images.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?p=skudder%22+cars&fr=yhs-iba-3&type=gyff_9002_FFW_US&hspart=iba&hsimp=yhs-3&imgurl=http%3A%2F%2Foldbike.eu%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2019%2F05%2F1920s-Janesville-Skudder-Ball-Bearing-Car-70.jpg#id=0&iurl=http%3A%2F%2Foldbike.eu%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2019%2F05%2F1920s-Janesville-Skudder-Ball-Bearing-Car-70.jpg&action=click

WANDER WISCONSIN

By, Shari Weber, Wander Wisconsin Chairperson

The Wander Wisconsin Crew is hard at work preparing a fun week for you in Elkhorn Wisconsin. Please be sure to look at the articles describing those activities throughout this issue of “Camping Today”. If you have not registered, there is still plenty of time. All who register before June 1st (May 15th for Canada) will be parked hobo by state/province. You will find new things planned, and some things being planned a little differently. It is looking promising that we should be able to hold campvention. We just need to hope for the opening of the Canadian/US boarder for non-essential travel (although I think coming to campvention is essential!) We continue to watch the virus and CDC guidelines in both countries.

The team is working to assure our enjoyment and safety while at campvention. For the first time we are trying something new. Our event is scheduled along with an annual event held at the fairgrounds. It is the Elkhorn Ribfest 2021. It starts on Thursday of our campvention and continues through Sunday. Lots of music and many ribbers cooking ribs will be available to enjoy. This is an opportunity for us, but it is separate from our

campvention. The sounds and smells of ribfest may make it to our campground, but ribfest attendees will not enter our area. Larry Gaffey, Manager of the Fairgrounds is giving us a private tent to use while attending the fest. We do have to bring our own chairs, but the tent will provide us shade. Your campvention fee covers Thursday and Friday for ribfest. If you wish to stay Saturday and Sunday to enjoy more ribfest, you will need to contact the grounds (262) 581-1351 to indicate you plan to stay. The camping fee is \$70 for Saturday and Sunday.

One of the new things for campvention this year is a Mystery Play featuring FCRV members. This will be Thursday afternoon and will include an ice cream treat. This is for everyone at campvention and is being planned as a different time and way to enjoy entertainment. The Great Lakes Region is taking the lead on this. If you have an interest in performing in the play, please contact Connie Black 217.885.1347 or Linda English 248.797.5030.

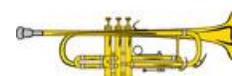
One of the things we do at campvention is give back to the community we are in by donating to the community food pantry. I am still looking for someone to head up this effort in Elkhorn. The communities are always very appreciative of our efforts.

I am pleased to tell you that we will have recycle receptacles at campvention. We need to make sure we only put the materials listed for recycling on the container. It only takes one small piece of trash to force the whole load to go to land fill rather than be recycled.

See you in Elkhorn Wisconsin in July!



MUSICAL FCRV FRIENDS



Greetings to all my musical FCRV friends. It is time to start thinking about the FCRV International Band concert for Campvention 2021, July 12 -16 in Elkhorn, WI. After a very successful program on line last year we are looking forward to having an great in person concert at Campvention. WE NEED YOU! Our core band of six people has always worked very hard every year to entertain the attendees at Campvention. We will continue to work to provide the best program that we can. WE NEED YOU!! It would be a great boost to the FCRV International Band if any one who plays an instrument would join us in fun and fellowship. The music we play is fairly simple and we spread out our practices to allow those who have not played in a while to be comfortable and get in shape. WE NEED YOU!!! This years program will include several pieces that we will play together and several options for solos or duets or trios or whatever. If you do not want to play with the FCRV International Band but have a solo or talent you would like to share you can be part of the show. WE NEED YOU!!!! Music the band will attempt to play will be available after May 1st. If you wish to join us copies of the music can be sent to you so that you can practice ahead of time.. Simply e-mail Craig Weber at cdweber50@yahoo.com with your request for copies. I found last year that it worked fairly well for me to take a picture of the music and email it to you upon your request, just let me know what instrument you play in your request. WE NEED YOU!!!!!! As usual, all band members receive an official FCRV International Band tuxedo t-shirt, FCRV Band Member pin, year tab and pre-concert pizza party. Come join the fun. WE NEED YOU!!!!!!

FCRV International Band will be concerned for your safety at Campvention. Special band masks are being ordered and will be supplied. Bell covers will also be provided to filter air coming out of your instrument. Band practices will be held either outdoors or in open sided building and seats will be at least six feet apart. All efforts will be made to keep you as a band member and our wonderful audience safe. See you all in Elkhorn.

Thank you
Craig Weber, FCRV International Band Director



WINTER TIME DISASTERS

By Joe Boswell, National DASAT Dir.



D.A.S.A.T.

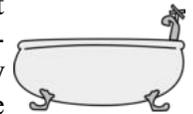
Wow, what a winter this has been. Our friends in the south, especially in Texas have really experienced the harshness of the arctic cold this winter. This was harsh conditions for our Texan friends but our friends in the north, especially in Canada get this type of weather all the time. The bitter cold, freezing temperatures, power outages, snow, sleet and freezing rain are severe weather conditions that can put one on preparedness alert. Think about it, how prepared would you be for this type of weather conditions.

In these adverse conditions, the best thing to do is stay home and off the road-snow and ice do not create the best ideal driving conditions. Many accidents occur because people do not want to slow down. Under snowy or icy conditions, they just want to get where they are going-no matter what. With bad road conditions and the advice of your local authorities-if they say things are bad for driving, head the warning-stay off the roads.

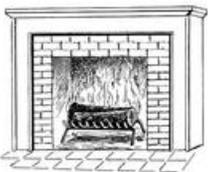
Ice and snow will affect your living conditions. The snow and ice will accumulate on the power lines and nearby trees. Depending on the depth of both the ice and snow, it is possible that the power lines will be impacted. If this happens, and you lose power in severe winter weather conditions do you know what to do to stay safe and warm? Leave the refrigerator closed, and the same goes for the freezer. Opening and closing the refrigerator will allow the colder air to escape and your food will spoil. A full freezer will hold for about 48 hour if the door stays closed. A refrigerator and its contents will last about 4 hours before bacteria begins to make an impact. Find your flashlight, and radio, so you know what is going on in your local community. Keep in mind that your cell phone, may or may not work, if it does work, use it for emergency calls only. You may not have battery power for extended periods and or have the ability to charge it up without electrical power.



Sometimes it is hard to find out how long one will be without the power. The longer the power outage, and especially in really cold and blustery conditions, it is time to take some other precautions. Here are some suggestions. Find that larger coolers you normally use for camping and fill it with water. If you do not have a larger container, use the largest pot or pans you have and fill it with water and cover it up. Yes, you can fill up the bathtub, too. Remember that without heat you have to be able to prevent the water from freezing. This is where the larger insulated containers come in handy as they may keep the water from freezing. Remember that the water stored in the bathtub may not be safe to drink, but could be used to help flush the toilets. In order to drink the tub water, you will need to boil it first. Need extra water and you have ice or snow outside, this could be melted and used for toilet purposes, but remember it is not safe to drink. Boil it first, let it cool then it may be drinkable. Ok, you have bottled water on hand for drinking; make sure you have a way to keep it protected from freezing. Wrap it up in some blankets, or newspaper to keep it warm. Newspaper is a great insulator.



Of course, without electricity, you have no heat. You have a fireplace; use this to heat your home or that one room in your home. In an effort to keep warm, close all the doors, or block off this one room so you can keep the heat in this space. Put towels at the bottom of the windows and place throw rugs or towels at the bottom of door to prevent the cold air from coming inside your home. Propane heaters, some can be used indoors, while others are unsafe in these circumstances, always check the manufactures directions for safe indoor operations. To prevent a power surge before the electricity comes back on go around your home an unplug appliances, computers, and other electrical items that may become damage when the power is slowly restored. To prevent extra surges, go to your circuit breakers and turn off rooms of your home that you do not use to prevent electrical damage once the power comes back on. Once things return to normal, you can then gradually turn everything back on. As a suggestion for expensive electrical equipment, keep them plugged in to power surge protectors on a regular basis. You can have installed by a professional a whole house surge protector for extra protection to prevent damage to electrical appliances and such in your home. It does pay for itself when electrical outages of this type occurs.



In a power outage, you can use a generator. If you are going to use the generator, place it outside, not in the basement or garage, as carbon dioxide is a byproduct of a combustible engine. Carbon Dioxide is a deadly gas commonly referred to as the silent killer. Sadly, many die because they put a combustible engine inside the house without thinking of the results. Some individuals have a household generator, if so, make sure it is in good working order and that it was installed correctly.

Need to cook, use that outside BBQ grill. This will help you boil water, or cook your meals, coffee and other nutritional items. The camping stove is always useful for this purpose but use it outside.



All of the above are some suggestions to use during a winter storm. In past articles, information for your “to go” kits has been provided on numerous occasions. In this case, because of the lack of heat, water, and electric you may have to go to a warning center. In this case, you are ready to go with your “to-go” kit to this safer location.

Disasters come in all forms-many are weather related and others are not. No matter what instance, it is always a good idea to be prepared. You just never know what may happen. The better prepared you are the better you will be able to handle whatever challenges you have to face.

FCRV Activities

COVID AFFECTS SNOW BIRDS' WINTER

By D. Johnston

Those Snow Birds that spend the winter in a campground or RV park in the sunbelt have had to make adjustments to comply with restrictions required by the pandemic. Social distancing is an obstacle to group activities, therefore they were limited this winter. Gatherings for entertainment, meals, table games, etc. were either eliminated or ‘spread out’ if space permitted. Masks were required almost everywhere. Some outdoor activities and games did go on with no audience.

Many sun- belt areas, park attendance was down. Canadians make up a large portion of the snow bird population and their travel restrictions reduced their numbers drastically.



At our RV Park in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, we had a carry-out Thanksgiving dinner. For Christmas, there was a brief lightly attended pro-

gram with spread out seating in place of the traditional fully attended dinner and gift exchange party. There was no New Year’s Eve dance or party. Mardi Gras parade and Golf Cart Rodeo were cancelled. Smaller neighborhood groups met for afternoon get-togethers. Shopping and dining out were at a minimum.



With adaption, small group crafts, exercise class, mahjong, and even bingo were accomplished safely. The shuffle board, horse shoe courts and swimming pool were open and the sun was still shone every day. Sure beat being up north in the cold and snow.

SON DONATES KIDNEY TO DAD

By Kansas Travelers

Keith Koontz, a long time active FCRV member from Wichita, Kansas, recently underwent a successful kidney transplant. The kidney was donated by Keith’s son, Ken. Keith developed an infection and some complications and spent 16 days in the hospital.



He was released after more surgery and some rehab.

His wife, Beverly is happy that he's back home and doing better every day, Home Health care workers check on him regularly.

Son, Ken is feeling better and should be able to get back in the groove, restoring his truck and working on the lake house soon.

The family says, "Thank you for all the prayers, calls, texts, emails, food and support during this time. It has been overwhelming and heartwarming." Best wishes can be sent to Keith at k.kootntz@sglobal.com.

BADGER STATE ASSOCIATION DISBANDS

It is with great sadness that we announce that the Badger State Association (Wisconsin) has disbanded after more than forty years. Declining membership (less than 30) and only two chapters made it difficult to meet our by-laws in order to hold meetings of the association. The chapters themselves are still active. There will continue to have activities for all members to participate in.

At the meeting when the vote took place it was decided to split the funds of the association equally between the Hank Nathan Scholarship Fund and the NCHA Wildlife Funds. Each of these funds received over \$2500.00 that had been built up over the years by members in Wisconsin.

Kip & Jan Cushing

NATIONAL WILDLIFE GRANT RECEIVED BY NEBRASKA

Thank you for supporting the .5-acre wildlife edible garden located within Ponca State Park's enhanced entrance project. Your \$1200 grant is assisting with the purchase of wild edible plantings. What a wonderful way to integrate people and nature; with an edible garden. We invite you to explore Ponca State Park and witness first-hand the wildlife edible garden serving multiple purposes; a wildlife viewing area, an opportunity for self-guided education

through interpretive signage, and an area for naturalist to lead outdoor education programming.

Thank you again for supporting Ponca State Park, where people and nature meet.

Sincerely,

Lynn Mellick
The Better Ponca Park Foundation and Ponca State Park



NGPC Horticulturalist, Cole Beyke holds check



OLDEST OUTDOOR GROUP IN US CHALLENGES YOU TO SPEND 2 HOURS OUTSIDE EACH WEEK—6 SURVIVAL TIPS

New York City, NY, February 8, 2021 — This winter, the Appalachian Mountain Club (www.outdoors.org), the oldest outdoor group in the United States, challenges you to spend two hours of outdoor exercise every week (social distancing, of course). Even though the entire country is experiencing two fewer weeks of snow cover compared to 100 years ago, wherever you live in America, getting outdoors regularly will provide mental benefits as well as physical ones. Despite the fact winter may be fundamentally shifting, AMC's Colby Meehan, Leadership Training Manager, reveals six survival tips for thriving, surviving and basking in everything Mother Nature has to offer during winter 2021:

1. Plan your adventure: Avoid a 911 emergency by mapping out your exact route, choosing an alternate route for emergencies and calculating how long your *roundtrip* excursion will be. Make a trip plan and bring things like high-energy snacks and water for a more enjoyable day out.

2. Find the forecast: Check the forecast before you go by listening/watching/reading your favorite weather predictions in advance. This will help you prepare for the appropriate climate while you are out and about. Observe weather changes as they emerge and change your plan for the day as needed to avoid severe weather.

3. Dress appropriately: Carry the right gear based on the weather predictions to pack appropriately. Understanding how to layer for winter makes a world of difference. Avoiding fabrics like cotton and opting for ones like polyester or wool can turn a miserable, risky outing into a pleasant one. For good measure, take extra pairs of gloves, mittens and socks for especially cold temperatures.



4. Build a safe and protected outdoor living space: To guarantee a fun and safe small gathering under COVID conditions, you can create the perfect outdoor living space on a variety of different budgets. Fire pits are affordable, secure heat sources, and waterproof seating offers comfort while keeping you dry. Prep meals in advance so you can focus on fun and enjoy your time outside. Maintain social distancing guidelines (at least 6 feet apart) from other campsites when making your own. Finally, remember the Leave No Trace principles when you leave, which ask you to carry out anything that does not belong in nature.

5. Outdoor recreation and wellness: Winter brings a multitude of activities and sports. It can be as advanced as snowboarding and skiing; but you can also have a blast without snow by jogging, picnicking or hiking. Studies show that spending at least 120 minutes outdoors every week boosts your well-being.

6. Explore the city outdoors: City dwellers also have ways to revel outside during COVID. Whether you decide to walk around your neighborhood for 20 minutes a day, take up birdwatching in a local park for an afternoon or even study the surrounding architecture, time spent outside is good for you.

The mission of the Appalachian Mountain Club is to foster the protection, enjoyment and understanding of the outdoors. They envision a world where our natural resources are healthy, loved and always protected, and where the outdoors occupies a place of central importance in every person's life. For more information, please visit www.outdoors.org.

BOWLUS DEBUTS TECH-LADEN TERRA FIRMA LIMITED EDITION

By: [RVBusiness](#)



As discerning travelers continue their search for much-needed experiences in the great outdoors amid changing travel habits, Bowlus has provided a sophisticated solution with the release of the new Terra Firma model, according to a press release from Bowlus.

The limited-edition travel trailer will feature enhancements including complex air and water filtration systems, pet-friendly accoutrements – such as remote temperature monitoring and in-design bowls – as well as the addition of a smart brake controller, touch-screen power management, GPS tracking, 60-Second Hitch capabilities and an all-new ultra-comfort interior.

The unique aluminum teardrop shape of Bowlus travel trailers, paired with the latest technology and unparalleled craftsmanship using yacht-quality components, has made the brand the industry leader in carefree luxury land travel. The Bowlus Terra Firma edition is the evolution of the Bowlus story, the release states.

Pricing for the Bowlus Terra Firma begins at \$265,000 and orders are currently being accepted for 2022

“We are persistently working to find new ways to elevate the luxury land travel experience with elements that effortlessly enhance life’s precious moments,” said Geneva Long, Founder and CEO of Bowlus. “The Terra Firma edition continues the Bowlus tradition of bringing new technologies to the RV industry without adding more technology for technology’s sake.

”The limited model continues the Bowlus tradition of custom editions with bespoke flair, which have previously included the Lithium+, Artisanal Angler, and The Wave editions.

Exterior

Every Bowlus model begins as a hand-welded spaceframe, shaped from aluminum tubing by Bowlus artisans within 1/64th of an inch. Eighty panels of polished, high-strength aerospace aluminum are then meticulously fastened to the frame by more 5,000 aircraft-grade rivets, each scrutinized to meet aerospace specifications to be within 2/1000” of the specification — approximately half the thickness of a human hair. Craftworkers then spend more than 100 hours polishing the exterior so the shell can get its iconic, mirror-bright reflection.

Based on the successful Endless Highways Performance Edition platform, the Terra Firma model includes as-standard two huge skylights in the main cabin and an outdoor kitchen ready setup, with electrical and propane outlets, which can additionally provide an emergency micro-charge to your electric vehicle.

Technology

The Terra Firma edition presents a collection of new technological features. First, the inclusion of a smart brake controller for the triple-axis, motion-sensing accelerometer, provides highly responsive, smooth braking to any tow vehicle without any modifications. Also added for the Terra Firma edition is a user-intuitive touch screen panel displaying an instant overview of the proprietary Bowlus Power Management System, allowing settings to adjust intuitively and simply.

Looking ahead toward client's changing needs during travel experiences, the Terra Firma also includes the addition of HEPA air filters, UVC lighting for disinfecting, and a freshwater filtration system to instill confidence and peace-of-mind.

The Terra Firma continues the incredible battery power introduced in the Endless Highways Performance Edition, boasting a lithium-iron-phosphate power system with 8 kWh offering up to two weeks of "off-grid" living without an external power source — twice the battery power compared to the original Endless Highways model. This impressive system rapidly charges in three to four hours and also includes heated floors for incomparable comfort during all four seasons.

Interior

The Bowlus Terra Firma is about using color and details that build on a feeling of ultra-comfort. In the main cabin, seating in Field color is accented with piping in Open Sky. This grounding color story carries through with luxurious flooring and a stateroom featuring beautifully striped duvets and elegant headboards in Open Sky.

New for the Terra Firma is also the inclusion of the ultimate in Pet-Flex. With remote temperature monitoring, feeding bowls that slide out seamlessly from a drawer, and a personalized canine bed, every family member is comfortably included in the experience. For the first time, pet owners can feel confident that their pet is sitting comfortably with the assurance of temperature control why one is away from their Bowlus and their pet is resting

ENERSYS NOW OFFERS A COMPLETE LINE OF ODYSSEY AND NORTHSTAR BATTERIES FOR RV APPLICATIONS

READING, Pennsylvania, February 9, 2021 – EnerSys® (NYSE:ENS), the global leader in stored energy solutions for industrial applications and the manufacturer of ODYSSEY® batteries, now offers a complete line of ODYSSEY® and NorthStar® PRO batteries designed to power Recreational Vehicles (RV) and their related onboard accessories. The complete line includes ODYSSEY® Performance, ODYSSEY® Extreme and NorthStar® PRO Group 24, Group 27, Group 31 and NorthStar® PRO Group 65 dual purpose batteries, which are engineered to provide premium starting power along with auxiliary and emergency power.

"The use of RVs for vacation traveling up to full-time occupancy continues to gain popularity, especially during recent months where individuals have been social-distancing to protect against the spread of COVID-19 and seeking to find remote locations with minimal, direct human interaction," said Bryce Gregory, Systems Product Manager of Transportation and Specialty at EnerSys. "Our selection of high-

performance and virtually maintenance-free ODYSSEY® and NorthStar® batteries are the ideal power solutions for RV enthusiasts and are capable of starting the engine while powering other onboard electronics over the course of a full day to enhance the overall user experience."

Since the acquisition of [NorthStar Battery Company](#) in September 2019, EnerSys has strengthened its operations and production of Thin Plate Pure Lead (TPPL) technologies across all lines of business, including its portfolio of ODYSSEY® batteries for RV applications. ODYSSEY® and NorthStar® PRO batteries provide deep cycle reserve power and maximum cranking power, with engine cranking pulses up to 3,125 amps for five seconds, which is double that of equally sized conventional flooded lead acid batteries. They feature a three- to 10-year service life and a two-year storage life at 77°F (25°C). Classified as "non-spillable" by the U.S. Department of Transportation, they are also vibration and shock resistant. Both battery brands are available in a wide variety of sizes with Cold Cranking Amps (CCA) as high as 2,250.

Additionally, EnerSys offers ODYSSEY® battery chargers that provide automatic six-stage charging and a wide range of built-in safety features. They facilitate full and proper charging, and are available in



6-amp, 12-amp and 20-amp models, backed by a limited two-year full replacement warranty.

For more information on EnerSys and its full line of products, systems and support, visit www.enersys.com.

Connect with ODYSSEY® battery on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#). For more details including upcoming events and how to purchase ODYSSEY® and NorthStar® batteries, visit www.odysseybattery.com.

REPORT: NHTSA ISSUES LATEST WEEKLY LIST OF RV RECALLS

By: [RVBusiness](#) | Published on: Feb 15, 2021

The following is the latest list of RV recalls compiled by the National Highway Traffic Safety Association (NHTSA):

- Shyft Group is recalling 548 2020-2021 RV Chassis K2, K3, K4 vehicles. The steering gear mounting fasteners may come loose, and fall out or interfere with other steering components.
- Daimler Vans USA, LLC (DVUSA) is recalling 48,667 2012-2018 Mercedes Benz Sprinter 3500 and Freightliner Sprinter 3500 vehicles upfitted into campers or recreational vehicles. The Electronic Stability Control (ESC) unit may become disabled on these vehicles.
- Jayco, Inc. (Jayco) is recalling certain 2021 Jayco Eagle fifth wheel vehicles. Certain vehicles were equipped with a 4 1/4 inch spring hanger instead of the proper 5 1/4 inch spring hanger, reducing the tire clearance.
- Daimler Vans USA, LLC (DVUSA) is recalling 84,345 2016-2020 Mercedes-Benz Metris and 2019-2020 Mercedes-Benz Sprinter vehicles. The software design of the communication module may fail to communicate the correct vehicle location for the emergency call system (eCall) in the event of a crash.
- Forest River, Inc. (Forest River) is recalling 53 2021 Wildcat Travel Trailer models WCT247RXX-OR and WCT276FKX-OR. The safety chains do not meet the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) and could potentially break.

J.D. POWER

JD POWER SPECIALTY VALUATION: RVS THRIVE DURING PANDEMIC

By: [RVBusiness](#) | Published on: Feb 1, 2021

In the [2020 Year-End Review Recreational Vehicle \(RV\) Market Insights](#), analysts from J.D. Power Specialty Valuation Services say that used RV pricing increased overall as more consumers entered the RV market amid air travel restrictions. Used values are also being pushed up due to lack of new inventory.

“Every segment of our industry saw values increase in 2020, with most segments not seeing any seasonal pullback in values,” said Lenny Sims, vice president business development and strategy at J.D. Power Specialty Valuation Services. “Standard hitch units brought 7.4% more revenue in 2020 than in 2019, and that gap widened in the second half of the year. Fifth-wheel units had already started the year strong before the pandemic hit, and the segment really took off as the year progressed, averaging 13.7% more revenue year over year.”

Major findings in the [free quarterly report](#) note:

- Class C Motorhome used values increased at a strong, steady rate throughout the year
- Class A Motorhome used values decreased overall in November 2020
- Surge in RV traffic views in May 2020

[Download the free 2020 Year-End Review Recreational Vehicle Market Insights.](#)

J.D. Power Specialty Valuation Services (formerly NADAguides) is a leading provider of specialty vehicle valuation products and services to businesses. The team collects and analyzes tens of thousands wholesale and retail transactions per month, and delivers a range of guidebooks, web service data, analysis and digital data solutions.

J.D. Power is a global leader in consumer insights, advisory services and data and analytics. A pioneer in the use of big data, artificial intelligence (AI) and algorithmic modeling capabilities to understand consumer behavior, J.D. Power has been deliv-

ering incisive industry intelligence on customer interactions with brands and products for more than 50 years. The world's leading businesses across major industries rely on J.D. Power to guide their customer-facing strategies.

J.D. Power is headquartered in Troy, Mich., and has offices in North America, Europe and Asia Pacific. To learn more about the company's business offerings, visit JDPower.com/business. The J.D. Power auto shopping tool can be found at JDPower.com.

Products

MATADOR KEYCHAIN MASK KEEPS USERS PREPARED AND PROTECTED

BOULDER, Colo. (Feb. 8, 2021) – [Matador Travel Equipment](#), the award-winning producer of high-performance travel equipment, today introduced the [Keychain Mask](#), a lightweight face mask that fits into a silicone keychain case, ensuring users will have a protective mask available whenever one is needed.



“We’ve all experienced the ‘oh no’ moment, when we’ve forgotten a mask and needed one,” said Chris Clearman, Founder and CEO of Matador. “The Keychain Mask ensures you’ll never be caught unprepared. Masks are now a travel essential – whether you’re going to the airport or the grocery store – and our Keychain Mask offers a comfortable, moisture-wicking option in a minimal form, so you’ll always have one on-hand.”

The Matador Keychain Mask is constructed with a quick-drying nanofiber material with elastic ear loops and a baffled design for a flexible fit. The mask fits inside a miniature silicone storage case with a keychain loop for attaching it to keys or a zipper pull. The design is similar to that of two of Matador’s best-selling products, the [NanoDry Trek Towel](#) and the [Travel Earplugs Kit](#).

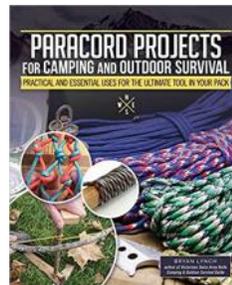
“Whether imposed by local regulation or required for your own peace-of-mind, masks are an everyday part of our lives now,” continued Clearman. “We’re thrilled to keep users prepared and to eliminate that

‘oh no’ moment forever.”

The Matador Keychain Mask (MSRP: \$14.99 [single], \$24.99 [two-pack]) is available now at select retailers and online at <http://www.matadorup.com/>.

NEW RELEASE: PARACORD PROJECTS FOR CAMPING AND OUTDOOR SURVIVAL

WWW.FOXCHAPELPUBLISHING.COM



Discover endless possibilities with paracord!

- **60 useful projects** for camping, outdoor use, emergencies, and survival
- **7 ways to carry** cordage so you're always prepared
- **Step-by-step instructions** to make a paracord bracelet, quick deploy bundle, pace count beads, water filter, and much more
- **Gear list tips** for both minimal and ideal gear
- **Author Bryan Lynch** also penned the *Victorinox Swiss Army Knife Camping & Outdoor Survival Guide*

A strand of paracord can save your life. Whether you're camping, hiking, or simply on a walk, cordage is one of the most useful and vital items a person can have available. But not only is it crucial to have close by, it's also a lot of fun to discover its endless uses!

From the same author who brought you the *Victorinox Swiss Army Knife Camping & Outdoor Survival Guide*, Bryan Lynch, this helpful book teaches you the basics of survival, important knots to know, 7 ways to carry paracord, and over 60 functional uses. From creating fire, collecting water, gathering food, and repairing gear to keeping clean, navigating the area, making tools, first aid, handling emergency situations, and more, this is the must-have paracord and survival guide.

Learn the history of how paracord is made, what it was originally used for in the military, why it's so popular and useful, and why you'll always want to have it on you. From there, follow step-by-step instructions for more than 60 paracord projects that could save your life one day, from making a fishing spear, a tourniquet, shelter, splints, and slings to collecting water and treating blisters. From creating fire with paracord to making a compass to gear list tips, these are fundamentals you'll want to know!

The perfect gift for the prepper or survivalist in your life, as well as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, hikers, and outdoor enthusiasts, *Paracord Projects for Camping and Outdoor Survival* is the practical, essential guide to the ultimate tool in your pack!

TRUMA ADDS 30L MODEL TO LINE OF PORTABLE FRIDGE/ FREEZERS

By: [RVBusiness](#) | Published on: Feb 10, 2021

Truma North America today (Feb. 10) announced the release of the Truma Cooler C30, a portable fridge/freezer that is the perfect size for between the seats of a family passenger van or work vehicle.

“The compact Truma Cooler C30 is small enough for weekend road trips or daily work vehicle while still providing the same amenities as our larger units,” says Gerhard Hundsberger, president and CEO Truma North America.

Mark Howlett, Senior VP of Business Development Truma North America, added, “We had strong feedback from the market looking for a solution which fit better into their lifestyle but retained the same features as our larger units. The C30 fits conveniently between the seat of commercial vans like the Mercedes Sprinter and Dodge Pro-Master, while at the same time allowing for short trips shopping, soccer game or tailgating that everyone loves to participate in.”



Features and benefits of the Truma Cooler C30

- Holds 32 cans (12oz)
- A total volume of 8 gal (30.3 Liters)
- Powered by 12/24 V DC or 110 V AC
- Bluetooth App for mobile use
- Vehicle battery discharge protection
- Cooling down to -8° F (-22°C)

The Truma Cooler line of portable fridge/freezers is available in eight single and dual-zone models. The Truma Cooler C30 will be available starting March 1. For more information, visit www.trumacoolers.com.

Truma has been a leading manufacturer of RV systems and Outdoor Lifestyle solutions since 1949. After more than 70 years, Truma remains family-owned and operated.

TRIVIA

1789 - The federal government under the US Constitution began, replacing the Articles of Confederation

1899 - Bayer registered Aspirin as a trademark. Aspirin is considered by many to be the first wonder drug.

1915 - NACA (National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics), the predecessor of NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration), was founded.

1931 - President Herbert Hoover made Francis Scott Key's "The Star-Spangled Banner" the official national anthem of the United States.

Farewells

TOM WESTERHOUSE PAST MICHIGAN STATE DIRECTOR



Tom Westerhouse passed away January 27, 2021 after battling a long illness of kidney disease.

He served in the Army and worked at General Motors 31 years.

Tom and Sharon joined NCHA in 1976. They first joined the C.B. Chapter, 10-100's. They soon became Field Directors for the Mid-State District and became very involved in all activities.

Some years later they were appointed District Directors for the Mid-State District. They were active in many state rallies, district campouts and National Campventions.



In 1990 they were appointed State Directors in Michigan and was dedicated to the Michigan State Association and its progress. They remained in that position for ten years, retiring to full-time camping, traveling throughout the country, and just enjoying retirement.

They spent the last six years permanently in Magnolia Spring, Alabama as Tom's illness got worse. Throughout it all, Tom's wish was to get on the road, see all his friends one more time, and go to another retirement rally one more time! He will surely be missed by all.

Thoughts and prayers can be sent to Sharon at P.O. Box 144, Magnolia Springs, AL 36555. She would love to hear from you.



Carlton L. Rochelle Jr. 11-22-20, (reporting delayed), Knightdale, North Carolina, Field Director and Past Retiree King and queen with wife, Betty. Long time member Raleigh, Road Runners.



Anneta "Neta" Conway, 82, 1-20-2021, They had been members of the Kanokliners for five years

Dottie Frost, 76, 1-20-21, Topeka, Kansas, loved Campventions, Sister of Linda Smith, KS State Director.



Howard Herman, 68, 2-7-2021, Norway, Kansas Active in Kansas Campers Chapter with wife Paula and family.



Agnes 'Aggie' Moyer, 87, 2-18-21, Dayton, Ohio. Longtime active member with husband, Bob. United Methodist Heritage Campers.



Margaret Mooney, 2-19, 21, Kingston, Ontario, Long time member, active in O.P.A.



UPCOMING EVENTS

All OPA campouts CANCELLED until Fall Campout.

MARCH

March 23-28, 2021 – 50th FCRV Retiree Rally POSTPONED TO 2022

March 29–April 4, 2022 Early days will start on March 25.

Mineola Civic Center, Mineola, TX

APRIL

April 30-May 2, 2021 - NC Spring Statewide Campout

Denton Farm Park, Denton, NC Hosted by the Eastern District. Do not call campground to make reservations.. Choose your site upon arrival. Camping fee will be collected upon arrival.\$30 per night water & 30A elec.\$40 per night water & 50A elec. \$45.00 per night water, sewer & 50A elec. Dump stations available. Registration will be \$10.00. \$12.00 at the gate if not registered early. Retirees may come in on Tuesday, April 27, 2021.

JUNE

June 4 - 6, 2021 - SE Regional Campout

Tom Johnson's Rally Park, 1885 US 70 Hwy West, Marion, NC 2875. Early Days - June 1 - 3. \$35 per night. Full hookups, 30 and 50 AMP available. Do not register with the campground. Registration fee \$35. make

checks payable to Traveling Tarheels. Send to Pam Likens, 212 Morris St., Kings Mountain, NC 28086.
Phone: 386-365-0823 Email: pamf104@gmail.com

JULY

July 11-16, 2021 – 61st FCRV Campvention

Walworth County Fairgrounds, Elkhorn, WI

AUGUST

August 4-8th, 2021 - Great Lakes Regional Campout

Shipshewana Campground North - Shipshewana, IN. This campground only has 50 sites and also a few cabins, call and book now! The number is 260-768-7770, let them know you are with FCRV. For more information or a registration form (\$20 activity fee/\$25 at gate), please email angieshaneyfelt@hotmail.com



Bluebonnet RV Resort

3366 N. bentsen Palm DR.
Mission, Texas 78574

Come and Join in with other FCRV members

2020 Fall Special.

Daily rate \$28.50. Includes Elect. Weekly rate \$159. 00 includes Elect.

1st Monthly rate \$275.00 plus Elect. 2nd Monthly rate \$255.00 Plus
Elect.

3rd Monthly rate \$225.00 Plus Elect. 4th Monthly rate \$155.00 Plus Elect.

5th & 6th Monthly rate \$185 Plus Elect.

This rate is for FCRV International Camping Club Members.

FCRV members must show **THIS AD** at check- in.

Phone 956-585-7630. Web: bluebonnet@rvresorts.com

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**61ST INTERNATIONAL CAMPVENTION
FAMILY CAMPERS & Rver's
"WANDER WISCONSIN"**
Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St.
Elkhorn, WI 53121



Campvention Days: July 11-16, 2021 fees cover (6 nights)

Early Bird Days: July 9 & 10 2021 @ \$30/night (pay @ registration – cash/check)

Registrations are needed by: June 1, 2021

There will be room for you if you decide to come at the last minute.
Just bring this registration with you. We want everyone to come see us!!!

Last Name: _____ **First Name:** _____ **Spouse/Guest:** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **ST/PRV:** ___ **Zip Code:** _____

Phone #: _____ **e-mail:** _____

Is this your first Campvention? Yes ___ No ___ Send my confirmation letter in PDF: Yes ___ No ___

Number of people in your unit:

Of Adults: ___ Teens: ___ Youth 9 – 12 ___ Youth 5 – 8 ___ Young Adults ___ 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 Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Special Needs Information:

Check if you are requesting a special needs site: ___ There will be no special needs sites available at the gate.

REGISTRATION:

Everyone must complete a registration form including second families and camp passes. Submit payment with the registration form. All funds should be US currency and in the form of check or money order.

	<u>Registration</u>	<u>At Gate</u>
One Family in the Unit	\$335.00	\$365.00
Extra Family in the Unit (separate pay)	\$150.00	\$165.00
Week Drive-in Pass (July 11-16)	\$175.00	\$190.00
Walk-in Camp Pass (per day)	\$ 30.00	\$ 35.00

WIFI is included in your registration fee

PAY BEFORE DECEMBER 31ST, 2020 TO RECEIVE A \$30.00 DISCOUNT (\$305.00)

Motor Home ___ 5th Wheel ___ Travel Trailer ___ Pop-Up ___ Want in shade trees ___

Make checks payable to: NCHA

Mail to: Sue & Carl Fromholzer

137 Crandon Blvd

Cheektowaga NY 14225

Refund policy: If you are unable to

attend, all except \$ 25 will be refunded

Contact them at: 716-683-5723 email: FCRV.VP.OPS@gmail.com

We would like to volunteer for: _____

All attendees agree to comply with Campvention guidelines, including the golf cart guidelines, which applies to all golf carts on the premises.



2021 Teen Royalty Pageant Registration Form
Family Campers & RVers
Registration deadline May 31, 2021

State/Province Representing:

Teen King [] **Teen Queen** [] **Escort** []

Name:

Parent/Guardian Name :

Address:

Phone Number:

E-Mail address:

Chapter Name :

Number of Years in FCRV:

Age as of 7/14/2021:

Birth date (month/day/year):

***You must be between the ages of 13 and 20 the day of the Competition. We have extended it to those that are 20 as there was no campvention in 2020**

Grade in School:

Name of School:

Explanation of Talent:

Will you need special equipment (besides CD player)? _____ If yes, please explain

Hobbies:

Ambitions/Goals:

Notable awards:

Please send a recent photo of yourself along with this registration form to:

Katie Kurburski

9278 Middle Village Drive

Harbor Springs, MI 49740

Phone: (231)881-6209

E-mail: kurburski@gmail.com

Participant Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

I certify that the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) of participants are paid members of Family Campers & RVers for the current year.

State Director's Signature & stamp: _____

"WANDER WISCONSIN" MARKETPLACE

TABLE REGISTRATION FORM

NOTE: Basic space is for an 8 foot table (provided). There is 'NO FEE CHARGE' for Chapters for tables, a two table limit. There is a \$15.00 fee for Individuals who sell crafts or other items, for an 8 foot space with table provided. If a second table (limit 2) is needed an additional \$10.00 fee is required for a total of \$25.00. Providing your own table does not change the fees. Remit fee with form.

CHAPTERS::

Chapter Name _____

Contact person _____

Cell ph number/email _____

Number of tables (limit 2)(Space is 8' per table) _____

(No fee for Chapters)

Describe products sold _____

INDIVIDUALS::

Contact person _____

Cell ph number/email _____

Number of tables (limit 2)(Space is 8' per table) _____

(1 table= \$15.00; 2-tables + add \$10.00 ==Total \$25.00)

(Supply own table—NO change in fees!)

Describe products sold _____

Mail registration to: Duane & Ruth Keegan 957 N Lois Ave Addison, IL 60101-1237

Information: e-mail dentec957@att.net or 630-487-8873 (C)

DEADLINE: No later than June 15, 2021

Make checks payable to: 'NCHA' write "*Campvention 2021*" on the memo line



Youth Registration

Youth name _____

Boy Girl Age _____

Interests _____

Allergies/medical concerns

Parent/Guardian _____

State/Providence _____ Site # _____ Phone# _____
