VOICE of the Camping Family – Family Campers and RVers

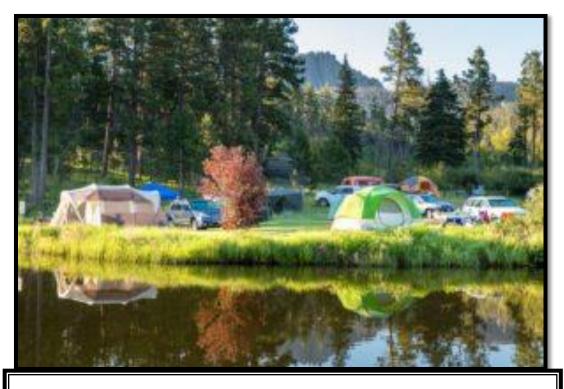
Volume 1 Issue 9





September 2019





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

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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... <u>http://superiorembroidery.net/fcrv/shop/home</u>

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I hope everyone is enjoying the many different camping events going on throughout our organization. Fall camping is the best time to enjoy friends and warm campfires. This is a great time to invite a new family to join you at your next campout. When we gather and have fun together, others

want to join in the fun. Go out and be contagious!

Membership Recruiting

Remember a tool for recruiting is our **Introductory Membership**. New members who join FCRV will be given an additional 6 months when they buy a one year membership. Your State/Provincial Director will be able to answer any questions about this program.

Saying Thanks!

Pat Parsley resigned as our Parliamentarian. Pat has provided great guidance and help as we looked at our governing documents and changes to them. She also kept our meetings running smoothly. Thanks Pat, for all your hard work.

Lou Coniglio completed his service as our Commercial Director with the Hutchinson campvention. Lou's work with commercial members and the commercial area at the past several campventions is appreciated. He indicates he is still willing to help where needed. Thanks to you, Lou for your contributions to our commercial area.

Dave and Linda Hennie resigned as Regional Director for the Great Lakes Region. Dave & Linda have led the Great Lakes Region into a team who works very well together. They are ready to embrace new challenges. Thanks Dave & Linda for your leadership.

Connie Black also resigned as Illinois State Director. Connie led the state as it grew membership and revitalized itself. Illinois received recognition for membership recruitment in 2018. Thanks Connie for your direction.

New and changing Executive Board

Christopher Weiss, from Indiana has been appointed to Membership Director. This position has been vacant for a few years. I am excited to have someone working hard to focus on membership recruitment and retention.

Doug and Connie Black, from Illinois are appointed Regional Director for the Great Lakes Region. With Connie's experience as state director in Illinois their transition to Regional Director will be easy.

Linda Hennie, from Ohio is appointed as our Parliamentarian. Linda will not miss a beat in assuring our governing documents are properly maintained and that our meetings run smoothly.

Craig Weber, from wherever his motorhome is parked has been appointed to Commercial Director. Craig brings lengthy experience as a campground owner to help him relate to potential commercial and campground members.

Rhonda and Mike O'Neal, affiliated with Illinois have been appointed to the position of Illinois State Director. They have been very active members in their chapter and in Illinois and will do well.

Campvention Attendance Survey Results

Thank you to all of you who responded to the survey. We received 161 electronic responses and 20 responses were received at campvention in Hutchinson. The results have told us that many of you will travel long distances to attend campvention while a good number prefer to stay within their own region. The respondents were evenly split with regard to holding campvention in a defined centralized area. The top three reasons you attend campvention are first to see friends, second to go to a new place, and third for seminars. Seeing friends was the overwhelming first choice with 62% of respondents choosing this. Surprisingly only 1 % of respondents want to get a door prize. These things will be considered as future campventions are planned.

Camping Family

It has been fun for me to see all the fun and exciting campouts held by regions, states and chapters since campvention. You are finding fun and creative things to do to make the campouts interesting. The Great Lakes Region (my region) just had a murder mystery dinner. Lots of fun was enjoyed by the actors and actresses as well as the participants. Sometimes we measure the success of a campout by how many people come. I think we should also think of a campout as successful if those attending (regardless of the number) have a good time. We are finding simpler ways of doing things. Instead of being in buildings we are finding our way back outside under awnings, EZ up shelters, a shady tree or simply the sun.

Three Trustee positions to be elected

The positions of President, currently held by me, Shari Weber, Vice President Programs, currently held by George Walters, and Corresponding/ Recording Officer, currently held by Sue Carlsen are to be elected in 2020. It is our hope to find at least two candidates for each position. The job descriptions are in the field manual on the website fcrv.org. Feel free to let your state/provincial director, regional director or a national program director know if you are interested in any of these positions. The nominating committee will contact each recommendation. The nominating committee consisting of Dave Ludwig, Chairman, Glen Dains, Sue Carlsen, Lou Acre and Dale Huston are working hard to find candidates. They appreciate your help in giving them recommendations. November 1st is the deadline for nominations. (daveludwig@eartlink.net)

Change of hours in the national office

During the summer the national office has closed at noon on Friday. Starting after Labor Day they will go back to 9 to 5 eastern daylight time Monday through Friday.

Retiree Rally 2020

The retiree rally is in Dothan, Alabama. Additional information is elsewhere in this issue. Plan to come and bring a friend or two.

Campvention 2020

July 12 - 17, 2020 we will be in Brigden, Ontario. Camy Hicks and her team are working hard planning a great week for us. Put the date on your calendar and plan to attend. Additional information is also contained in this issue.

Until the next campfire, Shari



TRAVEL WHILE YOU CAN!

Travel while you've got your health.

Don't wait until you're to old to enjoy it!

Don't stress about the money.

Just make ít work however

you can.

No one ever wishes for more money in their last days, but experiences and memories are priceless!



There were corrections to August CT noted:

- Ky-O-Tees chapter of KANSAS turned in the most aluminum tabs at Campvention.
- The teens outing was held at The Alley in Hutchinson.
- We incorrectly listed FCRV Communications Director, David Blair as Dick Blair. Apologies to David.
- 2021 Campvention is in Elkhorn, WI



49TH FCRV INTERNATIONAL RETIREE RALLY

NATIONAL PEANUT FAIRGROUNDS DOTHAN, ALABAMA EARLY DAYS: MARCH 20th – 23rd RALLY DAYS: MARCH 24th – 30th



TO ALL FCRV MEMBERS

by Ron & Reba Ray, FCRV Retiree Directors

You are invited to the 2020 International Retiree Rally in Dothan, Alabama, a new place to go and new sites to see. National Peanut Festival Fairgrounds, March 24-29, 2020. Remember, you do not have to be retired to attend. Everyone is invited. If you do bring youths or teens, we do not have activities for them, but they are welcome to come. They may join in the games or any social events that are going on.

We are looking forward in working with Tommy & Gayle Nelson in hosting this rally. They are planning a great rally with lots of things to do. So make your plans to be there. The registration can be found in Camping Today, or if you need a registration, you can contact us at <u>reba256@yahoo.com</u> and we will see that you get one.

There are lots of things to do: golfing, shopping, museums, lots of history, restaurants, etc. There are a couple of RV dealerships around, also.

We hope everyone who can will consider coming. It is a beautiful fairground with a lot of space.

Hope to see everyone there.

2020 FCRV INTERNATIONAL RETIREE RALLY

by Tommy and Gayle Nelson, Rally Coordinators

We hope you are making plans to attend the 49th FCRV International Retiree Rally. It will be held in Dothan, Alabama March 24-29, 2020.

Our chairpersons are lining up ideas and plans for a great rally at the Peanut Festival Fairgrounds. The theme is "GOOBER-Down in Alabama".

There will be the usual fun activities from the time you enter the gates with our friendly parking staff until we say our sad goodbyes.

Some unforeseen things have caused our Food Chairpersons and Special Needs Chairpersons to cancel their plans for the rally. They will be greatly missed.

If you have not signed up to be on a committee and would like to do so, please contact us at <u>t.j.nelson@att.net</u>.



RETIREE King & Queen WANT-A-BEES

by Ronald & Jo Hersom



Retiree King & Queen Coordinators

This is the time States or Providence normally ramp up the search for candidates for the Retiree King & Queen selection at the winter FCRV Retirees Campvention. Time is needed to get the registration form in and

plan your strategy to campaign. You'll find it is a lot of fun.

Couples who need registration forms for the 2020 International FCRV Retiree King & Queen contest, please call or email us for those forms. We will be doing some extensive RV traveling the rest of this year, so snail mail will not work for us. You can still submit the registration forms to us by mail, but send us an email that it was sent. We will eventually get your package. 641-750-2774 RJ50158@aol.com.



DOOR PRIZES



by Pat Crow, Door Prize Chair

It's that time again. Never too early to start thinking about the Retiree Rally and what you can bring for a door prize. As always, the hope is for each family to receive a door prize. So counting on everyone to do their part. In the past years, you all have contributed some wonderful items. Looking forward to seeing what next year will bring.

'GOOBER-Down in Alabama"

The 2020 FCRV International Retiree Rally

March 24-30, 2020

Peanut Festival Fairgrounds

Dothan, Alabama

by Barb Turner, Publicity Chair

The 49th FCRV International Retiree Rally will be held March 24-30, 2020 at the Peanut Festival Fairgrounds in Dothan, Alabama. Tommy & Gayle Nelson from Alabama are the Rally Coordinators. They have formed a rally committee to provide a week of fun and fellowship as the retirees of our FCRV family gather in Dothan.

Want to explore the area prior to the rally? The early days are March 20th-23rd at \$30 per night with water & electric. (The rally fees & other particulars are on the registration form available in this issue of Camping Today.)



Dothan is located in the southeastern corner of Alabama, about 20 miles west of the Georgia state line and 16 miles north of the Florida state line. It is named after the biblical city of Dothan, the place where Joseph's brothers threw him into a cistern and sold him into slavery in Egypt. Since approximately 1/4th of the U.S. peanut crop is produced nearby with much of it processed in the city, Dothan is known as "The Peanut Capital of the World". It hosts the annual National Peanut Festival at the Peanut Festival Fairgrounds where the 49th FCRV International Retiree Rally will be held.

Pioneer families from Charleston, Savanah, and Jacksonville loaded their covered wagons in the late 1700s and 1800s searching for a place to build new homes and start a new life. Interestingly, they passed through vast pine forests in the southeast corner of the territory and would often stop at a spring known as Poplar Head where they would stop and rest. They saw the sandy soil in which the pine trees grew and decided it wasn't suitable for farming. So, they moved on.

"Poplar Head, named for the poplar trees that encircled the glade where the cool water, or "head" (as springs were often called) welled from the earth, was where ancient Indian trails met, crossed, and then continued on. The glade where the spring was located was often used by Indians from the various tribes of the Creek "By 1885, the hamlet had grown into a village. The new settlers realized that if the community's growth was to be sustained they needed a governing body and local law enforcement. On November 10, 1885, the people of Poplar Head voted to incorporate and took as the new town's name the name of Dothan."

Cotton was King in the area till the boll weevil devastated the crop in the early 1900s. The farmers plowed under their cotton crops and replaced them with corn & peanuts. The soil & climate were perfect for growing peanuts. Growing peanuts was a huge risk at the time. Enter George Washington Carver, head of the agricul-

tural department at Tuskegee Institute, released peanut research findings in 1916 that led to the development of more than 300 uses for peanuts and machinery that could harvest and shell the peanuts more efficiently. Previously, the farms grew peanuts for livestock food, a garden product, and food for the poor. Carver's research also led to the practice of rotating peanuts with other crops, typically cotton. The peanut is a legume which has nitrogen-fixing bacteria on its roots. The peanut plants add nitrogen back into the soil which is an advantage for farmers who can then apply less fertilizer to the soil for subsequent crops. A huge benefit of rotating peanuts with cotton is that the same planters can be used for both crops!



The first Peanut Festival was held in 1938. The guest speaker was Dr. George Washington Carver!

Over the next few months, we will be sharing more info about this new venue for the rally as well as info on rally activities. We encourage you to register which enables the committee to better plan for your attendance. Remember, 'GOOBER-Down in Alabama' the end of March 2020!

THE 2019 FCRV TRAVALONG

by Barb & Jim Turner, Travalong Directors

The 2019 FCRV Travalong had a different format; instead of taking place prior to Campvention, the Travalong took place after Campvention. The group was small after cancelations due to illness and RV problems.

The Travalong began in Halstead, Kansas in conjunction with the YARs campout. The group visited the Halstead Heritage Museum which occupies the 1917 Halstead Railway Museum where the group learned the history of the area. Two displays were of interest for those not from the area: the motion picture *Picnic* filmed in the Halstead Riverside Park (starring William Holden, Rosalind Russell, and Kim Novak) in 1955 and Adolph Rupp was born on a farm just north of Halstead & played basketball for Halstead High School and The University of Kansas. While at HHS, Rupp played against Milburn Stone (Gunsmoke's Doc) who played at nearby Burton High School. Rupp became the head basketball coach of the University of Kentucky from 1930 -1972. Basketball games at the University of Kentucky are played today in Rupp Arena in Lexington.



The Kansas Learning Center for Health in Halstead as part of the Hertzler Research Foundation targets educational programs for schools, but the Travalong group also enjoyed it. The center is probably best known for *Valeda: the Transparent Talking Woman*. Interestingly, Valeda was assembled bit by bit, under the plastic skin made in a mold which was made by completely coating the body of a living, 28-year old German with a rubber composition.

The Travalong group made a day-trip to Wichita, touring the Museum of World Treasures, The Original Pizza Hut Museum, the Coleman Outlet, and The Keeper of the Plains. The Museum

of World Treasures housed some unique displays, including General Custer's underwear! Pizza Hut was the idea of two brothers attending Wichita State University in



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1958. KSU students were their employees. The Coleman Outlet was supposed include a museum, but the displays weren't set up yet after the closing of the old Coleman Museum. The last stop in Wichita was The Keeper of the Plains, a 44-foot tall steel sculpture standing at the point where the Big and Little Arkansas rivers join together in downtown Wichita. The land between the two rivers is sacred ground to the Native American people and is also home to the Mid-America All-Indian Center.

The next Travalong stop was Dodge City where the first activity was visiting the Visi-



tors Center where the group enjoyed the city trolley tour. Besides learning the Wild West history of Dodge City, the group was amazed at the large feedlots. Dodge City was a lawless town along the Santa Fe Trail where Wyatt Earp and Bat Masterson were notable lawmen. *Gunsmoke* brought

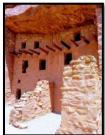
'the wicked little town' to television in the 1960s with Marshall Dillon, Miss Kitty, and the Long Branch Saloon. The Long Branch Saloon lives again in the Boot Hill Museum as well as Old Dodge City memorabilia. Step back into old Dodge City at the Boot Hill

Museum.

La Junta, Colorado was the third Travalong stop. La Junta is located on the Arkansas River in southeast Colorado. The beaver trade had reached its zenith and the trade of buffalo robes was just beginning when brothers Charles & William Bent in 1833 started construction on an adobe fort on the north bank of the Arkansas River, the international boundary between Mexico and the United States. From 1833-1850 Bent's Fort was an important commercial hub on the Sante Fe Trail. Notable figures who stopped at the fort included John C. Fremont, Francis Parkman, Kit Carson, and Stephen Kearny. The group visited the reconstructed fort (using blueprints of the original fort) which is part of the National Park Service.

The Travalong visited the Koshare Museum which traces its history back to the Great Depression when a group of La Junta Boy Scouts became interested in Native American heritage. The Scouts were able to build the Kiva that houses the museum as well as the area where the Koshare Indian Dancers perform. The Boy Scouts performed for the 86th season this summer. The group learned that 630 Eagle Scouts have come out of the Koshares. Even though La Junta's population has decreased over the years, the Boy Scouts continue the Koshare tradition.

The last stop of Travalong 2019 was Colorado Springs, staying at Mountaindale RV Campground, south of the Springs at 6611'. The U.S. Olympic Training Center was the group's first tour. The Colorado Springs Olympic & Paralympic Training Center is home to sport facilities and support services for the summer Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American and Parapan American sports. The facilities are amazing.



The Manitou Cliff Dwellings provided the group an opportunity to learn about Ancestral Puebloans who lived and roamed the Four Corners area of the southwestern United State from 1200 AD - 1300 AD. These ancient peoples did not live in the Manitou Springs area. The Manitou Cliff Dwellings were built at their present location in the early 1900's as a museum, preserve, and tourist attraction. The museum today features displays about the lives of the Ancestral Puebloans: archaeological artifacts, tools, pottery, and weapons.

Possibly the highlight of the stay at Mountaindale was taking the gold mine tour out of Victor, Colorado. The tour began at the

Lowell Thomas Museum in Victor (9700'). Newmont Mining Corporation operates the open pit gold mine today, but gold was being extracted as early as 1892 from this mine. Newmont is the largest current producer of gold in Colorado. The Cripple Creek/Victor area was the largest gold-camp in the world in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

No visit to the Colorado Springs area is complete without a visit to the United State Air Force Academy, where our young Air Force officers are trained. The Academy's mission is 'to educate, train, and inspire men and women to become leaders of character, motivate to lead the United States Air Force in service to our nation.' It's the youngest of our service academies, graduating its first class in 1959. The Travalong members enjoyed their visit.





The last visit was Magic Town in Old Colorado City, Colorado Springs. Magic Town 'is a 1/6th scale miniaturized urban neighborhood, complete with dozens of handcrafted buildings, alleyways, and sidewalk scenes that transform before your very eyes.' The group participated in the scavenger hunt which enhanced the visit. The Magic Town is the creation of Michael Garman.

Travalong 2019 traveled from Campvention in Hutchinson, Kansas to Colorado Springs, Colorado, many miles, many sites, and many memories. 2020 FCRV Travalong.....stay tuned.

Picture links:

https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipMQuofeOA_qf9rL4TVSqA4NK99iR0OJTgqH6kzo-9IdXpVoPVxhpOpJf2O9NJ1Pdw?key=dkRqOW9oR2VqNGs5MTVudy1rR01xVlFYN1RYSjBB

https://photos.app.goo.gl/pZYzJTsib1Chs9B79





Nicholas Kyte (r), 2016 FCRV Teen King has completed college and is working at Canadian Tire while pursuing a marketing career. Brother, Joshua joined the military and has recently completed basic training.

They are the sons of Paul and Jennifer Kyte of Belleville, Ontario.



70th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

"Daryl & Marilyn Frank celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary, Saturday, August 24, 2019 in

Manhattan, KS with a Family Reunion. They have been members over 55 years in the Man-Kan Chapter and Family Campers and RVers. They are still traveling and camping when health and weather permits. We send our congratulations to Daryl & Marilyn on this wonderful milestone! Cards can be sent at: 1830 Todd to them Rd.. Manhattan. 66502. Also e-mails can be KS sent to: darvle9541@att.net."

FCRV Activities



COLORADO TEENS ENJOY CAMPING

Tahlia Demarest, 1st Runner-up Miss FCRV and her brother, Caleb Demarest, Teen King, from Thornton, Colorado enjoy some stress free camping.

COLORADO VIEW FINDERS



Photos by Jo Martinez

The Colorado View Finders enjoy spending time with friends.

2019 GREAT LAKES REGIONAL

2019 Great Lakes Regional was hosted by Illinois at the Iroquois County Fairgrounds, Watseka, IL, July 31st – August 4th. We had 39 units registered, with about 86 people in attendance. The weather was perfect! We had activities such as Craft session (china necklaces), potluck breakfast, Poker Walk, Cast Iron Cooking demonstration, Line Dancing and tournaments with Ladder Golf, Washer Toss, Corn Hole and Bean Bag Baseball. We also had a Market Place with 8 different sale tables. Our evening entertainment was Bunco, Casino Night, Family Feud and a Murder Mystery Dinner. There were great hospitalities each night and so much fun and fellowship.

Photos by Marilyn Rausch

https://photos.app.goo.gl/PKGFLCBAAXK7infb7



PA HOSTS 2019 NORTHEAST REGIONAL

24 families attended a "Weekend in the Islands" (actually the Lycoming County Fairgrounds, Hughesville, PA) for the annual Northeast Regional combined this year with Penn Camp. Region 5 is made up of CT, DE, MD/DC, MA/RI, N.New England, NY, and PA.

Thursday featured opening ceremonies, bingo, games, karaoke, ice cream sales, and 50/50. An evening activity was an outdoor movie which didn't



The movie that wasn't!

happen due to equipment failure. Folks enjoyed the beautiful evening anyway.



Friday saw ladder golf, prize ticket sales, bingo, 50/50, New York hospitality, a brown bag auction, and Maryland Hospitality. A brief

Bingo in "The Islands" tality. A

thunderstorm Friday evening failed to damper spirits.

A few campers visited the Little League Hall of Fame in nearby Williamsport and several visited the OAP Pizza Shop/Restaurant a block from the fairgrounds.



Hot day for Bean Bag Baseball

Saturday offered a free egg sandwich breakfast, bingo, bean bag baseball, as well as the creation of a 'Surprise Ball' which is a ball wound from Saran Wrap with small gifts woven between layers. A bountiful pot luck supper was held with pulled pork provided. Entertainment was provided by Mary Truesdale and Mike Long who had folks singing and danc-

Camping Today



ing along with familiar tunes. The ladies worked up a sweat dancing to "Proud Mary." The evening was capped by Connecticut Hospitality and the drawings for dozens of chance prizes.

Plastic wrapped 'Wonder Ball'

Carl and Judy Drexler's evening was capped with a problem. Their motorhome door stuck and would not open, even with the

key. A slender person was needed to squeeze through a window and open the door from inside. Jeannie Kelly obliged and wiggled through a window and got the door open. Unfortunately the photo op. was missed.



Sue Fromholzer presents a Plaque to Glen & Donna Dains for outstanding service to FCRV.

Earlier in the day, the general Northeast Regional Meeting was held with FCRV VP of Operations, Sue Fromholzer of New York presiding. Sue presented the award Plaque for Outstanding Service to Glen and Donna Dains, CT State Directors who were not able to attend Campvention. CT also got an award for membership growth. Pennsylvania

installed its incoming State Association officers – President, Debbie Kiester, Vice-President, Lori Brown, Secretary, Jeannie Kelly, and Treasurer, Pat Luke. Campout Chairperson, Patty Campbell and Co - chairperson, Jeannie Kelly thanked everyone for coming as well as the jobs done by volunteers and committees. Next year's NE Regional will be in Connecticut, date and location to be announced later.

The campout concluded Sunday morning with a non-denominational church service led by Reverend Wyatt Timmins.







AGGRESSIVE DRIVING TIPS

By Joe Boswell, National DASAT Dir.

"Aggressive driving is a major concern of the public and a real threat to the safety of all road users. Any unsafe – driving behavior, performed deliberate-



ly and with ill intention or disregard for safety, can constitute aggressive driving" (1.) This is increasing all the time. How many times have you listened to the news reports and have heard information dealing with some type of aggressive driving on a roadway? It is important to understand the new or every increasing danger on the highway. It is especially dangerous for all of us who are Recreations Vehicle owners that require additional roadway space.

Let us look at some of the event that could lead up to someone who is an aggressive driver. Cutting someone off. Make sure, as you have ample room between you and the other driver is important. Use your turn signal to give an indication as to the direction you are to going travel. Making a turn, signal in ample time so one knows you are making a turn. If by chance, you have made a mistake and accidentally cut someone off, attempt to apologize with an appropriate gesture. If they have cut you off, slow down and give them room to merge into your land.

Are you in the correct lane for the speed at which you are traveling? For safe driving procedures with larger vehicles the recommendation is that, you stay in the left hand lane-the slower lane and let those who wish to speed by do so. Stay the course and travel at the posted speed limit. Even in the right lane you may be making someone upset because seems you may be going slower that the traffic flow. Tailgating, many drivers become angry when someone is following too close for comfort. For safety, you should have at least two car lengths between you and the next car. This is not always possible in heavy traffic. If you feel someone is following too close move over and let him or her pass. This way you will have time to get out of the way. Driving at night takes on a different meaning. Today it seems many individuals travel with their bright lights on high beam all the time. Many of the newer cars today have brighter low beam headlights thus it is difficult to know if they are traveling with the low or high beam lights on. If you cannot see the headlights of the person behind you then they are too close for comfort. If you have a sense that they are too close, pull over in a safe place and let them pass. Hand gestures, the most common aggressive gesture that makes other driver mad. Keep your hands on the wheel, and you gesture to yourself. By avoiding any obscene hand motions, you are less likely to irritate the other driver. Do not even shake your head as this may up the other driver. Avoid eye contact at all costs, with the other driver. This could be the beginning of a personal dual, which can escalate the situation.

Do not engage and angry driver this only makes



thing worse. Steer clear and them plenty of room. "If the other driver tries to pick a fight, put as much distance as possible between you and your vehicle and the other car and then get away quickly" (1). Get help by contacting the law enforcement

and let them handle the situation. Give them as many details as you can, and your location. In the worstcase situation, do not go home, use your horn to get additional help or stop in a location where there are many people. At all cost, do not get out of your vehicle. In order to remain safe, do not stop, or attempt to settle things, "man to man" as this will only escalate the matter.

The first place to start to defuse the situation is inside your own head. Consider changing your approach to driving in order to make your driver experience more pleasant. Here are some ideas to help with this concept. Forget about winning as you may in the end, end up being the looser. Do not let driving become a contest-win or lose. Do not race against the clock to see if you can get to your destination in record-breaking time. Allow more time for your trip. If someone slows you down, there could be a good reason for it in the end. Take your time and become a safer drive in the process. Enjoy the experience, go with the flow, and your will arrive calmer, fresher, and will be less stressed in the end.

Have you very thought about wearing the other person's shoes? Give yourself credit, and imagine exactly the other driver is so annoyed at you. Are you going too slowly in the left lane where you should not be in the first place. Take into consideration that the speeding driver may be a volunteer firefighter, physician or other emergency personnel trying to get to their destination to help some else. It could be as simple as this, a bee has gotten into that other car and is distressing the driver. No one what to be stung. For whatever the reason, it did not have anything to do with you. Stay calm, be cool, and do not take the other person's aggression personally.

Here is a different perspective on this problem. If you have difficulty driving, seek or ask for help. "Courses in anger management have been shown to reduce heart attacks" (1). The same methods used with angry drivers to help prevent this from happening also help to create dramatic changes in their behavior and attitude towards driving. Books on this topic and profession help is available. For personal guidance on how to improve, your driving habits retake a safe driving course. This may help you to understand the problems with aggressive drivers. No matter where you live, there is someone out there on the highway driving aggressively and they could harm you and your family members. It is recommended that you learn how to be safe around aggressive drivers. Happy motoring everyone.

Sources: (1.) AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, Washington, D.C. <u>https://aaafoundation.org</u>

https://exchange.aaa.com/safety/driving-advice/ aggressive driving

(2.) <u>https://www.nhtsa.gov</u>

U.S. Department of Transpiration, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

NHTSA: WINNEBAGO, KEYSTONE, JAYCO REPORT RECALLS

Story by **RVBusiness**

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

- Winnebago Industries Inc. is recalling 766 2018-2019 Forza motorhomes. The exterior storage compartment door may unexpectedly open while the vehicle is in motion.
- Keystone RV Co. is recalling 485 2020 Crossroads Hampton and Sunset recreational trailers. The breakaway switch may have been incorrectly wired, which can cause the trailer brakes to not function in the event of a trailer separation from the tow vehicle.
- Jayco Inc. is recalling 103 2019-2020 White Hawk Travel Trailers. The breakaway switch may have been incorrectly wired, which can cause the trailer brakes to not function in the event of a trailer separation from the tow vehicle.

TENT CAMPING EMERGES AS GATEWAY FOR OUTDOOR REC

By: RVBusiness



While much of the focus on campground accommodations has, for the most part, been geared toward rental units, such as yurts, cabins, park model RVs and even more unique options like Conestoga wagons and tipis, tent camping is still drawing in campers, according to many owners WOODALLSCM.com (WCM) has spoken with.

According to the 2019 North American Camping Report, which is commissioned by Billings, Mont-based Kampgrounds of America Inc. (KOA), 60% of all campers report that they are tent campers.

Still, a struggle exists for some owners as they look to maximize their land and incorporate more rental units and RV sites that tend to bring in more revenue.

"Owners struggle with tent camping because it's often not the best economic use of the land that they've got," said Mike Gast, KOA's vice president of communication.

Some park owners also note that tent campers tend to be difficult guests.

"Some say, 'They are my highest impact customers, the rowdy ones," Gast said, adding, "The true back-packer tent campers don't come to commercial campgrounds until they have kids."

However, some park owners note that tent campers tend to spend more at their parks, because with all of the gear required for tent camping space is limited in their vehicles and they pack less.

"We find that we get higher auxiliary sales at our campstore from tent campers," noted Kitty Winship, who owns Papoose Pond Resort and Campground in Waterford, Maine. "They buy more ice and wood, and they also will purchase more at our restaurant and food vendors because they are packing less."

Winship offers different types of tent sites — from basic with no electricity or water hookups — to sites that have an attached outdoor kitchenette and bathroom.

"Our 'Kitchen-n-Bath' sites offer a shelter with a picnic table, sink (with hot and cold running water), and a four-burner stove," she noted. "Then on the back of that shelter is a small building with a full-size bathroom that's private on the camper's site. That way when they are tent camping, they have their own private, fully functioning bathroom with plumbing."

Winship explained that her tent sites cater to new, younger campers and even to some older campers who still like to tent camp.

"We have never really been tempted to eliminate those sites, our park was originally designed with those types of campers in mind," she said. "I think that there is a good population of the camping sector that really likes to get back to nature and tent camping is how you do that."

At Lake Rudolph Campground & RV Resort in Santa Claus, Ind., which is owned by Southfield, Mich.based Sun Communities Inc., Dave Lovell, regional marketing manager, said that the park has seen an increase in demand for its 40 tent sites as more people have become interested in camping.

"Our tent campers are usually people who are starting out and down the road they are likely to move into an RV," he explained. "It makes sense to offer the tent camping to get people introduced to camping at our park." Lovell said that the park offers water and electric at every tent site.

"They want the electricity and water access, it really is a big deal," he noted. "Electricity mainly just because of smartphones, laptops and all of the electronic devices campers are bringing." Clint Bell, whose family owns and operates seven KOA campgrounds in California, Arizona and Missouri, said the affordability of tents makes it possible for young families or friends to experience camping together without making a significant investment.

For the full story click here.

— Story provided by Jeff Crider to Woodalls Campground Management

INGRASSIA: A DUAL STRATEGY TO INCREASE RV CAMPING

Story by **<u>RVBusiness</u>**

Editor's Note: The following column by Recreation Vehicle Dealers Association (RVDA) President Phil Ingrassia, appearing in the July issue of *RV Executive To-day*, examines the RV park and campground industries' efforts to increase the number of available camping sites.

For several years, the RV industry has been very concerned about the lack of new RV park and campground private and public camping sites. But there is mounting evidence that the tide may be shifting within both the private and public sectors. As Ben Quiggle, editor of Woodall's Campground Management magazine, pointed out last month, there's been a spike in new RV park and campground development in recent years.

My own inbox is full of news releases touting private RV parks and campground openings from Vermont to Missouri to Oregon, and just about everywhere in between. I asked David Basler, the National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds (ARVC) vice president for membership and marketing, if this was just anecdotal evidence of additional campsite inventory or a real trend for the industry.

Basler told me the RV park and campground sector is experiencing the most expansion and ground-up growth it's seen in two decades. "We know of at least 20 new corporately-owned parks being built in seven states across the country from California to North Carolina," he said. "These parks average more than 500 sites each, equating to more than 10,000 new sites entering the available market in the next 12 to 18 months."

In addition, Basler said hundreds of ARVCmember privately-owned RV parks and campgrounds are purchasing new land or taking advantage of land they already own to expand their businesses, adding thousands more sites. "With the nature of the current economy, we expect to see this trend of significant growth to continue in the coming year," he said.

On the public sector side, RV overnight stays at National Park Service (NPS) campgrounds have declined from 4.5 million in the 1980s to 2.5 million in 2018, which is extremely disturbing considering the growth in RV sales in recent years.

During RVs Move America Week in Washington last month, RVIA, RVDA, ARVC, and other allies urged members of Congress to support increased federal investment in campground modernization and expansion on public lands. The federal land agencies need to encourage federal land agencies to use volunteers, partnerships, and concessioners more frequently to reverse the decline of RV camping nights.

Through the Restore Our Parks and the Restore Our Parks and Public Lands Acts (S. 500/H.R. 1225), Congress and the agencies can implement innovative solutions to address the deferred maintenance backlog on federal lands, which in turn will expand and improve federal campgrounds.

It's important to note that this isn't just asking for a handout from taxpayers. Federal campgrounds are sound investments that generate essential revenue for federal land agencies.

Private and public RV parks and campgrounds are essential for the health of the RV industry, and in a time of unprecedented demand, it's encouraging to see progress being made on both fronts.



COMMON MYTHS ABOUT RVS

Author : Caleb Summeril

Common Myths about RVs are everywhere you



turn! Is there any truth to the most popular ones? RVs are not for everyone. While long days at the wheel and endless open highway instill a sense of freedom in us RV lovers,

some folks are just not cut out for it. They might think the vehicle is too big or the thought of sleeping at a campground or RV park makes them shudder. Let's be honest, it is quite an endeavor to procure, occupy, and captain a 30 something foot steel and fiberglass behemoth from coast to coast. It's an experience not for the faint of heart but instead for those who have a steady sense of adventure and a yearn to explore. If that's not your thing, no big deal. Stick to the concrete jungle and enjoy your day.

But what about those of you out there caught in the space between? You've seen those RVs rolling down the road with the drivers always smiling, wondering where they might be headed and for how long they've been out cruising. You might not know the first thing about operating a large vehicle, but the idea is intriguing and you'd be willing to learn. I'll be the first to tell you that to do it right, you need to spend some time learning the ins and outs of the RV lifestyle and get some time behind the wheel. A good place to start is by utilizing the tips, tricks and other RV related information found at <u>MobileRVing</u> and an even better way to get the needed experience is to just dive in, fire up the engine and get rolling!

Related Read: <u>Myths about RV Full Timing – And</u> the Truth

If you are on the fence about RVing, that is totally understandable. It is a commitment, to say the least. If you're reading this, you are most likely leaning towards the possibility of buying or renting and RV and giving it a try. This blog won't attempt to directly sway you towards going for it but the next sentence will. GO FOR IT! If you need some more convincing or are hung up on some common myths about RVs, let's debunk those rumors in an effort to get your hands behind the wheel and set you free.

Read more here:

https://mobilerving.com/blog/commonmyths-about-rvs

RV GROUPS LOBBYING FOR ACCESS TO CABLE NETWORKS

Story by **RVBusiness**

On Monday (July 29), five groups representing manufacturers, dealers and owners of recreational vehicles, as well as the RV campgrounds, sent a letter to the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee urging them to vote to preserve the provision of a copyright law

that allows DIRECTV and DISH Network to provide

Distant Network Signals to RVs and long-haul truckers, among others. These groups represent the 25 million RVers who are affected by this copyright law.

The letter, signed by the RV Industry Association (RVIA), the RV Dealers Association (RVDA), the National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds (ARVC), the Family Motor Coach Association and the Escapees RV Club, called on Congress to reauthorize Section 119 of the Copyright Act, which would sunset at the end of 2019, absent Congression-al action.

The letter, addressed to Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., and Ranking Democratic Member Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., was sent in anticipation of a hearing in that committee at which Register of Copyrights Karyn Temple is expected to call on Congress to allow the law to expire.

Although it may be unfamiliar to many of the RVers who use satellite providers, Section 119 provides the narrow copyright law exemption that makes it possible for RVers to access their favorite TV programming regardless of where they happen to be traveling. Without this exemption, it would be a violation of copyright law for a satellite provider to allow an RVer to access a New York broadcast while camping at remote national park in a different market.

But through the establishment and regular reauthorization of Section 119, Congress has recognized that providing local signals via satellite to RVer in every market into which they travel is impractical, both technically, and from the standpoint of clearing the rights.

RVers represent a unique segment of the population who regularly travel to areas where broadcast signals to watch television over-the-air are not available or where the wireless broadband to receive overthe-top services such as Nextflix and Hulu are also not available. If Congress fails to reauthorize Section 119, these RVers will lose access to the network signals resulting in a negative impact on quality of life, safety and security for the millions of RVers who rely on this law.

A CAMPGROUND YOU MIGHT ENJOY

By Jan Cushing

Wallace State Park near Cameron, Mo

We found this nice State Park north of Kansas City off I-35 and it was quite nice. It was not full with a number of sites that did not have reservation tags on



them. (And some were real nice) The park is on Lake Allaman shores and you can see water all around. The lake had just receded and the spots along the lake were still empty while we were there. We were parked

in this circle, all sites were fairly level, believe I went up on a 2x one side to level. We had electric and water, and no problem making reservations online.

This was our second night on the road, I forgot to take pictures of the Corp Park we stayed at the first night called Sugar Bottom on the shores of Coralville Lake in Iowa. I broke the trip into 3 days of 260 + or – miles per day, to get to Hutchinson, KS. We were on site 072 loop 4 there and it was nice but there were better ones! It was close to Herbert Hoovers Presidential Library so we may go back and camp there again. Getting there we angled down Hwy 173 to Hwy 20 to I-39 S to Hwy 30 W to I-88 (missed toll) W to I-80 W to Hwy 1 and followed the signs. Leaving the Corp Park it was I-80 W to I-35 and signs to State Park.

Wallace State Park was clean the sites were spaced out nicely. We were not on top of anyone and I did not need to unhook to level, but I could take the weight off the rear of the truck.. Leav-



ing we got back on I-35 S to Hwy 50 to Hwy 150 W to Hwy 56 W to Hwy 61 S into Hutchinson, we spent July 4 in the Kansas Highway Patrol HQ and inspection parking lot in Kansas City. (Exit 232B) No hookups- zip- glad I carry water in tank and battery was up to charge, and we ran truck to charge up cell phone after I called all over for help.(that's another story)



RIVERSIDE RV TRAILERS NOW BRANDED UNDER CHINOOK

Story by Ron Barger

Since Elkhart, Ind.-based Chinook Motor Coach Inc. (CMC) in October of 2018 purchased the assets of Peru, Ind.-based Vohne Liche Manufacturing --



builders of of Riverside towables -- those brands have been folded into the company's towable division, now known as Trail Wagons Corp.

According to Marie Pennington, marketing and communications coordinator for CMC, the company's Class B motorhomes will continue to be built at its newly refurbished facility in Elkhart.

"It's all under the Chinook name," she explained. "There is a trailer division, called Trail Wagons, but everything is still under Chinook. Trail Wagons is the legal division."

She added that after the purchase of the new entity was finalized in February, the towable division returned to full production in April in Peru. The newest towable product from the division, the Trail Wagon toy hauler, was introduced earlier this year at RVIA's "RVX" show in Salt Lake City.

According to Jeff Butler, general manager of the Peru and Elkhart facilities, the new CMC will also keep some of the more competitive Riverside trailer brands in its towable offerings.

"We are continuing to produce the RPM toy haulers and Dream travel trailers which were products that Riverside developed," he said. "And then we have also added the very new and very exciting Trail Wagon."

The new Trail Wagon product, he said, is a towbehind extension of the Chinook Class B coaches mirroring the style of its Mercedes-Benz Sprinter chassis products and allowing owners to haul motorcycles, golf carts or ATVs. The upscale trailer is crafted of aluminum and matches the Sprinter in looks down to the colors and window and sidewall profiles.

"We are really excited to get motorized in full production here in Elkhart and are hoping to have 2020 products at the Open House coming up," concluded Pennington. Chinook, a well-known name in the camping van and Class B motorhome scene, ceased doing business in 2005 but was resurrected in 2013 by its current President and CEO Phil Rizzio. Rizzio also owns dealerships Wagon Trail RV in Las Vegas, Nev., Creston RV in Kalispell, Mont., and Van City RV of St. Louis.

CMC purchased its Elkhart, Ind. facility to build Class B and B-plus motorhomes on the Mercedes-Benz Sprinter platform in late 2018.

JAYCO DEBUTS JAYCOMMAND AT DEALER HOMECOMING

By: RVBusiness

Jayco Inc. launched its exclusive JAY-COMMAND "smart" technology at its annual dealer homecoming meeting this past week in Las Vegas. According to a press release, the system turns any smart phone into a remote, allowing customers to control various features of their RV.

The JAYCOMMAND system was custom-built by Jayco's product development and engineering teams, along with various supplier partners, so that owners can monitor and control key RV operations from a smart phone or a tablet.

"We want to make camping in a Jayco as easy as possible and provide our customers with an excellent experience every time they take their RV on a trip. The addition of JAYCOMMAND to our 2020 products is just another way we're adding value to the owner experience." stated Ken Walters, vice president of sales and product development for Jayco.

JAYCOMMAND utilizes a mobile app that can be downloaded onto a smart cellular phone or tablet.

Systems controlled in your Jayco RV may include:

- Multiple light zones
- HVAC
- Slideouts
- Water pump
- Awnings
- Water heater
- Tank monitoring
- Tire pressure monitoring

- Leveling
- Generator

"Technology can improve an RV owner's experience and we are always looking for ways to innovate at Jayco," said Derald Bontrager, Jayco president and CEO. "Times have changed as technology becomes more commonplace, and we need to evolve. These are not the same RVs my father used to make, but we're still building them for the same group of people: families."

JAYCOMMAND will be standard on a wide variety of 2020 Jayco models and optional on several others. JAYCOMMAND is powered by OneControl by Lippert Components, BMPRO and Firefly, depending on the make and model

WIFIRANGER ROLLING OUT TWO ATT DATA PLANS FOR RVS

Story by **RVBusiness**

WiFiRanger, a supplier of integrated vehicle connectivity systems, will offer AT&T 4G LTE data plans for its pre-installed rooftop antenna systems on recreational vehicles.

According to a press release, the weekend adventure plan will offer 5GB of monthly data for \$25 per month. RVers can also choose the extended getaway plan with 22GB of monthly data for \$90 per month.

"LTE connectivity has become more important than ever to RVers, allowing them to stay connected just about anywhere. With AT&T's national LTE footprint, we will be able to be an increasingly trusted data source for the mobile lifestyles that we enable," said Vice President of Marketing and Communication Jim Owsley.

WiFiRangerT products are assembled and designed in Meridian, Idaho. Information and ordering are available directly at WiFiRanger.com and direct inquiries can be emailed to sales@WiFiRanger.com, or by calling 208-321-5544.





GLENDA SELLERS, PAST HEARTLAND REGIONAL DIRECTOR



Glenda Sellers of Indianola, Iowa passed away July 30, 2019 after an extended battle with lung cancer caused by radon. Glenda was the wife of past FCRV President Eldon Sellers (2004-2008) and after his passing in 2012 she continued her lifelong dedication to the organization by taking the job of Regional Director. Barb Turner said, "Jim and I worked with Glenda and Eldon for many years and have wonderful memories. All four of us were teachers so there was a special bond. Both were active for many years in NCHA/FCRV including Iowa State Directors. Glenda Chaired the 2013 Campvention in Amana, Iowa and was previously Co-chair for the 1987 and 2007."Glenda was a calm and steady leader and she was a Team Leader for the 2019 Campvention, but could not attend due to declining health.

She is survived by son, Charles Sellers, daughters Deanna Sellers, and Kristine (Marty) Moats, and 3 grandchildren, Abigail, Jessica, and Benjamin Moats. Condolences can be sent to Deanna Sellers, 108 Seminole Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55118 or Kristine Moats, 3013 Evergreen Circle, Ames, IA 50014. Charles Moats, 3724 11th Ave South, Minneapolis, MN 55047. Memorial contributions may be made to Cancer Survivors Against Radon at www.cansar.org.

Merle Ross, 89, Topeka, Kansas, Wagonears Chapter

Molly Towson, 8-10-19, Sarnia, Ontario, Winter Texan Chapter







SEPTEMBER

September 13-15, 2019 – Iowa Fall State Campout

Marshalltown City Park. Pay at park and no additional fee. Questions may be directed to Dale & Karen Huston, <u>heartlander57@gmail.com</u>, 641-751-9807

September 27-29, 2019 - Blue Water Mixer

Eastern Michigan Fairgrounds, Imlay City, MI, donrocky64@hotmail.com. See Registration Form on website <u>www.fcrv.org</u>

September 27-29, 2019 - Kansas Fall State Rendezvous

Spring Lake RV Park, \$20 / night camping w&e, \$20 weekend activity fee. Call Spring Lake direct for reservations316-835-3443. Tell them KCA. Registration form on website <u>www.fcrv.org</u>

OCTOBER

October 2-4, 2019 – Indiana Retiree Campout

Bill Monroe's Music Park and Campground, Bean Blossom, IN. Contact the campground to make reservations, 812-988-6422. Tell them you are with FCRV to get \$32/night with w/e sites.

October 4-6, 2019 – Indiana Fall Invitational

Bill Monroe's Music Park and Campground, Bean Blossom, IN. Contact the campground to make reservations, 812-988-6422. Tell them you are with FCRV to get \$32/night with w/e sites. Sites are 43-53, 60-64, 93 -97. \$10 activity fee collected at campout.



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465 Kenric Rd. Lumberton, NC 28360 Reservations: 800-562-0845 Information 910-739-4372 or 910-887-6185 Email: Lumberton@koa.com

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September 2019

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	Hosted by Region #7 Eastern Canada	
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	July 13 – July 17 th 2020,	
	fee covers July 12-17 th (6 nights)	
Early Bird D	ays: July 10 th & 11 th @ \$ 25/night (pay @ registration- cash)	

Registrations are needed by: June 1st, 2020

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				Pop-Up	Tent
Number of people					
# of Adults:	, Teens:, Youth 0-12:			, Total # of pe	ople in unit:
			the Teens and You		
Name		Age	Name		Age

Gates will be open from 8am- 8pm (all days) REGISTRATION

Everyone must complete a registration form including second families and camp passes. Submit payment with the registration form. All funds should be Canadian currency of cheques or money orders. NO CREDIT CARDS.

One Family in the Unit	Registration \$325 CDN	At Gate \$335 CDN
Extra Family in Unit (pay separate)	\$ 200 CDN	\$210 CDN
Week Drive-In pass	\$200 CDN	\$210 CDN
Walk-In Camp Pass (per day)	\$40 CDN	\$40 CND
Make cheques/Money Orders payable to: 202	0 FCRV Campvention	n , * CASH ONLY AT GATE
Mail to: Marilyn Rosenberger 1505 Ottawa Street N. Apt 511 Kitchener Ontario N2A 0E8 Contact at : 1-519-501-4331 or rosenberge	а	Refund policy: If you are unable to attend, Ill except \$35 CDN will be refunded
I Would like to volunteer for:	?	