# CAMPING TODAY®



**March 2019** 





While planning your trip to and from Campvention 2019 in Hutchinson, Kansas be sure to plan a stop at Maxwell Wildlife Refuge in Canton, Kansas.....Page 12.

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

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



Bob Herget
2nd NCHA/FCRV
President passes
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#### **NATIONAL OFFICERS**

President: Shari Weber

VP of Operations: Sue Fromholzer VP of Programs: George Walters VP of Planning & Development

Scott Serbousek

Corresponding. & Recording Officer:

Sue Carlson

Comptroller: Jan Cushing Past President: Jack Smye

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PLEASE SEND ARTICLES TO VICKIE, TOO.

#### **FCRV Merchandise**

Below is a link to a page for FCRV Merchandise with the new FCRV logo that you can order online. Here is the link... http://superiorembroidery.net/fcrv/shop/home



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# From the President - Shari Weber

March has arrived! Mardi Gras is in full swing and that means Spring is right around the corner. I know many of you have been working RV Shows. You are doing a good job of introducing FCRV to others. Remember even if you don't bring in a member, you do create visibility for FCRV. It is my hope that the growth seen in nature during Spring will also be enjoyed by FCRV.

#### The Work of FCRV

All positions in FCRV's leadership are volunteer positions. This means that when something needs to get done it is being done by a volunteer. There is a need on the executive board for willing volunteers. Teens, Youth, Membership & Website Director positions are all open. If you have interest or skills in any of these areas, please contact a trustee. Scott, <a href="mailto:fcrvplandevelopvp@outlook.com">fcrvplandevelopvp@outlook.com</a>, George, <a href="mailto:fcrvprogvp@aol.com">fcrvprogvp@aol.com</a>, Sue F, <a href="mailto:fcrv.vp.ops@gmail.com">fcrv.vp.ops@gmail.com</a>, Jan, <a href="mailto:kcushing@wi.rr.com">kcushing@wi.rr.com</a>, Jack, <a href="mailto:sls-mye@sympatico.ca">sls-mye@sympatico.ca</a>, Sue C, <a href="mailto:carlsens@tampabay.rr.com">carlsens@tampabay.rr.com</a>, Shari, <a href="mailto:fcrvnd@yahoo.com">fcrvnd@yahoo.com</a>. All of these people will be happy to help you get going in the position that fits your skills.

#### Logo merchandise

We have three different companies providing a variety of products with our logo on them. Please support these folks, they are all commercial members and can be found on the fcrv.org website. Karen's Embroidery operated by long time members, Karen and Dale Houston create embroidered shirts and a wide variety of badges. Superior Embroidery creates t-shirts, sweatshirts and caps. Finally Marshall Creations also managed by a long time member just came aboard as a commercial member. They will create a wide variety of items with our logo on them. Look at fcrv.org under commercial member to see each of these provider's contact information.

#### Election

This month you will find bios and platforms for folks running for three Trustee positions. Please be sure to read those. The positions Vice President Planning & Development and Comptroller are up for general election. Matt Mantia is running for Vice President Planning & Development unopposed. Jan Cushing is also running unopposed for Comptroller. Jan is running for a second term. The other position up for election is Vice President Operations. This position is elected by the executive board. Sue Fromholzer is running unopposed and is also running for a second term. 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.

#### 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. 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. It takes seven times of seeing something before it is remembered. Every time we show our colors, we are ambassadors for FCRV.

We also need to be friendly and kind within FCRV. When there is a difference of opinion on how something should be done, remember to be respectful and kind as you work toward an agreement on how to proceed. Remember each member wants FCRV to be the best it can be. Sometimes it is necessary to embrace new ideas or new ways of doing things. Keep a positive attitude, smile and be friendly. Remember we are the friendliest people in the world! This applies to each other as well as to potential members.

#### **Scholarship**

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

#### **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. Dal & Barb Dodson, Chair invite you to Houma LA for a week of fun and fellowship geared to older adults. More information about this event which begins on March 19<sup>th</sup> is at fcrv.org as well as within this newsletter. All are welcome and there is still time to register. Hutchinson, Kansas is our destination for campvention. All Roads Lead to Kansas is the theme. The campvention team headed by Ivalee & Earl Vanderhoff and Gerald Pfirsch 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. Sites with full hookup are still available.

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



## NATIONAL ELECTION INFORMATION

In 2016 the Executive Board determined that paper or online

ballots need not be sent out when there is only one nomination for each position. This is the case for this year.

These Trustees will be installed at the Campvention in July.

#### **CANIDATES**

#### **Vice President of Operations**

#### **SUE FROMHOLZER**



**Biography** - Along with my family, I have been a member of FCRV (NCHA) since 1982. In 1984 I began working at the national office and retired as the office manager in August 2016. I have held the VP of Operations position beginning January 2017 which didn't leave much time for retirement!

My husband Carl, has also retired from his sales position at Frito Lay earlier in 2016. He is now living a dream by working part time at Home Depot and enjoying every minute. He has been a member since his family joined back in the 1960's.

My son Carl, which we lovingly call C.W., is now following in his mother's footsteps by working at the FCRV national office.

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

#### **New Commercial Member**

Rick's RV 4360 W Jefferson, Joliet, IL 60431
Phone 815-725-4061
RV Dealer and Service, new & used
Please see the website for information

www.rickssrv.com

## 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.

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:**

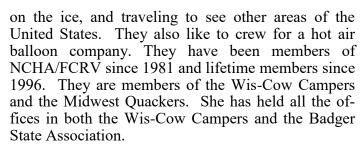
If my goals are successful in developing a good team for Membership and Commercial, some of our marketing issues will be resolved. There is always work to be done in these areas for the continuous growth of Family Campers and RVers.

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

#### **JANET "JAN" CUSHING**

Biography:

Jan has been married to her husband, Kip, for forty-four years. They have two adult children and three grandchildren. They are members of St. Mary's Lutheran Church in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Besides camping, they enjoy fishing, both on open water and



She retired in 2016 as Deputy Clerk/Treasurer for the Village and Town of Somers, Wisconsin. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business, with a concentration in accounting. She has worked in both the private and public sectors as an accountant since 1984. She is the current Comptroller for FCRV, having been elected in 2017. Since that time, the position of Assistant Comptroller/Budget Director has been eliminated and the duties assumed by the Comptroller. She had previously served as Comptroller from July 2008 until July 2012.

#### Platform:

I am honored to have served as your Comptroller since July, 2017. As comptroller I have made it a priority to pay all vendor invoices and reimbursements to our members within one week if all of the supporting documentation is received. One of the biggest challenges facing FCRV is declining membership, which in turn causes a reduction in revenue. As Trustees it is our duty to do what is best for the organization now and in the future. We must continue to find ways to increase membership and non-dues income, along with ways to reduce expenses. We need to look at all programs to see if they are meeting the needs of our members. We also need to look at all positions on the Executive Board to see if some can be combined or even eliminated.

#### THIS N'THAT

- Mike Reagan, President of the RV Dealers Association says that Texas sells the most RVS. The typical customer is a 35 year old with young children. Although it's no longer the baby boomer, they still enjoy many of the same things about RVing.
- Class B sales increased by 28.5 % since this time last year, according to RV Business Magazine.
- FCRV's 2020 Campvention will be in Bridgden, Ontario just across the Michigan border (July dates to be announced)



# Retiree Rally 2019

#### **Houma-Terrebonne Civic Center**

Houma, Louisiana

March 19-24, 2019



#### LAST CALL

Barb & Dal Dodson, Rally Coordinators

OK folks, listen up!! LAST CALL for Retiree Rally in Houma! Our Chairs and Co-Chairs have been working hard to make this Rally happen, plus we'll have portable showers for those that need them, so come on down! We'll be expecting you with open arms!!!!!



#### 2019 RETIREE RALLY'S LAST BIG PUSH

Ron & Reba Ray, FCRV Retiree Directors

Our last big push for the 2019 International Retiree Rally in Houma, Louisiana....so come and join us.

Dallas & Barb Dodson have made many plans and their chairman have been working really hard to make all the preparation for everything to go on without a hitch.

Remember to bring food items for the food bank and lap robes for the sick and elderly. Bring along a door prize.

Bring along a friend that camps that does not belong to FCRV and let us see if we can get them involve in our organization. They can come in as guest; they will have to pay the fee like everyone else, but I'm sure they would enjoy themselves.

For those who make it to Houma, we look forward in seeing and meeting you. For those who refuse to come, we will miss you.

Safe travels to all of you.



#### VARIETY NIGHT SHOW TRADITION CONTINUES



George Walters Variety Night Chairman

For the last several years it has been the tradition of the Retiree Rally to have a variety show after the very moving Memorial Service. This has allowed us to transition from a fitting remembrance of FCRV members who have died since the last rally to a relaxing and fun evening that features our own homegrown talent.

The variety night lasts about 90 minutes, and we try to have 12-15 'acts.' Individuals are allowed 5 minutes, and group skits are allowed 10 minutes. We usually have several states and a couple of provinces represented in this variety night.

Sign-up will be during the first two days of registration, but now is the time to be thinking about something you, your chapter, state/province could perform to entertain us all. If you can sing, do recitations, play an instrument, dance, do monologues – comic or serious-, or have a group skit, we hope you'll sign up.

Think about it, and we'll see you at registration.



#### 'Oh, Well It's Carnival Time'

Gerry Dantin, Contest Chair

Get you costume ready for the Retiree Rally in Houma, LA!

We will be having a Mardi Gras costume contest followed by a second line parade around the auditorium. All contestants will be given beads to hand out to

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the audience while the judges make their decision. We will have 3 winners: 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

Come join us to "Pass a good time" and let the "Bon Temps Roule"!!!



#### RALLY BOOK EXCHANGE

Cindy & David Reid, Chairs

Please bring Used Books for Exchange or Donation. Money raised goes to local charity.



#### DOOR PRIZES



Pat Crow, Chair

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the 2019 Retiree Rally and giving out all those wonderful door prizes. See you soon



## FCRV RETIREES PLAY GAMES!



Bill & Margaret Alderman, Chairs

We start with Frog Races....Play Card Bingo (when you win, you get a dollar!), Skip-Bo and Three -thirteen card games, Chicken-foot Dominos

Enjoy Washer Toss, Hill-Billy Golf and Bean-bag, (Corn-hole) Doubles, And play on a team of 9 at the madness that's Bean Bag Baseball.

Enjoy the Games

### **'BLUE BAYOU' Red Hat Luncheon**



Dianne Buggeln & Diane Hitchens, Chairs

Friday March 22<sup>nd</sup> at Noon!! Please join us for fun and fellowship!



#### HARD HATS BREAKFAST

Friday, March 22nd @ 8:30am
Pancakes and sausage. Our speaker will
be Dr. John Doucet, Dean of the College of Arts and
Sciences at Nicholls State University.



Do you know of a person, couple, or chapter whose achievements merit national recognition? Each year, FCRV honors its members for outstanding service in their community as well as to the organization itself. These distinctions include: Chapter of the Year, Individual Award (Plaque or Citation), Humanitarian Award, Lifesaving Award, and the Hank Nathan Lifetime Achievement Award. Recipients will receive a plaque or framed citation during the evening program in Hutchison, Kansas.

Anyone can recommend someone for a national award. Chapter members are often in the best position to identify those who qualify for the Humanitarian and Lifesaving awards in particular. Instructions for each award, along with the necessary forms, can be found on the national website (<a href="www.fcrv.org">www.fcrv.org</a>). After you complete the form, please forward it to a member of the field staff, Executive Board, or a trustee for approval. If you will take a few minutes to review the material on the website, I'm sure you'll think of someone who deserves an award this year. Please let me know if you have any questions or need help with the forms.

All award nominations must be submitted by **April 15, 2019.** 

Thank you.

Sue Carlsen Recording/Corresponding Officer carlsens@tampabay.rr.com







## Campvention 2019

#### Kansas State Fairgrounds

Hutchinson, KS

July 7-12, 2019

#### KANSAS IN JULY

by Steve Hitchens

Seems like I've overheard some FCRVers who are reluctant to attend Campvention 2019 due to what they believe are brutal summer temps in Kansas in July. Naturally, that is possible, but the info below shows average high temps in the low 90's which really isn't too bad!



Vern Failor, Campvention Parking Chair, reminds us: "This is an average just so you remember that all of the buildings are air-conditioned, and we have ample electricity for all RV air-conditioners!!

#### 2019 FCRV CAMPVENTION

Ivalee Vanderhoff, Campvention Co-Chair

We are counting the months, weeks, and days until you come visit. Who is we? All of the steering committee and all of the workers for the various areas of Campvention. There are lots of activities planned

for you to choose from, but do plan to set some time aside to just sit and visit and catch up with friends.

Are you registered? We sure hope so, but if not, send it in when you can. There is always room for one more. Even if you haven't registered, have you planned a road route, just in case? Hope so. Don't forget to use the Passport America Parks, if you can. That is one of our benefits of a free year membership with them. (You have to apply for it – look on the web page.) The park may not be on your planned route, but if they are, they definitely help the budget, and some will be close by.

If you can, plan your route so that you can also do some sightseeing on the way. That is always a great way to learn something new. But back to Campvention itself. The community knows we are coming. There are some specials being planned for all of you so look in that goody bag and see what is available. Of course, we'll have the information table set up with a lifelong resident of the community who can help you navigate the map of town.

### INFORMAL MUSIC JAM AT CAMPVENTION

Ed & Kathy Hurley



We will be having informal music jams at Campvention. Details of time and location will be available at registration. Please bring your guitars, fiddles, and any instruments you play and join the fun at our informal music jams. Come to play, sing, or just to listen. If questions, contact Ed Hurley at cell phone #956-376-0008 or <a href="mailto:ekhurley@gmail.com">ekhurley@gmail.com</a>.



#### 2019 CAMPVENTION ENTERTAINMENT

Kip Cushing, Entertainment Co-Chair



**Update:** Thursday Nights Country Singer will be Rusty Rierson

As they say on the "VOICE", "Our team is Full". We hope you will be able to come to Hutchinson for Campvention and enjoy all the exciting, danceable, and action packed, entertainment we have lined up for your week.

Rusty Rierson, Kansas-based Country singer, has completed the Campvention 2019 Entertainment package awaiting you in Hutchinson, Kansas in July. Rierson is an award-winning country traditionalist who 'cut his musical teeth' learning the songs of superstars like Merle Haggard, George Jones, Randy Travis, and Alan Jackson. If you would like to find out more about Rusty check out his website at <a href="https://www.rustyrierson.com">www.rustyrierson.com</a> or you can find him on facebook as well.

Ivalee Vanderhoff, Campvention Co-Chair, added that Rierson has been nominated for Male Singer of the Year for the Rio Grande Valley.

#### **CALLING ALL FCRVERS!**



Sherry McGuire, Campvention Team 3 Chair

Calling all FCRVers! In spite of the cold weather half of our Great country has been experiencing, Region 3 has been planning the 2019 International Campvention for this coming July. We already have 1 parade entry registered! The Theme and categories for the pet parade were listed a couple of months ago, and the crafts have been planned. From what I have heard the entertainment is sounding great! So if cabin fever is getting ahold of you, pull out the registration form, fill it out and send it off! It's one camping reservation you won't regret! I hope to see you, in the middle of America, where ALL ROADS LEAD TO KANSAS!

#### TOURS FOR 2019 FCRV CAMPVENTION



Keith & Beverly Koontz, Tours Chairs

Come one, Come all, many available self-guided tours to various points in and around Hutchinson, I.E.: a salt mine, Cosmosphere, Dillions Nature center, a wild game area (including buffalo), and more. More detailed information upon arrival.



#### DOOR PRIZES NEEDED



Florence Fox, Chair; Diane Hitchens, Co-Chair

Door prizes are needed to be brought to Campvention for our committee to give away to the lucky ones receiving one. Thanks for your support as we are looking for prizes from each state & province.



## ADULT GAMES AND ACTIVITIES – AN OVERVIEW



by Karen and Robert Snodgrass

As National Adult Activities directors, we oversee the Adult Games and Activities at the National Campvention. Adult Games include our three "medal" events of Washer Toss, Ladder Golf and Horseshoes. Adult activities covers everything else, such as cards, bingo and board games.

The Washer Toss, Horseshoes and Ladder Golf competitions are open to any Campvention attendee age 20 and up. Players may sign-up at Central Registration or at the games on the day of the competition. Games are typically played using a bracket system. Names are drawn from a hat to determine initial bracket positions. While in the past Sate/Province champions were granted a bye into the final round, it was determined that everyone wanted to play and not sit around and wait. Therefore, all players regardless of their State/Province win record will be added to the first round draw for position.

Washer Toss and Ladder Golf plays the following divisions:

Men's Singles Women's Singles

#### Mixed Doubles

Horseshoes plays the following divisions:

Men's Singles Women's Singles Men's Doubles Women's Doubles Mixed Doubles

Official rules for all three games may be found on the FCRV website, <u>www.fcrv.org</u>. Go the programs tab, select Adult Activities and scroll to the bottom of the page. All rules are in PDF format. You will need the free Adobe Acrobat viewer to read them.

Adult Activities are usually determined by the Campvention committee and times, dates, locations and activities will be in the Campvention program.

We hope to see many of you come out to play the games and attend the planned activities

#### **CAMPING IS CONTEST**

The Camping Is Poster and Coloring contest is for FCRV member children up to age 12. There are six age categories: 0-2, 3-4, 5-6. 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12 years of age. Children in the 0-2 and 3-4 age groups will color a picture while the other age groups will create a poster.

The coloring page is available for download on the FCRV website at <a href="www.fcrv.org">www.fcrv.org</a>. Go to the Programs tab and select the Youth program. Scroll down to find the Camping Is download.

Children ages 5-12 will create a poster using standard size poster board and any art methods they choose to illustrate what camping means to them.



A contest is held in each state or province, typically at a Spring campout with the first place winner in each age group coming to Campvention to compete against all other first place winners. Please contact your State or Provincial Director to find out when your contest will be held.



The Youth of the Year award is a national contest based upon a child's participation in both FCRV and non-FCRV



based activities. Any child up to age 12 may be nominated for the award. The nominated

child's parents must be current FCRV members. The award will be presented at Campvention in July.

The nomination form is available for download on the FCRV website at <a href="www.fcrv.org">www.fcrv.org</a>. Choose the Programs tab and scroll down to the Youth of the Year download. Nominations may be emailed to Karen Snodgrass at <a href="kssnodgrass@earthlink.net">kssnodgrass@earthlink.net</a> or mailed to 8759 Forest View Drive, Olmsted Falls, Ohio 44138. All nominations must be received no later then June 1, 2019.

#### CHAPTER SCRAPBOOKS AND PHOTO BOOKS DISCONTINUED

After our article in the December 2018 CAMPING TODAY, we thought we would hear from more of you than we did. That article gave a little of the history of what the Adult and Teen Chapter Scrapbooks were all about, and the newer State/Provincial Photo Books.

After the suspension of the Scrapbooks Contests and Photo Book Contest in 2018, we sent a recommendation to the Board of Trustees a few weeks ago to discontinue these contests, and the Trustees approved our recommendation.

Therefore, as of February 1, 2019, the Adult and Teen Chapter Scrapbook Contests and the State/Provincial Photo Book Contest have been discontinued. We apologize to those chapters who wish to continue this activity and have already started their scrapbooks for 2019. You can still have your own competition on the state or provincial level if you wish to do so with other chapters in your area.

We wish to thank the hundreds of chapters who have participated in the Scrapbook Contests over the years since the beginning in 1988 in Highlands, Michigan. Please continue to record your chapter histories in scrapbooks or photo books to preserve your histories for future members to see.

Don and Shirley MacKenzie National Historian Email – <u>onecedarjunction@gmail.com</u> Ph. 540-967-9654

#### MAXWELL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Barb Turner, Publicity Chair

Want to see what the Great Plains looked like prior to the Westward Movement as pioneers traveled across our vast country? Add the Maxwell Wildlife Refuge to your 'must see' list as you travel to/from Campvention 2019 in Hutchinson, Kansas

in July.

The Maxwell Wildlife Refuge is located in Canton, Kansas where the buffalo and nomadic Native Americans shared that vast land. France claimed the land from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. In 1762, after the French & Indian War, France secretly ceded New France to Spain with the signing of the Treaty of Fontainebleau. In 1802 Spain returned most of the land to France. As we learned in school, most of the land of modern day Kansas was purchased by the United States with the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. With the push West and the settlement of the area, Kansas became the 34<sup>th</sup> in 1861.

Interestingly, the Maxwell Wildlife Refuge was established in 1859, two years before statehood. John Gault Maxwell, an immigrant from Scotland, wanted to allow future generations to experience Kansas was in the 1800s prior to settlement. In 1940 his son Henry willed \$75,000 for the establishment of a refuge. The Maxwell Wildlife Refuge was officially opened in 1951 with a herd of 10 bison and 6 elk. A portion of the land was set aside for the construction of the McPherson County Fishing Lake. The refuge en-



compasses 2,574 acres which is owned and managed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. When you visit the Maxwell Wildlife Refuge, located about 6 miles north of Canton, you'll experience the Kansas Prairie as it was. There are 200 head of bison and 50 elk which roam free.

Visitors at the refuge are not permitted to leave the roadway by vehicle of by foot as a portion of the road through the refuge is open range. 'If bison are near the road, view them only from the safety of your vehicle. For a modest cost the private group Friends of Maxwell offers guided tram rides onto the Refuge to see the bison.' These are available on Saturdays at 10 AM by appointment by calling 620-628-4455 or visit their website <a href="https://www.maxwellwildliferefuge.com/friends.html">https://www.maxwellwildliferefuge.com/friends.html</a> for more information.

Visit the Maxwell Wildlife Refuge online at <a href="https://www.maxwellwildliferefuge.com/">https://www.maxwellwildliferefuge.com/</a> and in person in July when you travel to Campvention 2019 when 'All Roads Lead to Kansas'!

#### We love deer – but not THAT much!

By Pat Wittmeyer

We do things a little differently here in the FCRV National Office. As some of our friends out there might know, your FCRV office manager and her husband hit a deer in late November, totaling the car, but with no permanent injuries.

So when I returned from a week's vacation and asked my fellow office employee if anything noteworthy happened while I was away, he said "Yes; on Thursday I hit a deer". Well, you can imagine my concern. Then I glanced out the office window to his car, which appeared to be alright, and asked, "You hit a deer with your car?".

"No."

"Oh; with your mother's car?"

"No."

My concern grew: "Where you driving your father's car when you hit the deer?"

"No."

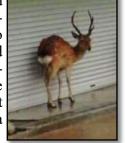
"Ummm.... How...?"

"I hit the deer with the office door."

"WHAT???"

It seems as though Carl was finished with his work day, and was walking out the door, looking down at his phone in the gathering darkness of sunset as he opened the door. There just happened to be a deer running through our parking lot at that exact moment, and Carl nailed it. The deer staggered one way

while Carl staggered the other, and the deer bounded away into a near-by field. Carl meanwhile had to find the nearest office chair and compose himself, as he was completely astonished by this strange turn of events. So yes, for the first time in history, our building hit a deer.



#### ALL ROAD LEAD TO KS

Family Campers & RVer's 59<sup>th</sup> Campvention July 7 – 13, 2019 Kansas State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson, KS

#### **Program Book Ads**

We are inviting you to promote your business to the campers who will be traveling to Hutchinson, KS by placing an ad in our program book. We are expecting approximately 250 families to come to the Kansas State Fairgrounds. This will be an excellent source of advertising for your company or organization.

Please fill out the form below us and prices.	ing the reference information on the back fo Booster ads of \$3.00, \$6.00, or \$7.00
Larger ads of Quarter Page, Half	f Page, Full Page in Black & White
Pri	ices and Print sizes on the back of this sheet.
Your name	
Your address	
Tour address	
Your phone number	E-Mail address
Paying by Check Number:	Cash
Deadline for Ads: May 1, 2019	
201111111111111111111111111111111111111	

Camping Today 13 March 2019

#### 2019 PROGRAM BOOK SPONSORSHIP

Be a sponsor for the 2019 program book. It is simple to do. Everyone - have your name listed and the state you are from. Chairmen - would you like to say thanks to your committee members and have them recognized? National Directors - you may thank all of those that work with you throughout the organization. It's just this easy. For \$3.00 - have your name and state/province listed. Print your name below and the state you are from. Name(s) State you are from\_\_\_\_\_ For \$6.00 – you may write one line of name and message (52 letters and spaces) For \$7.00 you may write two lines of name and message (104 letters and spaces) (Listing paid for with cash/check) Send or give the above to: Adds must be received by May 1, 2019 Eileen & Don Naasz 1128 West 31st **Hutchinson KS 67502** If you have any questions, please phone: 620-727-3482

#### PROGRAM BOOK ADS

AD SIZES (Print Size)

Full Page 4 ½" x 7 1.2" Outside back cover \$200.00

Inside Back cover \$150.00 in

black & white

AD PRICES

Full Page 4 ½" x 7 1.2" Full Page - \$100.00

Half Page 4 1/2" x 3 3/4" Half Page - \$70.00

Quarter Page 2 1/4" x 3 3/4" (V) Quarter Page - \$40.00

(vertical)

Quarter Page 2" x 4 ½" (H) Quarter Page - \$40.00

(horizontal)

Ads on Carry Schedule - Same as half or quarter page

All above ads should be camera ready. Ads may be on CD or flash drive
Or as an email attached file.
Business cards are accepted

#### BOOSTER ADS

\$3.00 ads are a line with your name & state/province

\$6.00 ads include your name, state/province with a message of up to 52 letters and spaces

\$7.00 ads include your name, state/province with a message of up to 104 letters and spaces.

Make checks payable to FCRV Campvention 2019

Send to Eileen Naasz, 1128 West 31St Street, Hutchinson, KS 67502-2128

#### ADS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 1, 2019

Questions: call Eileen Naasz at 620-727-3482 Or Ivalee Vanderhoff at 316-830-2115

## Memories

#### 1980 Miss NCHA Teen Queen Contest



In 1980 there were 38 entries in the Miss NCHA Teen Queen Contest at the Syracuse, NY Campvention.



#### **GARY PFEIFFER RECOGNIZED FOR BLOOD DONATION**



Gary Pfeiffer, Ohio, has been giving blood for 40 years. The Walmart store where Bettie & he work celebrated this wonderful milestone with a celebration, complete with a cake. 31 gallons that has saved 744 lives.

Bettie and Gary Pfeifer are members of the Skeeter Swatters Chapter in Findlay, Ohio.

Congrats can be sent to nomadsangel@yahoo.com

#### BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

"Nathan and I are excited to announce that Molly Marilyn Stalzer was born on January 31, 2019 at 3:11am after a fast labor and delivery." Mom, dad and Molly are doing great! Heather (Borton) Stalzer, 2001 National 2nd Runner-up & Miss Congeniality, Miss Iowa 1999 & 2001"



CONGRATULATIONS!! You can email them at hborton@yahoo.com.

## **FCRV Activities**

#### MID-FLORIDA SNOWBIRDS



The Mid-Florida Snowbirds gathered in February at the Golden Corral in Winter Haven, Florida catching up & visiting with our FCRV family. Next stop the 2019 FCRV Retiree Rally in Houma, LA. In March we'll join other members from other areas of the organization.

#### **FCRV WINTER TEXANS** HAVE BUSY WINTER

FCRV's Winter Texans Chapter had great participation in its activities this past winter in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. In addition to monthly lunch meetings from October through March, coordinated by Nancy and Ron Herberholz the group finds other fun and interesting things to do.

December activities included Guiness World Record Breaking 'Tuba Christmas Concert' (over 600 tubas of various sizes), Hidalgo Christmas lights, Tower Theater play, "It's Christmas" Nancy Herberholz (r) and annual project of charitable presents a check for donations. \$420 plus gifts,



\$420 to Marlene Adame, Activities Director of Veterans Home.

cards and stuffed animals (for the Alzheimer's wing) at the Alfred Gonzales Veterans Home in Weslaco.

January saw a large turnout at Smokin' Oak Barbecue. A tour of Channel 5 TV's studio was enjoyed (especially the green screen). The tour of the National Weather Service in Brownsville was rescheduled due to the government shutdown.

February's activities included the Tower Theater play, "Kitchen Witches" and Ron Herberholz was drafted from the audience to judge a cooking contest. It also included a large group visiting the Mozna Chocolate Factory



Sampling chocolate at the Mozna factory.

learn

chocolate is made and of course to enjoy samples. The lunch meeting at Golden Corral had a turn out of 85 and celebrated Valentine's Day with a fun 'Cupid Contest' where 3 teams dressed a volunteer cupid from a bag of

related items. Visit to Grace Heritage Ranch was re-

scheduled due to weather but the National Weather Service tour with lunch at historic Vermillion Hotel did take place February 27.

March wound down as many members headed for the Retiree Rally in Houma, but several toured Monitor the Newspaper facility and lunch at Luby's.



Cupid game winners, Dale Huston, Wayne Zuhosky, **Kathy Buresh** 

#### The Family Campers & RVers Booth at Topeka RV Show



Pictured are Joe & Linda Baum and Sara & Byron Welch of the Mustang Chapter.



#### **BLUE ROAD SIGNS**

By Joe Boswell, National DASAT Dir.

Members of the Family Campers and RVers are many times on the roadways traveling about. We like to travel, north to south, east and west, to see family and friends all about. When was the last time you really observed and paid any attention to the blue "H"

road signs? As simple as it sounds, they can become very important in an emergency. What are the blue "H" signs? The blue "H" signs help you identify where and in what direction of travel you may need to go to locate a hospital. Just for informational purposes, there



can be a big difference between a medical facility and a hospital. Simply, many of the "medical" facilities or centers are for simple medical needs and are limited in what they can do and may have limited hours and resources, whereas hospitals can handle medical needs at all hours of the day and night and have the resources to handle extreme emergencies.

May times we all travel about and do not pay any attention to what they represent or what significance they can play in an emergency. As one travels about it is important to note their locations and in what direction of travel one may need to take.

Let us look at this from a very different perspective. You are traveling, now you have stopped for the night, no matter if you are staying in a motel/hotel or a campground will you know in what direction to travel to get to the nearest hospital. Once you have arrived at your destination, and settled in for the evening, one of the first thing you should do is to become familiar with the location of the nearest medical facility or hospital. In many instances, this information is on the campground pamphlet. In other cases, it is located on the back of the door to your motel/ hotel room. Taking the few extra minutes to look at this carefully can be essential prior to any emergency.

Many people take this for granted. When the emergency happens, do you know how to get to the hospital quickly and use the most direct route? Many people will of course call 911, but wait, do you need to go along, too, or follow behind? If you do you know where you going? Are you staying in a motorhome, no car, now what? How will you get to the hospital, and back again? Which way do I go? This all may sound crazy but it happens. If you have taken the extra time to review, what directions you need to go to find the closest medical facility and/or hospital it can make your life a whole lot easier.

Accidents happen; you may have fallen and cut yourself. Now a few stiches are required, you have never been to this part of the country before, what do I do now. Where do I go? Where is the medical facility or hospital? In this instance, calling 911 may not be necessary but you do need medical care. Where do I go? In what direction? At this time, many questions begin to come to mind, will you have the answers. This is why it is important to review this information ahead of time. Taking time now to plan for the future can save your life or the life of others who just happened to be with you at this time. A part of the DASAT program and the Boy Scout motto both stress: "Be Prepared." A simple action, true, but it can make a world of difference in the end.

### CAMPERS INN TO SERVE AS S.C. MUSIC FEST SPONSOR

Courtesy of RV Business

Campers Inn RV announced it is has been named as the official RV and motorhome sponsor for the 2019 Carolina Country Music Fest (CCMF), slated to run June 6-9 in Myrtle Beach, S.C. According to a press release, this will be Campers Inn RV's second year sponsoring the festival.



The Carolina Country Music Fest is the largest three-day outdoor country music festival on the East Coast, drawing attendees from across the country. The family -friendly event will

be held in the heart of downtown Myrtle Beach, and will feature both established star and up-and-coming artists, including Florida-Georgia Line, Alabama, Dierks Bentley and Brothers Osborne.

"We are proud to be the official RV and motorhome sponsor of the Carolina Country Music Fest for the second year in a row," said Larry Peter, vice president of southern operations, Campers Inn RV. "We look forward to sharing the RV lifestyle with festival attendees and sharing the Carolina Country Music Fest experience with our customers through our 'Ultimate Country Music Vacation Sweepstakes' and ticket giveaways. Last year was a huge success,

and we look forward to another year of great music and camping."

Leading up to the event, Campers Inn RV will be giving away ticket packages at its dealerships in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia and Florida, including the "Ultimate Country Music Vacation" featuring one pair of Super VIP tickets and lodging in an RV for the festival. Giveaways and other activities will be announced on CCMF's and Campers Inn RV's social media channels, as well as on TV, radio and in dealerships.

Campers Inn RV recently expanded its operations in Myrtle Beach, and it now offers mobile service direct to campsites through its new division, Mobile RV Medics.

"We are honored to partner with Campers Inn RV again this year," said Mike Stephens, director of Carolina Country Music Fest. "RVing and country music are a natural fit and we look forward to introducing attendees to the RV lifestyle and creating a community around country music, the beach and camping."



#### 5 WAYS TO CLEAN BUGS OFF THE FRONT OF YOUR RV

By Nikki Cleveland

Bugs can ruin the exterior of your RV. These are some of the best ways to keep your RV's front end clean of bug splatter.

Don't let bug splatter stay on your RV for long. It can potentially screw up your RV's paint job, not to mention dirty your good-looking rig. Keeping your windshield clean will also make it easier to see while driving and give you better views from your window.

Click here to learn more:

http://www.doityourselfrv.com/bugs-off-rv

## **Products**

#### **DOMETIC PLB40 BATTERY**



The Dometic PLB40 lithium iron phosphate battery delivers high levels of mobile power. Designed for powered coolers and other 12 V devices while off-grid, the PLB40 can power a Dometic CFX for a weekend or more on a single charge. Thanks to its lightweight and compact design, you can enjoy true inde-

pendence and travel off-grid longer.

The Dometic PLB40 has powerful, integrated Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO4) battery cells, providing an energy supply of 40Ah/512 Wh. Ideal for powered coolers and other 12 V appliances while on adventures, the PLB40 provides a weekend of power or longer for a Dometic CFX on a single charge. The integrated DC-DC charger offers three convenient ways to charge via: the vehicle's 12 V DC socket, a solar panel or AC home power. The battery's integrated Battery Management System protects the PLB40 from under-voltage, over-voltage, short circuiting and overheating for optimum charge time, performance and storage. With this power management system, the Dometic PLB40 has a cycle of life up to four times longer than more commonly used lithium ion batteries.

#### TORKLIFT WILL INTRODUCE GLOWSTEP LINEUP AT RVX

Courtesy of RV Business



Torklift's GlowStep Revolution step system will debut at RVX with several manufacturers carrying the product in their new line of RVs.

"This step system will be seen on fifth-wheels, toy haulers and travel trailers across various RV manufacturers at RVX," said Torklift President Jack Kay in a press release. "We are unable to share exactly which RV manufacturers are debuting the step

until the show actually opens, but we are excited to see how well it is received at the OEM level."

The GlowStep Revolution entry step system differs from traditional factory steps. With seven inches of adjustability at the top and bottom of the step combined, the GlowStep Revolution is stable at ground level on all types of terrain, even sand. The design allows for the steps to easily extend in tight

spaces and also features the shortest riser height in the industry at 7 1/2 inches to accommodate customers with mobility challenges. It stores directly in the stairwell under



the stairwell under the entry door with maximum ground clearance.

Torklift is also presenting several other new towing, steps and suspension products at RVX at its exhibit in Booth No. 4209.

"We're excited to introduce new accessories to manufacturers, as well as go over advancements on existing lines that we can produce for them," said Kay. "Many manufacturers want the latest and greatest products that will take them above and beyond, and Torklift can partner with them to achieve this goal. We have over a dozen patents and our focus is to create never-before-seen products in the industry."

To learn more about Torklift, visit www.torklift.comor call 800-246-8132.

#### **MARCH TRIVIA**

So, if so many months were named for their Latin numbers, why wasn't March called... unumber? Firstly, because that sounds ridiculous, and secondly, because the Gods had dibs on it. March was actually named for the Latin Martius—aka Mars, the Roman God of war and a mythical ancestor of the Roman people via his wolf-suckling sons, Romulus and Remus. With the winter frosts melting and the ground becoming fertile for harvest again in the Northern hemisphere, March was historically the perfect month for both farmers to resume farming, and warriors to resume warring.



David Luby, 2-19, Connecticut, Lamplighters

Helen Jones, 3-2-19, Jacksonville, Florida, past District Field Dir., charter member Sunshine Travellers, long-time member Golden Lakers

#### ROBERT HERGET, NCHA/FCRV'S SECOND PRESIDENT



Robert R. 'Bob' Herget, Arcade, New York passed away on his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday, February 21, 2019 from A.L.S. He was the second President of NCHA from 1962 -1963 and was a builder of the organization known today as FCRV. He and his wife, Donna remained active in FCRV until Bob's health no longer allowed him to camp. After retirement, they spent time in Arizona and Lancaster, New York, then Arcade New York. Bob enjoyed snowmobiling. FCRV Office manager, Pat Wittmeyer said, "They attended many state, district and national campouts and offered input when needed in the governance and administration of state and area FCRV affairs. They were lifetime members".

Bob Herget was a lifetime member of the Village of Lancaster Fire Department and past Chief of the Holland Fire department. Bob's step-son, Scott Wander said, "He inspired me to pursue what has become my career as an E.M.T. for the past 24 years. He was a natural leader and I learned much about organizational leadership from him. His wit, insight, caring, determination and persistence will be sorely missed." Both Bob and Donna lost their spouses and met through church. The blended families of 7 siblings was affectionately called the 'Brady Bunch'.

Bob Herget is survived by his wife, Donna, 6 children, 12 grandchildren, and one great grandchild. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Joy (Waite) and daughter, Deborah (Jeff) Plumm. Condolences may be sent to <a href="mailto:DHerget@att.net">DHerget@att.net</a> or 133 Autumnview Dr., Arcade, NY 14009.





#### <u>APRIL</u>

#### April 5 – 7, 2019 – Kansas District II Spring Thaw Campout

Winfield, KS at the Fairgrounds. A fun, relaxing weekend and there is a building if the weather turns chilly in the evening. Call 316-655-2970 for more information.

#### April 26 – 28, 2019 – Kansas District I Campout

Topeka at Capital City KOA, a really nice place to camp. Call 785-862-9053 for more information and plan your route.

#### **MAY**

#### May 3 – 5, 2019 – Kansas Campers Association Spring Campout

Winfield Fairgrounds. Everyone is welcome to come and share. Call 316-776-2779 for information.

#### MAY 3-9, 2019 - Blue Water Mini Mixer

Port Huron TWP Park, Port Huron, MI, Saturday pot luck w/ chicken provided. Call park for reservations after April 15 (810-982-6765) See registration blank on website wwwfcrv.org.

#### May 6 – 10, 2019 – Kansas Sunchasers Retirees Campout.

If you came for the State at the Fairgrounds in Winfield, just stay put for the retirees. Or come for just the retirees. Call 620-960-2322 for the details. Come relax.

#### May 24 - 27 Wisconsin Get Acquainted Campout

Walworth County Fairgrounds, Elkhorn, WI

#### **JULY**

#### **July 7 – 12, 2019 – 2019 Campvention**

Kansas State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson, Kansas

#### **SEPTEMBER**

#### **SEPT 27-29, 2019 - Blue Water Mixer,**

Eastern Michigan Fairgrounds, Imlay City, MI, donrocky64@hotmail.com. See Registration Form on website <a href="https://www.fcrv.org">www.fcrv.org</a>



Spring Is Coming Believe It Or Not!!

Now is the time to get registered for the coming season campouts especially

Campvention 2019 in Hutchison, Kansas

**DON'T MISS THE FUN!!** 





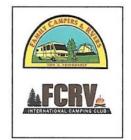
### 59th INTERNATIONAL CAMPVENTION FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers

Hosted by the Heartland Region # 2

"ALL ROADS LEAD TO KANSAS"
Kansas State Fairgrounds, 2000 North Poplar St.

Hutchinson, KS 67502

**Campvention Days:** July 8 - 12, 2019 fees covers July 7 - 12 (6 nights)



Early Bird Days: July 5 & 6, 2019 @ \$25 / night (pay @ registration – cash/check)

Registrations are needed by: June 1, 2019

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!!!

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 - 12Youth 5 - 8Young AdultsTotal number of people in Unit:
Please list the names and ages of all Teens and Youth:  Name  Age  Name  Age
Name Age Name Age
CAMPVENTION PARKING:
The gates will be open all days from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The first 211 registrations will be parked in the full l
up sites. All others will be parked with water & electric. If you are not registered prior to arrival, you will
a water & electric site. The full hook up area has paved streets and gravel parking sites. The water
& electric sites are in grass areas. Tent sites are available in grass with shade and close to the shower how
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
the registration form. All funds should be US currency of checks or money orders. NO CREDIT CARD
One Family in the Unit Registration S300.00 At Gate \$310.00
One Family in the Unit \$300.00 \$310.00 Extra Family in the Unit (separate pay) \$150.00 \$160.00
Week Drive-in Pass (July 7 – 12) \$175.00 \$185.00
Walk-in Camp Pass (per day) \$35.00 Per Day Same
Week Drive-in Pass (July 7 – 12) \$175.00 \$185.00  Walk-in Camp Pass (per day) \$35.00 Per Day Same  Motor Home 5 <sup>th</sup> Wheel Travel Trailer Pop-Up Want in shade trees
THINGS TO SEE AND DO AROUND HUTCHINSON:
Cosmosphere (Smithsonian-affiliated Space Museum), Strataca (a salt mine museum), Yoder (a Amish community
Hutchinson Zoo, Dillon Nature Center, Hedrick Exotic Animal Farm, Soldiers & Sailors Memorial, Reno County Mu
Kansas Kids Museum, Reno County Veterans Memorial, Salt Discovery Site & Memorial Marker,
Make checks payable to: 2019 FCRV Campvention Refund policy: If you are unable to
Mail to: Keith Koontz attend, all except \$ 25 will be refunded
2224 Woodland St
Wichita, KS 67204-5938
Contact them at: 316-655-2970 or k.koontz@sbcglobal.net
We would like to volunteer for: