

Nebraska *CALLING*



September 2018

Where Strangers Become Friends & Friends Become Family!

State Director's Message . . . *Rob and Joleen Baker*

As we sit here trying to decide what to write in this month's *Calling* article, we have thoughts, recommendations, ideas, and future plans to continue in moving Nebraska forward. To keep us going in the right direction, we will focus on ensuring that all members have a sense of inclusion. All of you, as members of Nebraska FCRV, are equally important. We can go through a month without hearing from a member. We wonder if the silence is good or bad, and the only thing we can discern is that it depends upon whom you ask. We wonder whether there is a storm brewing, or is everything calm and plugging along as well as can be expected? Or is it that our membership is becoming complaisant? We urge you to not let things brew into a storm. If there is something that you as a member of your Chapter or the State want to bring forward, whether it be something discussed last month or a year ago at the Planning Meeting, or something new, it doesn't matter. Please share your disquiets. **Your** thoughts, recommendations, ideas and future plans **are important** and we need to hear them. Chapter Leaders, Program Directors, Field Directors - we urge you, as we move forward, to adopt the same attitude of bringing forward any recommendations as well as problems.

We have been gearing up for our State/Fall Workshop in October at the Double Nickel in Waco, Nebraska. Some of the activities planned are hayrack rides, campfires, games, Putt Putt Golf Tournament and the Workshop/State Meeting. At our meeting we will discuss planning for next year. Your opinions count. If you have suggestions, please make them heard. Also, we will be presenting Awards and Certificates for Members and Chapters from National and the State.

As our Nebraska camping season starts to wind down, we are asking that the lines of communication stay open until we gear up again for next year. Please stay in touch with your Chapters and all of your Nebraska State Leaders so that we can continue to move our state forward in a positive manner.

Hope to see as many of you as possible at Double Nickel - until then Happy Camping Everyone!!!!

What's Inside...

State Director's Message	1
Dates to Remember	1
Campvention 2019	2
State Chaplain's Message	3
State Conservation	3
State Youth/Teens	3
State Retirees	4
Miniature Golf	6
Courageous Ramblers	6
Triple F	6
Rollin' Turtles	7
Corn Picking Good Times	8
Directors	9

2018 Dates to Remember

October 5-7 Corn Picking Good Times,
Double Nickel at Waco, NE

2019 Dates to Remember

July 7-13 Campvention, Hutchinson, KS

Reports. . .

Campvention 2019 . . .

'All Roads Lead to Kansas'

by Barb Turner, Publicity Chair

'All Roads Lead to Kansas' is the theme of the 59th FCRV Campvention hosted by the Heartland Region and chaired by Ivalee Vanderhoff and Gerald Pfirsch at the Kansas State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson, Kansas July 7-12, 2019. Early Bird Days are July 5 & July 6.

Ivalee shared info on what our members can expect when we attend Campvention 2019...

The camping fee of \$300 covers Sunday through Friday night camping and all activities. The Early Bird Days will be Friday July 5 & Saturday July 6 at \$25 per night. The registration confirmation will include suggestions for places to stay within 50 miles, 100 miles, or 150 miles.

Hookups: The first 211 registered campers WILL have a full hookup site with 20/30/50 amp electric, water and sewer. The rest will have water/electric. If a registered camper comes in with a non-registered camper and their number would exceed the number of sewer sites available, they will be separated for parking unless the registered camper chooses to stay with the non-registered one. Tent sites will be available under shade trees for those who want one. They have electric available and are close to the shower house. If you arrive after the parking stops for the evening, the security will direct you to an area with electric to park for the night until parking comes to you in the morning. Camping will be hobo. The parking is on gravel, but there are paved roads throughout.

Wi-Fi is available, but there is a fee. A McDonald's is not far away.

All buildings are air-conditioned.

The Encampment Building will be the main Campvention building.

The Youth will have their own building with shelves for display and drying of

artwork in the Talbott East Building. There is a small kitchen area and restrooms inside the building.

The Teens will be in the Morton Building which is close for walking but a little ways from the Encampment Building and the camping area.

The FCRV Band will be in Talbott West that has shelves for the instruments, a kitchen area, and restrooms. It is lockable and has A/C as do all the rest.

The Adult Activities Center plans to have hot coffee and donuts or rolls available to purchase early each morning so you don't have to drive to the donut shop. Stop in and visit them. They will be in the Centennial Hall Meeting Room with a nice-size room plus a kitchen area and restrooms just down the hall.

An activity is planned every evening. All evenings will start at the same time with announcements and awards prior to the entertainers taking the stage. The programs will be held in the Hansen Auditorium, a 749-seat theater with comfortable seats and a good view of the stage.

The traditional Campvention ending parade will be a regular parade outside on the grounds in 2019. There are many shade-tree areas for spectators to take advantage of while watching the parade. "Also, you can visit with your neighbor," says Ivalee. Parade entries from individuals, chapters, states/provinces, and groups are encouraged to participate.

Shopping on-grounds? The committee plans on having a variety of vendors for your shopping enjoyment. The Hustons plan to be on-grounds to make your badges and provide FCRV merchandise. The FCRV Marketplace will be available for chapters and individuals to participate.

Over the next few months, the committee will be sharing plans for your stay at Campvention 2019 in Hutchinson, Kansas next July. Register soon!

State Chaplain's Message . . . Mert Feikert

We have just returned from spending a couple of days at the Retirees Rally in Stromsburg. It was nice to see many of you again whom we have not seen for a while. We were disappointed that we had to leave early but had to get back for our Wednesday morning Bible study at our home church.

As we were traveling to and from Stromsburg, I tried to keep count of the many bridges I had to cross, but lost count somewhere around 50. During our lives we must cross many bridges as we travel from place to place. If they were not there we would find the roads impassible and find ourselves falling into many gulleys and canyons.

Our walk as Christians is very similar. The gulleys and canyons we fall into are constantly impeding our travel and we find ourselves having to pull ourselves back on the road over and over again. I'm so thankful that the bridges have been built that enable us to travel from place to place on the earth's surface. I'm also thankful that our loving father gave us a bridge that we can use repeatedly as we fall into the gulleys and canyons of sin. That bridge came to us as Jesus, and our belief in Him gives us the rope and strength we need to pull ourselves out of the crevasses of sin that we find ourselves falling into.

In Luke Chapter 19 verse 10 Jesus said:

"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

It is so easy to get lost as we travel the road of life here on the earth. Thank You God for giving us the road map that we need to safely get us home.

State Conservation . . . Steve & Marcia Witmer

A word from Conservation Directors:

We can recycle many things: paper, cardboard, plastic. But, what do you do with bottle caps?

Bottle caps are replacing wood in benches. It takes 400 pounds of caps to make one bench.

Fewer trees being cut down means more oxygen, and helping to save the environment.

The American Legion Auxiliaries of Nebraska are collecting the caps to recycle into benches for memorial parks.

You can help save the environment by saving plastic bottle caps from sports drinks, water bottles, pop bottles and bring them to the Fall campout.

Another collection for the York Auxiliaries is collecting "Best Choice" UPC labels. Any help with these projects would be greatly appreciated.

State Youth/Teens . . . Dawn Morgan-Baker

Hi Everyone!

It's been a quiet month at our house, but we have had some gorgeous weather for camping. With the *Camping Today* out, we can officially announce our **amazing** kids! There were 22 "Camping Is" entries this year throughout the entire nation. Our little itty bitty state submitted 3 of those. Camerick Hoagland won Honorable Mention for his age group. Haylie Baker won second place for her age group. Jernaile Morgan-Baker won first place for his age group. We also had an entry for the Conservation Essay. Tyler Matthews won third place with his essay about *The Effects of Human Garbage*. I am so proud of our kids and teens for participating in National Contests and the results show that we have awesome kids in this state.

I am still trying to gather interest for a Teen Chapter. We may already have a charter and our friends in the National offices are helping us resolve that question. In the meantime, please, talk to your kids and grandkids to see if this is something they want to do. I also saw in the *Camping Today* that there is a state with a "Pre-Teen Chapter" for kids 8-12. I think these would be amazing opportunities for our kids. Please

get in touch with me if your child/teen is interested in either of these.

I noticed at June Bug, and again at a joint chapter campout in July, that we have a lot of kids and teens who are “grandkids” to FCRV members. From what it sounds like, these kids camp and participate in FCRV quite often. Please consider getting them a membership for FCRV. The only membership types are “family” now, which are \$35 per year. Perhaps that family membership, which is now good for 18 months for the initial sign up, can be a Christmas present for the kids and grandkids.

Thanks for reading and happy camping!

State Retirees . . . *Linda Sander*
FCRV Retiree Rally
August 19-23, 2018, Buckly Park,
Stromsburg

The 2018 Retiree Rally at Buckly Park was a rewarding and fun time in spite of a damp beginning. After rain on Sunday, we were blessed with four days of rain-free mild weather.

Sunday night found the Retirees gathered at Bertrand for their evening meal.



Front row: Janene Feikert, Vesta Dorn, Ina Carriker, Harry Sprague, Phoebe Sprague

Middle row: Mert Feikert, Bob Dorn, Shirley Rippe, Mary Kay Hacket, Jan Van Arsdall, Donna Hansen

Back row: Don Haresnape, Curtis Sprague, Clarissa Sprague, Gary Sander, Jim Hackett, Linda Sander, Janet Steahr, Mahlon Dickey, Judy Dickey



Back at Buckly Park, our Chaplain, Mert Feikert, lead the Retirees with devotions, a message and some hymn singing.

Monday morning began with coffee and tasty pastries and baked goods. Thanks to Shirley Rippe for making coffee for the Retirees every day.

Retirees enjoyed Monday lunch on their own. Afternoon Games were available for those who wished to play. For Monday night supper, Judy and Mahlon Dickey provided delicious pulled pork sandwiches. The rest of the retirees provided the remainder of the meal.



For Monday night entertainment, the Retirees were treated to performance by Vesta and Bob Dorn. They played and sang many of our favorite and familiar tunes. Judy Dickey played her keyboard and sang.



Judy also treated everyone with a selection played on her steel guitar. Mert Feikert showcased his vocal talent and performed 3 solos.

Tuesday morning the Retirees enjoyed coffee and breakfast items furnished by the group. The Tuesday noon meal was enjoyed at the Stromsburg Senior Center. The meal was very tasty and some found it necessary to get a to-go box for the food that they could not eat.

Tuesday afternoon Janet Steahr lead a Crafts project. Janet can always be counted on to have an interesting and useful craft. For Tuesday supper, Jim Steahr furnished a campfire and the group roasted hot dogs and made s'mores. After supper, everyone played card bingo with prizes provided by Jan Van Arsdall.

Shirley Rippe and Linda Sander provided Wednesday breakfast. The homemade sausage and gravy, and eggs were made by Shirley Rippe. Linda Sander furnished the biscuits and the orange juice.

During the 10:30 am business meeting on Wednesday, Phoebe Sprague informed the group that she was stepping down as president. Shirley Rippe was elected as President of the FCRV Nebraska Retirees, Mary Kay and Jim Hackett were selected as Nebraska Retiree King and Queen for 2019.



Janet Staehr decked them out with the sashes and crowns.



Mary Kay and Jim as Nebraska Retirees Queen and King for 2019

They will represent Nebraska at the Retiree Rally, March 2019 in Houma, LA.

Wednesday all provided their own meal for lunch. Phoebe Sprague treated everyone to an ice cream social in the afternoon. Wednesday supper was potluck furnished by everyone.

After coffee on Thursday morning, everyone began their journey home.

2018 FCRV Nebraska Retirees Rally was attended by 14 units, 20 FCRV adult

members, 4 adult guests, 2 children guests and 5 dogs and 1 cat.

Those attending were:

Ina Carriker, Carol and Donald Haresnape, Judy and Mahlon Dickey, Shirley Rippe, Vesta and Bob Dorn, Linda and Gary Sander, Janene and Mert Feikert, Phoebe & Harry Sprague, Mary Kay & Jim Hackett, Janet & Jim Staehr, Donna Hansen, and Jan Van Arsdall

Guests were: Curtis & Clarissa Sprague, Robyn and Josh Yankus and their children, Dominic and Aurora.

Stay tuned for details about the 2019 Retire Rally and join the fun. **Everyone is welcome.**

Miniature Golf Tournament at The Gathering

Get ready to hit the greens at the State Campvention at Double Nickel. FCRV has reserved the campground's miniature golf course for a tournament to be held on Saturday morning at 10:30. There will be categories for men, women, and youth, with ribbons being awarded for the best scores.

John Brashaw,
Triple "F" Campers

Chapter News . . .

Courageous Ramblers

Seven members and 4 guests camped in Weeping Water on Aug. 16th to 19th.

We were pleased that our State Directors Rob and Jolene Baker joined us as our honored guests. Also, their daughter Jessica, and her friend Cory took part in our activities on Saturday.

We visited with other campers at the park, and let them know about FCRV. We gave them the new brochures, and our contact information. We are hopeful, after encouraging them to join our group.

We ate lunch one day at Murdock Bulldog café. Some people did a 'little' fishing, but enjoyed the try anyway. We had a craft

session, and most completed their coaster made from plastic tablecloth material.

At our meeting, Rob and Jolene answered our questions regarding our State organization. We were pleased that \$35 will pay for 18 months, and other information that is new to us. We had a question and answer session, and are now well informed, due to their patience and graciousness.

After a delicious spaghetti supper, we celebrated Norma Hetrick's birthday. We sang to her, (even if some were 'off key').

To top off the evening, we were entertained by Rob getting acquainted with a new to him instrument. He picked some on Judy's lap steel guitar.

A good time was had by all.

Judy Dickey
Secretary

On August 8, 2018 The Courageous Ramblers said goodbye to a long time member, Marcy Medley. She was the daughter of Lawrence and Pearl Shaw. She attended Lincoln High. On Sept. 15, 1961, she married Carl Medley and followed him for 16 years in the US Air Force, living in Germany as well as different states in the US. They raised 5 kids.

They returned to Nebraska in 1997. Shortly afterwards they joined The Courageous Ramblers where they were Field Directors and worked with the kids. She was always ready to volunteer at campouts, attending some National, State, Regional, and other functions.

She was also a member of The Vagabonds camp club. She made many friends while camping.

Marcy's Aunt Norma Hetrick

Triple F Campers

Triple "F" camped at beautiful Lewis and Clark Lake near Onawa in August with seven families in attendance.

Activities included fishing and a visit to the museum. Dawn took the youth to the pool in Onawa on Saturday morning and a few of us did a CAMP walk around the campground. A highlight was a ride around the lake on a keelboat that is a replica of one used by the Lewis and Clark exploration.

Saturday the group got together for breakfast and again for a traditional cookout dinner featuring burgers, hotdogs, and all the usual picnic sides to go with them. This was followed by an evening around the campfire.

Mary Brashaw,
Secretary

Rollin' Turtles

Twenty-seven Rollin' Turtles and two guests enjoyed Aug. 16-19 at Two Rivers SRA. So did much of the rest of the state! All the campgrounds were packed, as everyone enjoyed a break in the atypical August Monsoon. Thursday evening the early arrivals incinerated hot dogs over a twig fire from tree and bush prunings enterprising members brought from home. Native Americans would have been proud of

us! Friday evening we enjoyed astonishingly prompt and exceptionally good Mexican food at El Bee's in Waterloo, NE.

Saturday afternoon we spoiled our dinner by pigging out on our annual Ice Cream Social at 2:30. Despite that, we did our best to do justice to a magnificent spread at our potluck that evening. During our business meeting, we decided that in future years, the Ice Cream Social will serve as dessert for our August Potluck, rather than a distraction from it. Our next campout will be held at Big Lake State Park, MO, Sept. 20-21. It is listed as a Tailgate which we interpret to mean "bring finger foods." We are sure to have some creative interpretations of that, but rest assured, no one will go hungry!

Allan Smith
Secretary

"THE GATHERING"

"CORN PICKING GOOD TIMES"

NE. FCRV'S end of the season campout & planning meeting.
OCTOBER 5 - 7, 2018; Double Nickel Campgrounds, Waco, NE

Friday evening: Campfire w/hot dogs & chips

Saturday morning:

8:00 - Flag Ceremony at Van Arsdall's camper.

8:15 - CAMP walk

8:45 - Breakfast - Bring own table service to all meals

9:30 - Crafts

10:30 - Putt-Putt Golf Tournament (Sign-up sheet at campout)

12:00 - **Lunch on your own**

1:00 -- Hayrack ride

2:00 - Planning meeting

3:30 - Games

5:30 - Supper - catered - NANA'S

6:45 - CAMPFIRE & Karaoke after supper.

9:00 - **Sunday** morning service with Coffee/juice & rolls.

There will be \$5.00 charge for Friday evening and Saturday breakfast.
Separate charge for golf tournament.

THANKS FOR COMING! DRIVE CAREFULLY!

Registration

Name _____

Phone & Email (for confirmation) _____

Fees for camping & breakfast will be collected at the campground. Please send your registration to Jim & Janet Staehr, 301 Kansas St, Utica, Ne 68456. We would like to hear from you by Sept. 15 so we can plan how many places to reserve and how much refreshments to acquire. Thank you. Contact Janet @ 308-991-2347 to cancel or if you have any questions.

Regional Director

Gerry Pfirsch

heartland3fcrv@gmail.com

Nebraska Directors

State Director

Rob and Joleen Baker
rojopapio@cox.net

Secretary

Jan VanArsdall
jvanars@neb.rr.com

Treasurer

Eric and Teresa Mathews
mathews8010@msn.com

Chaplain

Mert Feikert
mjfeikert@gmail.com

Conservation/Wildlife

Steve and Marcia Witmer
switmer@neb.rr.com

Scholarship

Jan VanArsdall
jvanars@neb.rr.com

CAMP (Campers Actively Moving Program)

Ken and Sandy Kendall
kendalls4824@gmail.com

Retirees

Mahlon and Judy Dickey
cmpgdickey@cs.com

D.A.S.A.T. (Disaster and Safety Awareness Training)

Vacant

Youth/Teen

Dawn Morgan-Baker
orcadawn99@gmail.com

Photographer

Janene Feikert
necampphotos@gmail.com

Calling

Pat Smith, Editor
psmith031@gmail.com

Editor's Notes...

Send chapter news items, articles, special member recognition, photos, comments, and corrections to the *Calling* editor's inbox: psmith031@gmail.com. Issues will be posted monthly March through October. One issue will cover the winter months Nov. - Feb. Deadlines will be the 25th of the month before each issue, and Oct. 25 for the winter issue.

I, Pat Smith, certify that all material contained within this newsletter is used by permission and is acknowledged.

Field Directors

Name

Joan Stone
Rob and Joleen Baker
Ina Hill-Carriker
Donna Hansen and Norma Hetrick
(Co-Directors)
Jan VanArsdall
Ken and Sandy Kendall
Jim and Janet Staehr
Leonard and Lynna McKenney

Chapter

Explorers
Triple F
Golden Rockers
Courageous Ramblers

Rolling Turtles
Heartland Runabouts
Republican Valley Sodbusters
Members at Large

Email

alandjoanie.stone@gmail.com
rojopapio@cox.net
inacarriker@yahoo.com
Kcchifes@netzero.net

jvanars@neb.rr.com
kendalls4824@gmail.com
jjstaehr@gmail.com
lynnamckenney@hotmail.com

