



EMPIRE STATE NEWS

THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF FCRV



Autumn Issue 2017

Stiegler's State Report

Here it is fall already. We want to keep all in our hearts that are going thru the hurricanes, both in Texas and Florida. As we say in NY, we will take our snow any day. We can't fathom what they are going thru, please be safe.

We did not go to National this year, but we heard it was a good time. Next year is in Virginia. Congrats to all the winners.

I had heard from Sue Fromholzer that NY is in charge of NE Regional for next year. She said she would help, so she is looking into Southwoods Campground and Resort in Byron NY. The tentative date is August 16-19, 2018. She said this year, which was chaired by Connecticut, was at a regular campground and attended by about 38 families. We will see what we can do, but if anyone has a place that we could go to, please let me know.

We had talked to Sean about trying to set a date to have an officers and field staff meeting, to discuss what is happening with NY State. This is still in the works, as you can see from recent emails. We keep getting less and less at our only campout on Memorial Day Weekend and last year the price was unbelievably low. What do we need to do to get everyone involved? But thank you to those who stepped up at this past State Campout to take over for next year. Our Theme will be "Celebrating Volunteers", and most of the jobs have been filled already.

I had received an email from DeWayne Johnson about CONY. It states that NY has an increase in Camping with using the CONY Campground Directory in which there are many campgrounds listed in all areas of New York State.

This information was in Shari Weber's (FCRV President) update from National Board Meeting at National Campvention :

NEW PROGRAM

At Campvention the executive board approved the formation of a new program focusing on our veterans and their interests.



Miss New York, Abbie LaManna, during the Talent portion of the National Teen Queen Contest

Ron Braley of Ohio has been appointed as the director of the International Veterans Program. The group has already provided opportunities at retiree rallies as well as at Campvention. They want to work to make sure vets and their families are able to enjoy camping. This can be done at national events as well as local events. Please contact Ron with questions or suggestions by email at Ronald.braley@outlook.com. This program reports to our Vice President Programs, George Walters. We had a good meeting with a lot of information shared. We discussed and approved a subscription fee for printed "Camping Today" to begin on January 1, 2018. The letter informing the membership has been distributed by email for those we had email and snail mail for the rest. The subscription rate is \$20 per year and is for members only. This rate does not completely cover the \$36 per year per issue it actually costs us to provide 12 printed copies of "Camping Today" to members who request it. Please remember this was an executive board decision meant to be financially responsible while still providing something some of our members are requesting. As our organization moves to meet the needs of today's campers there are changes

Stiegler's State Report (Con't.)

that not everyone likes, but they are made with the interests of FCRV in mind.

Finally, we would like to give our deepest sympathy to Dottie Jennings for the loss of Gene. He will be deeply missed.
Linda and John

Youth Report

I think we had a pretty fun time at spring state. We made a baking soda volcano (thank you Mrs. Gunning). We did the Mentos and diet coke experiment (Thank you Mr. Burns). And young and young at heart had fun making things with the perler beads.

Mary Thompson thank you for donating the play set to Youth.

I'm still new to this, so I welcome all suggestions.

| Camping Is: | State | National |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 3-4 Avery Wood | Participation | |
| 5-6 Carter Wood | 1 st | 2 nd |

Carol Burns
NYSA Youth
mcburns@frontier.com



DISTRICT DIALOGS

HUDSON VALLEY DISTRICT

Hudson Valley District Spring Campout was held 5/19-21/17 at the Shongum Shockers Campground. The weather was nice and we enjoyed the weekend. The Shongum Shockers were our hosts and the theme was "T-Shirt Sayings Say It All". A fun theme and maybe a new theme for other chapters to enjoy. We also had a delicious Saturday night dinner sponsored by the district. Date for our Fall Campout is September 15, 16, 17, 2017 at the Shongum Shockers Campground hosted by the No Names and Shongum Shockers will provide Friday night hospitality.

Hudson Valley District says thank you to: Pat Wittmeyer for being our new Editor - in - chief of the New York Bureau of Empire State News. Thank you Barbara McHale for your many years as editor of ESN. Thank you to Michael Burns for being our new NYSA Treasurer. Thank you Dottie Jennings for your years of service as Treasurer and also Membership Director.

Our next NYSA 2018 Spring Campout, Memorial Day Weekend, held at the Herkimer Fairgrounds will be "Celebrating Volunteers" and it is being planned by volunteers and put on by volunteers. We must pre-register and camping fee just might be free.

Information from 2017 Campvention: New York had approximately 15 rigs attending the 57th FCRV Campvention in Lima, Ohio. The stormy weather was a bit stubborn, causing mud everywhere. Our NY for NY Party was over as we started. A tornado evacuation siren went off and we went to the nearest concrete building - a bathroom. After the all-clear signal, we cleaned up the ruined food and went to bed. Still raining. Hudson Valley District's George Rothmann took 2nd place men's singles in washertoss. Ron and George sadly missed winning 1st place doubles. Ask them to tell you this tale. Gloria Steinberg received a sports award and Ian Burns had a 1st place with his Conservation Poster. Congratulations. The entertainment was fabulous. All 4 nights were fantastic. [\(More on next page\)](#)

DISTRICT DIALOGS

HUDSON VALLEY DISTRICT (Con't.)

Congratulations to our Miss NYS Teen Queen, Abbie LaManna.

Abbie won Miss Congeniality. A job well done. Abbie and her brother, Al (Abbie's escort) did a wonderful job. New York parade booth looked great even though we did not win. Thanks, Patty W. for the idea and the theme was fun. 2018 Campvention is in Doswell, Va.

We hope everyone is having a wonderful and safe summer.

George and Tonya Rothmann

CONSERVATION 2017

Conservation Posters:

| | State | National |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 9-11 Ian Burns (Central) | 1 st | 1 st |
| 12-14 Al LaManna (Suffolk) | 1 st | 3 rd |
| 15-19 Kerri McHale (Central) | 1 st | 3 rd |
| 20+ Carol Burns (Central) | 1 st | 3 rd |
| Beth LaManna (Suffolk) | 2 nd | |

Thank you to all who sent in posters. As you can see, everyone placed.

In the future, at the spring state camp out, I will be bringing poster board and some craft supplies. If your district has not sent in a poster from your age category, you may make a poster there (one one person from each age category).

Please email us some questions or ideas for Mike's conservation talk at spring state.

Carol and Mike Burns
 NYSA Conservation
 mcburns@frontier.com



WESTERN DISTRICT

The 2017 Western District Campout was held at Woodstream Campout in Gainsville, NY this past weekend, and is now in the books.

Ten families attended our Easter Themed weekend, which had absolutely gorgeous weather, with unseasonably high temperatures and clear skies all weekend. The evenings cooled down nicely so we could enjoy a group campfire both nights.

We had lots of goodies for hospitality on Friday, and enjoyed Easter-style games on Saturday, followed by a traditional Ham dinner with delicious side dishes. Some members were able to attend the Appleumpkin Festival in Warsaw too.

After the registration fee was collected and the bills paid, the weekend only cost the District \$20. Our District meeting was held on Saturday, and we discussed upcoming changes to the national FCRV logo, and plans for the New York State Association.

Many thanks to Mary Thompson and Ginny Groff for running our games, and to Sue Fromholzer who obtained the hams for us.

Since everyone there enjoyed the weekend, we agreed to come back to Woodstream in 2018. A block of 10 sites has been reserved for September 21-23, 2018, in that same section of the campground. If you hear of more families being interested in attending, either from local chapters or fellow members in NYSA, let me know and I will set aside more sites. Please reserve your specific site number by calling Woodstream directly at (585) 493-5643. The block of sites are reserved under the "Western District Campers" name.

After we wrap up the holidays and begin to look toward next year's camping season, we will update you with plans for 2018.

Thank you for attending! I look forward to seeing you all next year!

Pat Wittmeyer
 W.D. Campout Chair



DISTRICT DIALOGS (Con't.)

FINGER LAKES DISTRICT

We currently have three active chapters: Top of the Hill, PALS, and Keuka Kampers. The total membership is 16. Some of those are members of two clubs. We lost two clubs; the 39ers and the Schylarks.

Our district officers are: Frank Russell, President; Jim Pipe, Vice President; Joyce Pipe, Secretary; Cass Lorrow, Treasurer; Nyhl Austin and Linda Austin are editors and publishers of our district newsletter, 'Chatterbox', which is one of our most important assets. Good and regular communication is vital to our success. Meetings and camping schedules are well under way; and May 19 - 21st we had eleven rigs and three day passes at the Almond Rod and Gun club hosted by PALS.

Looking Ahead to Campvention 2018

The Family Campers & RVers 58th Campvention will be held at The Meadows Event Center Fairgrounds in Doswell, Virginia, July 9-13, 2018. Early days will be July 7 & 8. The Theme for next year is "Where Our Country Began".

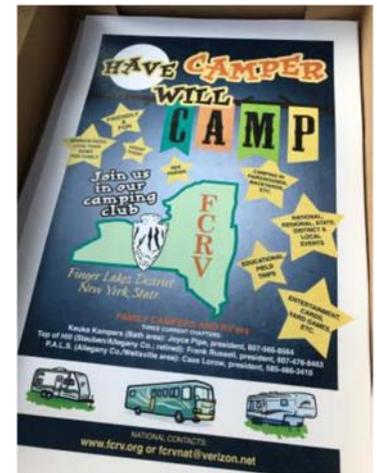
There are approximately 175 sites with full hookups: water, electric, and sewer. In response to the request for full hobo parking at campventions, Campvention 2018 will be **Hobo-style Parking for everyone!** This means that if you want to camp with someone special, you arrive together. You enter the grounds together. There will be no saving of sites for anyone. There will be a Special Needs Parking area. Those who arrive after all the full-hookup sites are filled will have water & electric and will be given a voucher for a free dump of your unit at your site.

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

The next District campout will be at the Bath Fairgrounds, hosted by Keuka Kampers. Each of our clubs have scheduled campouts, usually once a month, going to either public campgrounds or members' homes where space is available. The district officers host a recognition dinner in October that recognizes some of the outstanding efforts by the district members. Although we had only one camping family at the most recent state campout, four families planned to attend the national Campvention at Lima, Ohio.

Similar to all organizations, we are struggling with membership issues. Our new membership chair has plans in the works to reach out for new members. If successful we will share our ideas with you. Our new membership chairman is Linda Austin.

This is the poster Linda and her team have put together to spread the word about FCRV and NYSA in the Finger Lakes region.



Ribbon Cutting ceremony opening the 57th Annual Campvention

CAMPVENTION 2017 UPDATE

So many interesting things happened at Campvention that it's difficult to know where to start. Our little caravan of four families from Ken-Ton gathered at Wal-Mart outside the gates of the Allen County Fairgrounds in Lima, Ohio so that we could pull in and camp together within our state. When we arrived we found that more than 20 families were there



representing New York State. On Sunday representatives from New York attended a variety of regional and executive board meetings that so that everyone could be brought up to speed on the latest developments within our association. Monday evening brought the first excitement of the weeklong campout when the tornado sirens went off and we were instructed to gather at the safest location, the cinder block bathrooms. The warnings subsided after about an hour, without serious

damage to the grounds or campers. Weather continued to be a concern when on Tuesday during the Family Fun Day festivities high winds and strong rain pelted the cookout, forcing folks to huddle close together under the covered stage area.



Once the storm blew over we continued with our dinner of hamburgers and hot dogs and enjoyed a variety of games. Speaking of games, New York was a well represented, winning a variety of ribbons in horseshoes, washer toss and ladder golf. Our members also participated in the pet parade, (Gloria's 'pet' NEVER stains the carpet!) and cheered for our teen queen, Ms. Abbie LaManna during the Teen Queen competition. On Friday morning we enjoyed the reverse parade, where Amy Wittmeyer, filling in for Abbie, who was on the Queen's Court as Miss Congeniality, "played" in our unique spin on the parade theme of "I've Been Working On The Railroad". In our case, it was "I'm Still Working on My

Railroad" with a child's playroom décor. Amy also won the prestigious Schuh scholarship

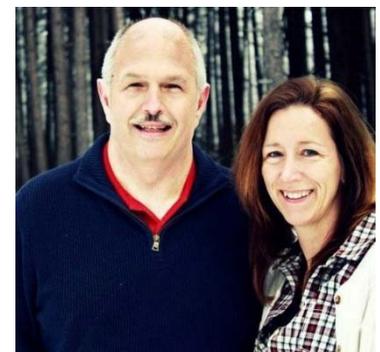


award, given to those pursuing an environmental based education. She is working on obtaining her Wildlife Biologist certificate through the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse. With an outstanding GPA of 3.95, Amy also won the New York State scholarship.



EDITOR'S NOTE:

Many thanks to all of you who have been patient while work was being done by your new editor to figure out how to put all the materials, ideas and suggestions that Barb has provided to help me pull this all together to publish Empire State News. Now that I'm sitting in the editor's chair, I can tell you that my predecessor has done a LOT of work over the years, and she is to be congratulated on her effort, time and dedication in getting Empire State News out to our members on a regular basis. Thank you, Barbara McHale, for your time and hard work. New York appreciates you! (And so do I!)





FAMILY CAMPERS AND RVERS

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



LAST NAME: _____ FIRST: _____ SPOUSE/OTHER: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE/PROVINCE: _____ ZIP/POSTAL: _____

LAST NAME OF OTHER: _____ ADDRESS: _____ ST/PROVINCE: _____ ZIP/POSTAL: _____

PHONE# _____ OTHER: _____

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

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

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ CONFIRMATION LETTER SENT IN PDF FILE: YES _____ NO _____

CONFIRMATION LETTERS WILL BE SENT BY EMAIL. IF YOU WISH IT SENT BY MAIL TO ANOTHER ADDRESS THAN THE ONE ABOVE, PLEASE PROVIDE THE ADDRESS IN THE SPACE BELOW:

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP/PROVINCE: _____

SPECIAL NEEDS PARKING:

TO BE PARKED IN SPECIAL NEEDS (HANDICAP) AREA, YOU MUST HAVE ON FILE WITH THE REGISTRAR AN UP-TO-DATE : DOCTOR'S CERTIFICATE, STATE LICENSE REGISTRATION INCLUDING HANDICAP PLATE, OR HANDICAP PLACARD. THIS AREA IS RESERVED FOR WHEELCHAIRS, WALKERS, OR THOSE WITH LIMITED MOBILITY PROBLEMS: _____

GUEST ARE WELCOME:

Guests/Non-FCRV members are welcome. They may be in their own unit or with you. Have them complete a registration form and indicate they are your guests. We strongly suggest they enter the camping area at the same time you do. We are guests or NON-FCRV members of: _____

FEES:

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

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

| | <u>Pre-registration (paid in advance in full)</u> | <u>At the Gate</u> |
|---|---|--------------------|
| Two people in a unit: | \$225.00 | \$250.00 |
| Single person in a unit: | \$195.00 | \$220.00 |
| Camp Pass (2 people or second couple in a unit) | \$125.00 | \$150.00 |
| Camp Pass (1 person or extra person in a unit) | \$ 85.00 | \$110.00 |

REFUND POLICY: Refunds must be requested in writing by mail or email or phone call to the

Registrar. Refunds requested before March 9, 2018 will receive the following: two people in a unit: \$200, one person in a unit: \$170.00, Camp Pass two people: \$100.00, Camp Pass single person: \$60.00.

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

Make checks or money order (US CURRENCY ONLY) payable to: FCRV/NCHA RETIREE RALLY 2018. NO

CREDIT CARDS. Mail registration to: Bill and Penny Ramlow, 8009 Cherry Branch DR., Ruskin, FL. 33573. You can contact them at: 305-822-6589 and 813-545-6083 or email them at pramlow@aol.com.

For National Scholarship Info

go to FCRV website: <http://www.fcrv.org/programs2/national-programs/scholarship/> completed National FCRV scholarship application deadline is April 15 (request after 12/1, prior to 4/1)

NYSA-NCHA SCHOLARSHIPS

New York State Assoc. offers college scholarships to members or their children or legal dependents belonging to an affiliated chapter or an independent member who pays NYSA dues (\$5.00/year). FCRV membership must be at least ONE year old. Scholarships are awarded for both two and four year accredited institutions of higher learning. Students currently enrolled in college are given equal consideration with incoming freshman students. Scholarships are awarded at the state campout in May and vary in number and amount of award.

Herb & Marie Petersen, Directors

76 Gaymore Rd., Port Jefferson Sta., NY 11776-1353

Preferred method of contact is email-
petersen76@aol.com

Deadline for the return of completed NY State Scholarship applications is May 1.

NYSA-NCHA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION REQUEST FORM

Due to being "snowbirds" -Please e-mail this info to
petersen76@aol.com

Please email me the information packet regarding the NYSA-NCHA Scholarship.

My FCRV membership # is _____.

Join date: Month ____ / Year ____.

I am ____ a high school student.

____ currently enrolled in college.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The ESN is also now available on the FCRV website in the "Newsletters" section under New York.

The ESN will now be published 3x per year.

The due dates will be as follows:

Spring Issue – March 15 (Published in April)

Summer Issue – June 15 (Published in July)

Holiday Issue – November 15 (Published Dec.)

Please send reports via email whenever possible.

Please try to submit articles near the due date, and

Placing ESN first in the subject line of your message is always helpful.

As always, Snowbirds receiving a printed newsletter, please send change of address form to Stiegler (as well as the National Office) with the start and stop date and your temporary address.

SEND ARTICLES TO:

Patricia Wittmeyer

50 Victory Avenue

Hamburg, NY 14075

Email: pwittmeyer175@gmail.com

Printing and Mailing the ESN:

John & Linda Stiegler

92 Sandra Drive

Cheektowaga, NY 14225

John Stiegler: stiegl1@gmail.com

Linda Stiegler: stiegl2@gmail.com

To receive email notification of next ESN availability:

ROBERT WOLF

Nysa.esn@gmail.com



Important Dates for 2017:

NYSA Board Meeting Oct. 22, 2017
November: Holiday issue of ESN
National Campvention in Doswell, VA
July 8 – 13, 2018

Inside this Issue:

District reports
Wrap up from 2017 Campvention
Conservation report

FCRV NATIONAL OFFICE: 1-786-668-6242 1-800-245-9755 FCRVNAT@verizon.net www.fcrv.org



“Where Strangers Become Friends
& Friends Become Family”

DELIVER AS ADDRESSED OR
TO CURRENT RESIDENT

DATED MATERIAL,
PLEASE DELIVER A.S.A.P.

BARBARA AND SEAN MCHALE
ESN EDITORS
ESN PRINTER/MAILERS
JOHN AND LINDA STEGLER
92 SANDRA DR.
CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14225



NYSA/NCHA
ESN EDITORS

