



# EMPIRE STATE NEWS

THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF FCRV



SPRING 2019



## Words from Wittmeyers: NY State Report



Hi everyone! Most of the active members of New York know us, if not by name then perhaps by face (or voice!!) Joe and I have accepted the appointment as New

York State Directors, taking up where John & Linda Stiegler left off. Many thanks to them in helping to make for a smooth transition.

Kathy Collier is working with me to run the State Campout to be held at Herkimer County Fairgrounds on Cemetery road in Herkimer, the weekend of May 24-27. Our theme for the weekend is "It's a Mystery!" and we will have a weekend-long crime investigation with everyone participating to see who committed the crime. Details will be laid out on Friday evening during hospitality with extra clues sprinkled throughout the weekend. We are planning to have a catered dinner; a potluck dinner; pancake breakfast; evening Hospitalities; games, sports and crafts; and just enough activities to keep you busy, but not overwhelm you. If you have supplies for Mexican Train, Hand & Foot, Bocce, Ladder Golf and Washer Toss, please bring them. We do not have all these items and need to rely on members for assistance. Thank you so much, in advance! We will be charging a \$7.50 activity fee per person to cover the cost of supplies; the camping fee is waived this year. Please, *Please*, PLEASE remember to register! We need to know EVERYONE who is coming so we have enough food for y'all! The form is inside this publication.

There will be a General Meeting at the Campout. It would be a good time for all those members camping to attend and provide your new State Directors with input and comments that we can take to the national Executive Board meeting. As you all know the numbers are steadily declining in membership, participation and attendance for FCRV. What can FCRV do to turn things around? Are there any untried recruiting methods that we need to seriously look at? Who should we target as potential new members? We are complete rookies at this job, and need your input to help New York rebound, and in the long run, the national organization as well.

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## McHale's Message: Update from NYSA President

Greetings! It appears that spring is trying to appear after a very long winter. As I sit and type this on March 13<sup>th</sup> temps are supposed to reach the upper 50 by this Friday. As the temps climb and rain is in the forecast the hope is that it ushers in a new camping season. There is a conversation upcoming at the national level on the future of the organization's existence. We as members need to speak up and be heard on what we want and the direction to proceed in not only at the national level but also at the state level. We need to think about the structure of the organization and how we see it function and how that will best serve the membership into the future. Patty and Joe Wittmeyer have stepped up to be New York State Director. The upcoming camp out on Memorial Day weekend will be an opportunity for all to give input on this so the information can then be conveyed to National this summer during a planned two-day discussion. Our input will help the national board of State Directors and Trustees on this issue.

But for now let's focus on the Memorial Day weekend at Herkimer Fair grounds. The theme will be based around the idea of "IT'S A MYSTERY". The weekend is all inclusive with catered dinner breakfast at a very reasonable price. Patty Wittmeyer, Kathy Collier and Carol Burns have taken the reins on spear heading and planning the weekend. We just need the main ingredient, "people", so please come and enjoy the greatest people who make up this organization, without us there is no NYSA FCRV (NCHA).

**Best in Camping**  
**Sean McHale NYSA President**

## Wittmeyer's Column (cont.)

Please come to the General Meeting (even if you are unable to camp for the full weekend I would encourage you to attend the campout for the day; that's how important your input is!). You may have heard that the Chinese character for 'threat' is also the same character for 'opportunity'. Now we have an opportunity to assess and reinvent NYSA. Please come and be part of that exciting process.

Patty & Joe Wittmeyer

## AROUND THE STATE



### Thundering Herd – Buffalo

The Thundering Herd has been kind of quiet this winter season. We went to a play at O'Connell and Company for Christmas along with dinner. In April we are going to Erie, Pa for our Adult Weekend. We stay at the Hampton Inn Erie then go to dinner and show at the Erie Station Dinner Theatre. It is always open to anyone that would be interested to go. We have our camping season all set with a week at Delaware Water Gap/Poconos KOA. It is always nice to find new spots and talk to fellow campers. From there some of us are planning to go to the NE Regional Campout, as we had sure a good time last year in Leroy (when we ran it). It seems all the chapters are getting smaller, but we all have to stick together to make this organization last and that is what we are doing. We hope to see many faces at our Spring State Campout, as Patty and Kathy are working hard to make it a great weekend.

We would like to give our deepest sympathy to Donna Updegrove and her family for the loss of John in March. Linda Stiegler



### HUDSON VALLEY DISTRICT

Hopefully the winter is almost over. Spring is on the way. Our Hudson Valley District Spring campout is May 31 – June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. We will be camping at the Shongum Shockers campground, Napanoch, New York. We are also planning a Spring Get Together, including a meal. More information to follow.

George & Tonya Rothmann

### Ken-Ton-A-Wanderers – Buffalo

Ken-Ton celebrated Christmas with a party at the home of one of our members, then in January we got together to plan our campouts and activities for the coming camping season. Plans include the State campout, Evangola State Park with the Fiddlers Green chapter,

## YOUTH

I will have some activities planned for the youth and young at heart. At this moment what they are is a mystery (see what I did!?!). One will be some sort of experiment.

Carol Burns  
NYSA Youth Director

P.S. Don't forget about the Camping Is... posters and coloring sheet. (Same goes for these as the Conservation poster. Supplies and judging will be at State.)

## CONSERVATION REPORT

### Conservation Poster Winners

#### Age

9-11	Ian Burns (Central) 1 <sup>st</sup> at State AND National
12-14	Taylor Wolf (Western) 1 <sup>st</sup> at State, 2 <sup>nd</sup> at National
15-19	Kerri McHale (Central) 1 <sup>st</sup> at State AND National
20+	Carol Burns (Central) 1 <sup>st</sup> at State, and Honorable Mention at National Mike Burns (Central) 2 <sup>nd</sup> at State

I will be bringing poster supplies for those who want to do their Conservation Poster at Spring State. Please feel free to bring completed posters with you. Supplies will be laid out on Friday and judging will be on Sunday afternoon. There is no need for judging at chapter or district level. All posters will be judged at State.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at [mcburns@frontier.com](mailto:mcburns@frontier.com) or (518) 993-2815.

**\*\*\*Remember: if the temperature is 32 degrees or above, the ticks are out, no matter *what* month it is\*\*\***

Carol and Mike Burns  
NYSA Conservation Directors

P.S.: Mike will be doing a talk as usual. Please attend and bring lots of questions for him.



a trip to the Adirondacks, and a trip to the middle of our country for the National Campvention.



# There's a MYSTERY at NYSA State Campout

May 24th-27th, 2019

Hosted by Western District

**Herkimer County Fairgrounds**

133 Cemetery Street, Frankfort, NY 13340

[Take Exit 30 on the NYS Thruway]

The Camping Fee will be covered by NYSA.

There will be a \$7.50 activity fee per person to pay for  
the cost of food and supplies.



**PLEASE REGISTER SO WE HAVE ENOUGH FOOD AND SUPPLIES!!**

Please send payment and completed registration form payable to:

NYSA / NCHA

c/o LINDA STIEGLER

92 SANDRA DRIVE

CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14225

Ph: (716) 982-5518 or email: stiegjl2@gmail.com

Early bird Thursday after 1:00pm



Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

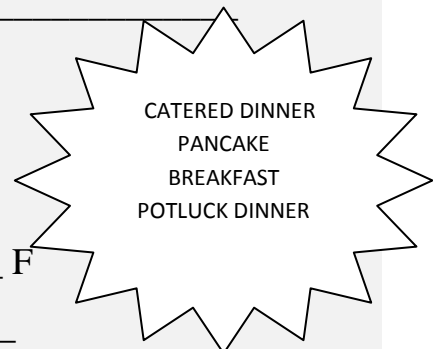
Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adults: \_\_ M \_\_ F Youth: \_\_ M \_\_ F Teens: \_\_ M \_\_ F

Registration @ \$7.50 per adult \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_



## Entry Deadline is May 14th, 2019

### What to bring:

T-shirt for painting ♦ dish to share at Pot Luck Dinner

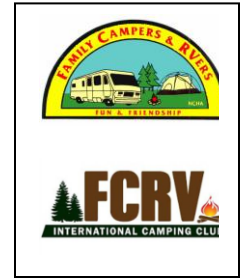
Costume accessories for Crime Mystery ♦ Books for Book exchange

Ideas for your conservation poster ♦ Ladder golf, Bocce & Washer Toss sets





**59<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CAMPVENTION**  
**FAMILY CAMPERS & RVer's**  
 Hosted by the Heartland Region # 2  
**"ALL ROADS LEAD TO KANSAS"**  
 Kansas State Fairgrounds, 2000 North Poplar St.  
 Hutchinson, KS 67502  
**Campvention Days:** July 8 – 12, 2019 fees covers  
 July 7 – 12 (6 nights)



Early Bird Days: July 5 & 6, 2019 @ \$25 / night (pay @ registration – cash/check)

**Registrations are needed by: June 1, 2019**

There will be room for you if you decide to come at the last minute.

Just bring this registration with you. We want everyone to come see us!!!

**Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Spouse/Guest:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ST/PRV:** \_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **e-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first Campvention? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Send my confirmation letter in PDF: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

**Number of people in your unit:**

# Of Adults: \_\_\_ Teens: \_\_\_ Youth 9 – 12 \_\_\_ Youth 5 – 8 \_\_\_ Young Adults \_\_\_ Total number of people in Unit: \_\_\_

Please list the names and ages of all Teens and Youth:

Name	Age	Name	Age

**CAMPVENTION PARKING:**

The gates will be open all days from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The first 211 registrations will be parked in the full hook up sites. All others will be parked with water & electric. If you are not registered prior to arrival, you will be in a water & electric site. The full hook up area has paved streets and gravel parking sites. The water & electric sites are in grass areas. Tent sites are available in grass with shade and close to the shower house.

**Special Needs Information:**

Check if you are requesting a special needs site: \_\_\_ There will be no special needs sites available at the gate.

**REGISTRATION:**

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

	<u>Registration</u>	<u>At Gate</u>
One Family in the Unit	\$300.00	\$310.00
Extra Family in the Unit (separate pay)	\$150.00	\$160.00
Week Drive-in Pass (July 7 – 12)	\$175.00	\$185.00
Walk-in Camp Pass (per day)	\$35.00 Per Day	Same
Motor Home ___ 5 <sup>th</sup> Wheel ___ Travel Trailer ___ Pop-Up ___ Want in shade trees ___		

**THINGS TO SEE AND DO AROUND HUTCHINSON:**

Cosmosphere (Smithsonian-affiliated Space Museum), Strataca (a salt mine museum), Yoder (a Amish community), Hutchinson Zoo, Dillon Nature Center, Hedrick Exotic Animal Farm, Soldiers & Sailors Memorial, Reno County Museum, Kansas Kids Museum, Reno County Veterans Memorial, Salt Discovery Site & Memorial Marker,

**Make checks payable to: 2019 FCRV Campvention**  
**Mail to: Keith Koontz**  
**2224 Woodland St**  
**Wichita, KS 67204-5938**

**Refund policy: If you are unable to attend, all except \$ 25 will be refunded**

Contact them at: 316-655-2970 or [k.koontz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:k.koontz@sbcglobal.net)

We would like to volunteer for: \_\_\_\_\_

# CAMPING IS...



# WILDLIFE

2019

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

**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 AIR CONDITIONERS. Please bring extra water hose and electrical cord as you may need additional.

The gates will open at 12:00 Noon Wednesday, July 31<sup>st</sup>. (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 5<sup>th</sup>.

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**



## NYSA-NCHA SCHOLARSHIPS

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

Herb & Marie Petersen, NYSA Scholarship Directors  
76 Gaymore Street, Port Jefferson Sta., NY 11776-1353  
Preferred method of contact is email:

Petersen76@aol.com

**DEADLINE FOR RETURN OF COMPLETED NY  
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS IS MAY 1**

## NYSA-NCHA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION REQUEST FORM

Due to being 'snowbirds'- please email the following information to **petersen76@aol.com**

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

My FCRV Membership # is \_\_\_\_\_

Join Date: Month\_\_\_\_/ Year \_\_\_\_\_

I am \_\_\_\_\_ a high school student

\_\_\_\_\_ currently enrolled in college

## FOR NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Go to the FCRV website: FCRV.ORG. Under the Programs tab, select Scholarship, and follow the instructions there. Completed National Scholarship applications must be received no later than April 15<sup>th</sup>. Applications are to be requested after December 1, and before April 1 of each year.

## EDITORS NOTE:

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

**The ESN will now be published 3x per year.**

**The due dates will be as follows:**

**Spring Issue – March 15 (Published in April)**

**Summer Issue – June 15 (Published in July)**

**Holiday Issue – Nov. 15 (Published in December)**

Please send reports via email whenever possible. Please try to submit articles near the due date, and placing ESN first in the subject line of your message is always helpful. As always, Snowbirds and Winter Texans receiving a printed newsletter, please send change of address form to Stieglers (as well as the National Office) with the start and stop date and your temporary address.

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**To receive email notification of next ESN publication:**

**ROBERT WOLF**

**NYSA.ESN@GMAIL.COM**

## PLEASE HELP!!

Things are coming together nicely for the State Campout but we need volunteers to host the Hospitalities, one on Saturday night, the other on Sunday night. Please call Pat at (716) 648-8041 or Kathy at (716) 714-5964 if you and some friends can help out. ☺

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2019:

NYSA State Campout May 24-27, 2019  
National Campvention in Hutchinson, KS  
July 7-12, 2019  
North East Regional in Hughesville, PA  
Aug. 1-4, 2019

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- New State Directors
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“Where Strangers Become Friends  
& Friends Become Family”



**NYSA/NCHA**

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

DELIVER AS ADDRESSED  
OR TO CURRENT RESIDENT