

The



Lantern

PUBLISHED BY THE MD/DC ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY CAMPERS AND RVrs

SPRING

2019

Special points of interest:

- Saturday Night Dinner
- DASAT Presentation
- Door Prizes
- Participation Prizes
- Social Time and Games
- Sunday Service

Message from your President

Happy Spring to all. I hope all of you are doing well.

It was 1964 when the first chapter of MD/DC became the 13th National Chapter of NCHA (FCRV). We celebrate 55 years this year. Quite a milestone!

Are you ready for this camping season? Do you have all your ducks in a row? Why not come out to Walkersville

for a “shakedown” to be sure your unit is in tip top shape.

In this issue of The Lantern, Joe Boswell has a great article in getting your rig ready.

And better yet, the price is right. You only need to pay the registration fee. The two night’s camping and dinner on Saturday are on us!

I was sad to hear of the passing of Betty Ellis and Cliff Jenkins (see page 3).

I hope if you are able, you will do your best to join us for fun and fellowship in Walkersville. I’m looking forward to seeing you soon.

Cindy Shugars

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Message from your State Director

Welcome to our new members, Rick and Cindy Streett. Thanks to all who re-registered this year.

It's almost May and time for the MD/DC State Campout in Walkersville. Some of you have not been there for the past few years and we have missed you. It's a great way to start the new camping season with old friends and

check out your unit while still close to home.

July 31st to August 4th, the North-East Regional Campout will be in Hughesville, Pennsylvania. It will be at the same fair ground that it was in 2015. They have a lot of activities planned for fun and fellowship with other FCRV members from our region. We are scheduled to

serve hospitality one evening and hope Maryland and DC will be well represented. Information and the registration form are in this copy of the "Lantern". (See page 5.)

Hope to see you at Walkersville and Hughesville.

Joe and Peggy Lins
(410-592-6839)

Free Camping at Walkersville!

If you have a potential member that is interested in camping with us, you can offer them a free weekend of camping at Walkersville. The only thing we ask is that they pay the registration fee of \$10.00 which covers them for insurance purposes.

*Are you
ready?*

Message from your National DASAT Director

DASAT-Spring Time Is a Coming

By Joe Boswell

Springtime is upon us. The flowers are beginning to bloom, the leaves on the trees are coming back again and people are outside of their homes once again. Neighborhoods are a buzz as people begin to clean up their yards and make the necessary preparation for Spring.

Part of this process is the arrival of the camping season once again. The RV shows have come and gone and people who covered their RVs for the winter months have begun to remove the covers in the anticipation of a camping trip soon.

As you begin to remove the cover from your RV, it is time to check all the systems of your unit. If you did not start your motorhome and let it run several times throughout the winter, you may need a new battery. This applies to our trailers as well; batteries have a tendency to die during the winter months so a replacement may be needed and or a good charging to make it come back to life again. After this chore has been completed, it is time to check carefully for any rodents that may have taken up lodging within your camping unit. Check for damage or signs therein and if necessary, catch them if you can and remove them from their hiding places. Now with this done and out of the way it is time to carefully test all your other systems.

Now that your battery has been charged or replaced you can begin to replace burned out lights on both the inside and outside of the camping unit. Remember you have lights on

the outside of your camping unit, too. For example, do all of the running lights work, and do the turn signals flash accordingly when needed? Remember, those who are behind you on the highway need to be able to see you and know what you are going to do by the use of your turn signals and brake lights. Make sure your emergency flashers are working adequately, too. Checking your electrical hookups are all part of this process.

How about checking and adding lubricant to the slide out motors and gears. This way you can use your slide outs and they will go in and out smoothly. It is important to check for propane leaks. Sometimes while a camping unit is sitting and not being used, our friends the squirrels find hiding places and like to chew the gas lines. So, after you turn on the gas, go around carefully and check the gas lines for leaks. Better to make a repair at home than on the road while traveling about. If all is clear, then continue to check to make sure your water heater and heater (furnace) work correctly. How about the stove and oven? If you have a refrigerator, will it run on propane as designed? If not, maybe a spider or other critter has built a nest and closed the lines which will not permit the gas from properly operating this essential appliance. Here a simple cleaning may just fix the problem.

Another important system to check is the water lines. If you properly prepared your unit for winter, you may need to drain out all the RV antifreeze before using your camping unit. If you took the time to blow out the lines, now that Spring has come, you can connect to a water source and make sure you do not have any leaks. Sometimes when you start this process, you may have a small leak that will take care of its self once the water begins to swell up the gasket once again to

make the connection watertight and leak proof.

Tires, one of the most important aspects of any camping unit. When was the last time you checked the tire pressure? If your tires are over 5 years old no matter the wear, then they will need to be replaced. It is not good to have tires sitting for a long period without usage. This creates flat spots, especially if the tire pressure is below the manufacture's recommendations. You do not want to have a blowout while traveling about this summer. Remember if you have a spare tire, check this too. This area many times is overlooked until it is too late. Forgetting to check this may prove eventful when you need to use the spare if it is out of air. Save yourself some time and aggravation now, and check your tires, not just the ones that meet the ground but all of them.

The easiest way to make sure you have checked everything properly is to have a checklist of the various systems and connections. As you go over this pre-camping preparation, you will have discovered any potential problems and have resolved them prior to your first trip out on the road. It is much easier to make a repair close to home than trying to find parts or a repair facility while traveling about.

Well, now that you have checked out your unit carefully, and loaded up the necessary supplies that were absent during the winter months, it is off down the road for your next camping adventure. Happy camping everyone.

WELCOME TO THE ISLANDS
NORTHEAST REGIONAL CAMPOUT/PENN CAMP 2019
AUGUST 1st , 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 2019
EARLY DAY, JULY 31, 2019

*Rt 405 in Hughesville - Turn Rt at
The Pizza Shop*
Come join us and enjoy your weekend in the Islands.

LYCOMING COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, HUGHESVILLE, PA

Hobo parking. Site saving prohibited. Light electric available with water available on grounds. YOU MAY NOT RUN YOUR AIRCONDITIONERS. Please bring extra water hose and electrical cord as you may need additional.

The gates will open at 12:00 Noon Wednesday, July 31st. (Additional \$25.00 for extra night camping). North East Regional/Penn Camp begins on Thursday, August 1st. Checkout time is 2:00 P.M. Sunday August 5th.

FEES – Registration is \$135.00 with electricity for weekend. Family unit consists of 2 adults and children under age 21, except for special needs persons in unit. PLEASE NOTE: ALL CAMPERS ATTENDING NORTHEAST REGIONAL/PENN CAMP WEEKEND MUST PAY REGISTRATION FEES/ADDITIONAL CAMPING FEES.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: All no shows of those pre-registered will receive an automatic refund of the camping fee of \$25.00 only following Penn Camp.

We will have the following activities: Hospitalities on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, Church Services, Chance Prize Tickets, Adult and Kid Games, Brown Bag Auction, Cash and Brown Bag Bingo, (free) Saturday Morning Breakfast

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ **Phone No.** _____
Street: _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____
Of retiree's ___ **# of Adults** ___ **# of Teens** ___ **# of Youth** ___ **# Special Needs** ___
Type of Camping unit _____ **Length** _____ **No. of slide outs** ___
Special Needs Parking Yes ___ No ___
Early Bird Camping (Wednesday) (\$25.00) \$ _____
Camping Fee (Thursday through Sunday) \$135.00 _____
Total amount enclosed _____

Send Registration and Fees to: Jeanie Kelly, 2227 Crawford Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602
Make checks payable to Penn Camp 2019

IN MEMORIAL

Betty Ellis passed away in December following a long battle with brain cancer. Her daughter precedes her. She leaves behind three sons and her beloved husband, Don Ellis. They were members of the P.G. Falcons.

Clifford "Cliff" Jenkins, also a member of the P.G. Falcons, passed away in March. He leaves behind his loving wife, Sue Jenkins and many other relatives.

SPEEDY RECOVERY TO

Robin Boswell (P.G. Falcons) had a second knee replacement in March, and she is recovering slowly at home. She is undergoing physical therapy and hopefully will be up and around once the camping season begins.

Eileen Mercer (Scott Key Campers) recently suffered a stroke. She is recovering at Citizen's Rehab and Care Center in Frederick, MD.

SUMMER IN VIRGINIA



Photo taken by Barbara Turner

Joe and Peggy Lins, MD/DC State Director, man the food bank table at the 2018 National Campvention in Roswell, Virginia.

FALL 2018 HIGHLIGHTS



Campfire Cutups receive special recognition for 45 years as a chapter of FCRV!



Mike Mitchell shows off a mug he made with supplies contributed by FCRV member Lee Marshall.



Eileen Mercer shares puzzles with the girls at the Halloween Party. Pictured with Eileen: Morgan, Madison, and Christina (George Mitchell is in costume in the background.)



The Lantern

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Editor: Cindy Shugars, cjshugars@gmail.com

Photos by Cindy Shugars unless otherwise credited.

Did you know that you can get the latest copy of the Lantern on-line at FCRV.ORG?
 CLICK ON "News", "Regional Newsletters" -- THEN CLICK ON "Northeast Newsletters"
 We are listed under "Maryland".

2019 CHAPTER CAMPING SCHEDULES

Note: Please forward your schedule of campouts and meetings for 2019 to Peggy Lins as soon as you know where and when you will be, so she will have the information just in case someone has need to file an insurance claim with FCRV. You can reach her at 410-592-6839 or joepeg33@gmail.com.

For all chapters:

May 17-19	State Campout, Walkersville, MD
July 7-12	National Campvention, Hutchinson, KS
August 1-4	Northeast Regionals, Hughesville, PA
October 19—21	State Campout, Walkersville, MD

CAMPFIRE CUT-UPS

DC Ramblers

FALCONS

SCOTT KEY CAMPERS

May 7	Regular Monthly Meeting, Frederick, MD	
May 24—27	Old Mill Stream, Lancaster, PA	Ken and Shirley Morgan (301) 845-8696
June 21—23	Mountain Creek Campground, Gardners, PA	Cindy Shugars, (301) 788-0834
July 19—21	Gettysburg Campground, Gettysburg, PA	Joe & Peggy Lins (410) 592-6839
Sept 3	Regular Monthly Meeting, Frederick, MD	
Sept 13—15	Artillery Ridge, Gettysburg, PA	Don and Jane McPhaul
Oct 1	Regular Monthly Meeting, Frederick, MD	
Nov 5	Regular Monthly Meeting, Frederick, MD	
Dec 9	Christmas Party, Thurmont, MD	

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING TO WALKERSVILLE!

Door prizes

Your name tag so first timers can get to know you.

Non-perishable foods for the local food bank.

Books. Bring all of your books that would like to give away and we'll place them on a table for all to enjoy. Magazines, CDs, DVDs and videos are also welcome.

Aluminum Tabs-these will be taken to Nationals.



MARYLAND/D.C. STATE ASSOCIATION

Officers 2017–2019

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George Mitchell

410-757-4500

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Vacant
P G Falcons
Jody Duff

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Scott Key Campers
Ken Morgan

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COMMITTEES FOR THE SPRING CAMPOUT

Campfire Cutups:

Children's Games
Rest Rooms
Security

Scott Keys:

Card Bingo
Hospitality
Church
Dinner
Registration

DC Ramblers:

Falcons:

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEKEND

Friday

Noon Camper Arrival Time Starts
7:30 PM Hospitality
8:30 PM Games

Sunday

9:00 AM Church @ St. John's, Woodsboro
10:30 AM Executive Board Meeting
Noon Check Out

Saturday

8:30 AM – Potluck Breakfast*
9:45 AM – Opening Ceremonies/General meeting
12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Free time: Walkersville Days, enjoy tour of fire fighting equipment, etc.
4:00 PM DASAT Program
5:30 PM Dinner
7:30 PM Card Bingo**

Happy trails and safe travels home!
See you on the road this summer!

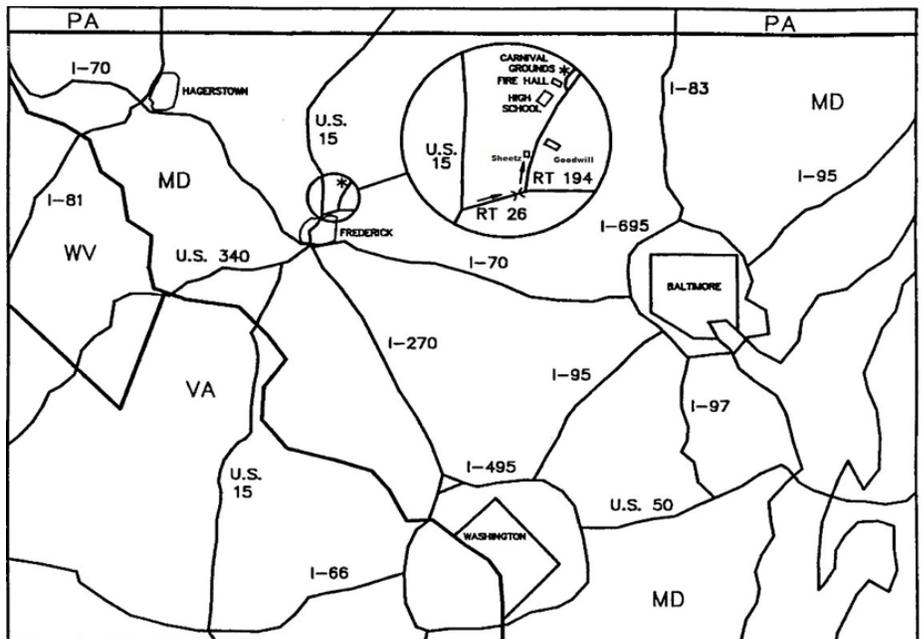
Bring this page with you.

*** Bring a dish to share. Fellowship with your fellow campers! Coffee will be provided!**

**** Bring your quarters!**

Directions to Walkersville

**Map to the
Walkersville Fire Department
Carnival Grounds**



Weekend Registration Form

Cost is \$10.00 for entire weekend!

**MD/DC State Association of FCRV
Spring Campout, May 17–19, 2019
Walkersville Fire Department Carnival Grounds
79 W. Frederick St., Walkersville, Maryland 21793**

Registration deadline: May 8, 2019 Make check payable to: FCRV MD/DC

**Mail entire page to: Joe and Peggy Lins – Home (410) 592-6839
3833 Dance Mill Road
Phoenix, MD 21131-2117**

Registration fee: \$10 per unit (non-refundable) + Camping fee: **FREE!**

Amount enclosed: \$_____

Please print your name and address:

First _____ **Last** _____ **Chapter Name or "Non Chapter Member"** _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____ **Phone Number(s)** _____

Email address: _____

Number of Campers: **Adults** _____ **Children** _____

Is this your first time camping with FCRV? **Yes** **No**

DINNER RESERVATION: Total Number of Persons: _____

Name(s): _____

Scott Key Campers Are Serving Dinner!

Menu:

- Ham and Fried Chicken*
- Green Beans*
- Potato Salad*
- Applesauce*
- Rolls & Butter*
- Iced Tea and Coffee*
- Cake and/or Pie*

**Dinner Saturday Evening
5:30 pm**

