

“THE FRIENDLIEST PEOPLE IN THE WORLD”

INDIANA STATE ASSOCIATION, INC. OF FAMILY CAMPERS AND RVers, Founded as National Campers & Hikers Association



# HOOSIER CHATTER

Ed Shaneyfelt  
President

December 2019/January 2020  
Volume 52 Number 10

Mike & Marilyn Rausch  
Editors

Eight-year-old Virginia O’Hanlon wrote a letter to the editor of New York’s *Sun*, and the quick response was printed as an unsigned editorial Sept. 21, 1897. The work of veteran newsman Francis Pharcellus Church has since become history’s most reprinted newspaper editorial, appearing in part or whole in dozens of languages in books, movies, and other editorials, and on posters and stamps

DEAR EDITOR:

*I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, ‘If you see it in THE SUN it’s so.’ Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?*

VIRGINIA O’HANLON  
115 WEST NINETY-FIFTH STREET

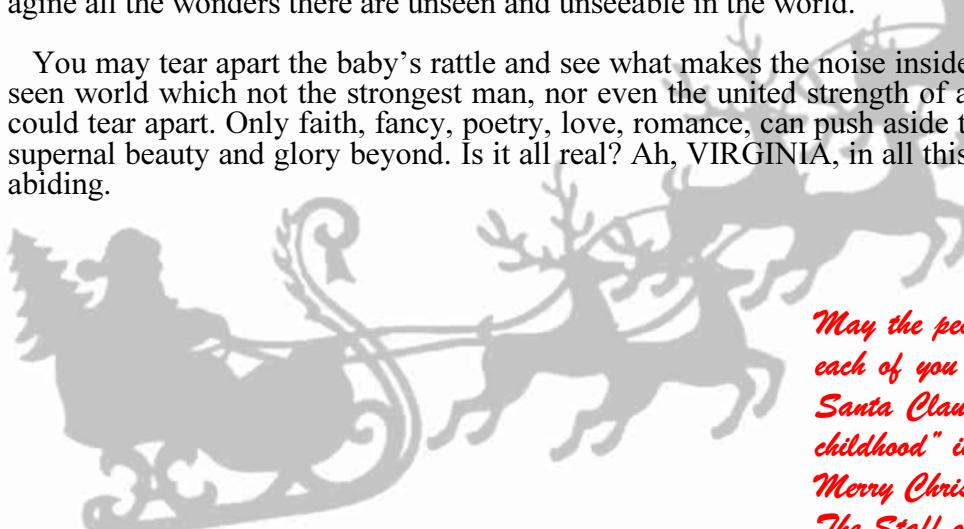


VIRGINIA, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men’s or children’s, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

**Yes, VIRGINIA, there is a Santa Claus.** He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no VIRGINIAS. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. *The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see.* Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that’s no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby’s rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, VIRGINIA, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.



*May the peace and joy of Christmas remain with each of you throughout the New Year. And may Santa Claus continue to “make glad the heart of childhood” in you, no matter how old you are!  
Merry Christmas!  
The Staff of the HOOSIER CHATTER*



**From the  
State Director**

**Cindy James**

Hello Indiana,

Here is hoping you all had a terrific Thanksgiving with family and friends. Indiana is blessed with many wonderful folks who made this camping season great! Thanks for the fun, friends, and food!

I hope that winter will come and go without much difficulty and spring will arrive sooner rather than later. With the New Year approaching, camping schedules should be full of exciting places to camp!

Indiana was included as one of the States with membership growth! Awesome! Indiana will be operating another booth at the Indianapolis RV show coming up in January. It will be exciting to see how many folks we can get to join our State. Be watching for more details on the RV show as it gets closer. Thanks to everyone involved in helping to increase our membership!

Indiana is hosting the Regional Campout August 6,7,8 & 9, 2020 with early bird days August 4 & 5 in Shipshewana, Indiana...is still very much in the planning stage, so please keep an eye out on info as it comes. There will be a variety of fun things to see and do in the surrounding area and nearby communities!

Follow the online Camping Today for important information on traveling to Brigden, Ontario next July for Campvention. We are hoping for a great turnout for attendance from Indiana.

Folks, be safe traveling, stay healthy, and spread a little kindness everywhere you go!

*Cindy James*



**From the  
State President**

**Ed Shaneyfelt**

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. The Holiday season is upon us and will probably fly by as fast as a camping season! Safe travels to everyone heading south for the winter, and anyone not heading south, stay warm.

The by-laws schedule meeting that was set for January is going to be canceled and re-scheduled at a later date. There were scheduling conflicts with some of the trustees.

When you are meeting with your clubs to plan next year's schedule remember to schedule around the State Campouts. See the backside of the Chatter for those dates. Speaking about next years schedule, we have accepted a bid for the Spring Campout to be held at Amishville Campground in Berne. This campout will be hosted by Deena Felver and Paige Longberry.

Sending positive thoughts to the Membership Director regarding the upcoming show in Indy. I'm sure they will continue the wonderful job that they have done since stepping into this position. Keep our membership growing!!!

Until next time Happy Holidays to all.

*Ed Shaneyfelt*  
State President



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## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Harlan Nigh

Luke 2:8-14

“And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”

Wishing all a Merry Christmas. May you have peace & comfort through the season.

Let the joy flow through you to all!

*Harlan Nigh*



## Retiree director

Patti Thieme

So hope you all had a Happy thanksgiving and have a Merry Christmas.

For all of our retirees that are going south have safe travels and we will see you in the spring. (Unless we meet up at the retiree rally.)

*Patti Thieme*



## Membership News



Indiana State Association FCRV  
Membership Director  
Denise Weiss

Merry Christmas, everyone!

For most of us our campers or RVs are winterized and tucked in for the winter months, as we are already counting down the days to next year's camping season.

With the New Year fast approaching we are finalizing things for the RV show in January. Last year we did the Ford's Sport and Travel Show. This year we are only going to do RV Expo at the state fairground January 4 -12. We have the slots filled for people to work and are anxiously waiting to get started. If you are at the show we would love to have you stop by get your picture taken with Denvey, his buddies the Bear family or just to say howdy.

Since the Sports Boat and Travel Show last year we have had 9 new families join and 1 new chapter started. We are hoping to have more than that next year. Wish us all good luck and we will update you after the RV show. Have a safe and happy holiday.

*Denise Weiss*

## Collections Coordinator +



Indiana State Association FCRV  
Ronald McDonald House  
And Riley Hospital  
Collections Coordinator  
C.A.M.P. Lady  
Patti Thieme

Now that we have eaten the turkey and spent time with family we can still save all the caps from the water bottles and pop bottles and what ever else plastic lids we can think of. WE only have around 200 pounds of lids and we need around 400 pounds to make that bench for Mike so lets do it for MIKE!!! Also if you are using cans instead of bottles, save the tabs so we can give them to Riley.

If Santa either brings too much or buys too much to put under the tree, you can always bring the extras to a campout to give to Riley.

After you eat all the good food over the holidays, don't forget to get your walking shoes out to take a walk and keep in shape for the campouts that we have planned.

Have safe and Happy holidays and will see everyone in the spring.

*Patti Thieme*

*Note: If you have a recipe that you think others might enjoy, send it to the CHATTER editor at the following address hoosierchatter@hotmail.com. Any submissions are due by the 25th of the month prior to publication.*

# Recipes worth Sharing!

## Here is a recipe for all Rice Krispies Treats

### Ingredients

1/4 cup margarine or butter  
1 pkg (10 oz. about 40) regular marshmallows or 4 cups o miniature marshmallows  
6 cups Kellogg's Rice Krispies cereal. (You can also use fruity pebbles or any other type of cereal instead of Rice Krispies.)

### Microwave Directions

- \* Microwave margarine and marshmallows on full power in large glass bowl for 2 minutes. Stir to combine.
- \* Microwave on full power 1 1/2 to 2 minutes longer. Stir until smooth.
- \* Add cereal, stir until well coated.
- \* Press into pan using buttered spatula or waxed paper, press mixture evenly into buttered 13x9x2 pan. Let Cool then cut in 2 inch squares and eat.

Submitted by Deena Felver



### PEPPERMINT SNOWBALLS

A recipe from Taste of Home

### INGREDIENTS:

#### BASE COOKIE

1 cup butter, softened  
1/2 cup confectioner's sugar  
1 tsp. vanilla extract  
2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour

#### FILLING

2 tbsp cream cheese, softened  
1 tbsp whole milk  
1/2 c. confectioners' sugar  
2 tbsp finely crushed peppermint candy or candy cane  
1 drop red food coloring

#### TOPPING

1/4 cup confectioner's sugar  
6 tbsp finely crushed peppermint candy or candy cane

### DIRECTIONS

1. In a bowl, cream butter and sugar. Add vanilla. Stir in flour. Knead until well mixed. Reserve 1/2 cup of dough. Shape remaining dough into 1-inch balls.
2. For filling, combine cream cheese and milk in a small bowl. Stir in sugar, crushed candy, and food coloring. Mix well. Make a deep well in the center of each cookie ball. Fill with 1/4 tsp filling. Use reserved dough to cover filling. Reshape if necessary into smooth balls.
3. Place on ungreased baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 12-14 minutes. Combine topping ingredients. Roll cookies in mixture while still warm. Cool on wire racks.

# Rest in Peace



## Shirley Rea (Fulcher) Eckenberger



Shirley Rea (Fulcher) Eckenberger, 79, passed peacefully on Friday, Nov. 22 in South Bend with her family around her.

She was born on March 1, 1940 in Sebree, Webster County, Kentucky to Aubrey and Mary Jo (Franklin) Fulcher, both who preceded her in death.

She married William "Bill" Eckenberger. They were married 43 years when he preceded her in death.

She lived most of her 79 years on the southside of South Bend. She attended Riley High School. During her lifetime she worked for a variety of companies including Ball Band Corp., TempCor and many years housekeeping. She earned her real estate license was a realtor for Cressy and Everett. She also enjoyed working at the South Bend FOP bingo hall for several years. In the 1960s, she and her husband both raced stock cars at South Bend Motor Speedway.

She was a member of the National Campers and Hikers Association for 25 years, and served as the state and national Teen Director for the organization during the 1980s. Over the years for fun, she participated in leagues for bowling, softball and darts.

Shirley was most proud of her family. Surviving are her five children, Marcia (Kurt) Keiser of Fort Collins, Colo.; Rick Eckenberger and Brenda (Greg) Lilves of North Liberty; Lori (Mike) Cook of Louisville, Ky.; and Lisa (Dan) O'Berry of Street, Md. Also surviving are her grandchildren: Rodney (Kelly) Eckenberger, South Bend; Audra (Trey) Brickner, Fort Collins, Colo.; Kelly Hostetler, Wyatt; Nicholas (Nadine) Keiser, Switzerland; Kyle (Nancy) Lilves, Bremen; Jamie (Ryan) Harris, Mishawaka; Eric Eckenberger, South Bend; Joshua and Ashley Cook, Louisville, Ky.; Emma and Hannah O'Berry, Street, Md.; 13 great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

Shirley also is survived by her brother David Fulcher, Slidell, La. and several cousins, in-laws, nieces and nephews. Her sisters Mary Lou and Sharon Fulcher preceded her in death. Her loving companion dog Casper also will mourn her loss.

To leave an online condolence, please visit our website at [www.zahoran.com](http://www.zahoran.com). In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Center for Hospice Care or the Humane Society of St. Joseph County.

Shirley's cremated remains were interred at Sumpston Prairie Cemetery in South Bend.

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## SOME PRELIMINARY INFORMATION ABOUT 2020 CAMPVENTION

This campvention is being held in Brigden Ontario. Our Canadian members proposed that the fees for this campvention be in Canadian funds. This was approved by the Trustees and the rate set at \$325 CDN. Because currency changes daily the amount in US dollars isn't certain but should be between \$240 USD and \$260 USD. You have to go to your bank and let them know that you need Canadian funds in a money order. Not all banks do this, so you have to find out which ones do, and you make have to give them a couple of days to do this.

WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION IN THE FUTURE!

## ARE YOU CALLED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE??

The National FCRV Trustee elections for 2020 may be calling you. Positions up for election are PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT of PROGRAMS and RECORDING/CORRESPONDING officer. If you are interested in any of these positions, please let State Director Cindy James know an she can forward your name to the nominating committee.

**2020 Great Lakes Regional Campout  
 Shipshewana Campground -North  
 Shipshewana Indiana  
 August 6<sup>th</sup> – August 9<sup>th</sup>  
 (Early Bird Dates August 4th-5th)**

**A Stitch in Time From Handcrafted Minds**



**Local activities include**

There are opportunities to take a buggy ride, view over 30 hand-painted quilt murals on the LaGrange County Barn Quilt Trail, go to a dinner theater and watch handcrafted oak and cherry furniture being made. There are over 100 different shops, where you can find everything from handmade crafts and quilts to heirloom quality furniture. Purchase and sample unique foods like jellies, fudge, hand-rolled pretzels, and even Amish-made peanut butter. You'll feel as if you've stepped back in time!

**You will need to contact the campground and make your own reservation let them know you are with FCRV**

***Shipshewana North Park Amish Log Cabin Lodging & Campground  
 5970 North State Road 5  
 Shipshewana IN, 46565  
 Ph: (260) 758-7770***

Once you have your site number please email it to: [comecampwithus@hotmail.com](mailto:comecampwithus@hotmail.com)

Pre-registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ Teens: \_\_\_\_\_ Youth \_\_\_\_\_

Number of nights staying

\_\_\_ Tues (Early Bird) \_\_\_ Wed (Early Bird) \_\_\_ Thurs \_\_\_ Fri \_\_\_ Sat

Activity fee - \$15 Activity fee at gate will be - \$20

Please make checks payable to

Indiana FCRV State Director Acct for registration 2020

Send pre-registration to: Cindy James

3395 N. US Hwy 33

Decatur, IN 46733

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS

## International Events

### **Retiree Rally 2020**

National Peanut Fairgrounds  
Dothan, Alabama  
Early Days March 20-23, 2020  
Rally Days March 24-30, 2020

### **Campvention 2020**

Brigden, Ontario  
(Further information to come)  
July 13-17, 2020

## Great Lakes Regional Events

### **Regional Campout 2020**

Shipshewana North Campground  
(further information to come)  
August 6-9, 2020  
(Early Days August 4-5, 2020)

## Indiana State Events

### **Bylaws Meeting**

Indianapolis, IN (TBD)  
January 11, 2020

### **2020 Spring Campout**

Amishville Campground  
Geneva, Indiana  
Hosted by Deena Felver  
and Paige Shaneyfelt  
May 1-3, 2020

### **2020 Summer Campout**

TBA  
Hosted by the Fireflies  
August 21-23, 2020

### **2020 Retiree Rally**

Bill Monroe's Campground  
5163 State Road 135  
Morgantown, Indiana  
September 30-October 1, 2020

### **2019 Fall Invitational**

Bill Monroe's Campground  
5163 State Road 135  
Morgantown, Indiana  
Hosted by Indiana FCRV Trustees  
October 2-4, 2020

## HOOSIER CHATTER

### Advertising Policy

The *Hoosier Chatter* accepts advertisements at the rate of \$5.00/column inch/issue for commercial advertisers and \$3.00/column inch/issue for personal advertisers. There are significant discounts available for multiple issue ads. These advertisements are open to any business or individual, but will be screened to assure they are appropriate to the goals and philosophy of the Family Campers and RVers.

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The deadline for ads and articles in the *Hoosier Chatter* is the 25th of the month preceding the issue month.

Further questions or information may be obtained by contacting the editor at

hoosierchatter@hotmail.com  
317-925-0150.



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