

CAMPING TODAY

THE VOICE OF FAMILY CAMPERS & RVERS

May 2022



*FCRV 50th Annual International Retiree Rally
Mineola Texas – Fishin For '50*



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From The President

Good evening, everyone!

I hope that everyone is safe and healthy. Enjoying campouts with your Chapter, taking in the sites with the travels as you travel your great states and this beautiful nation. Here in Region 1 we are preparing for Campvention and the work is in full swing in getting ready for another great Campvention. I hope that we see you there. I would like to encourage you to get your registration in for Campvention this year. July will be here before you know it and we will be gathering in Pueblo Colorado for a fun filled week with our FCRV Family. I will see you there!

I would like you to Join me in Welcoming Amy DeCamp to the Board of Trustees as the VP of Planning and Development. Amy has a strong commercial background and joins us from FFCC. Amy is a great addition to FCRV. Amy has been instrumental in the FFCC camping family joining with FCRV. Her knowledge and perspective will be an asset to the Board and to FCRV. You will get to meet her in Pueblo in July. Please join me in welcoming her to FCRV and the Board. It is nice to say that we once again have a complete Board of Trustees.

Just another quick reminder. We sent a letter with a return postCard to all life members.

As you know for several years, we have worked on the life member role and the job has never been completed. It is of the utmost importance that you return your card or call the office with your information. This has been one of the jobs that just never seemed to get completed. We have extended



the deadline for you getting your information into the office if you are a life member. Please understand that we will bring this project to a close after the deadline. I do not see another extension to the deadline. The point here is if you did not receive your letter, it is important that you reach out to the office as your contact information may not be correct.

Please help us get your information updated. Field Directors please reach out to the Life members in your Chapter and help them get this information updated. I would say that you are the one that knows your Chapter better than anyone else and you are the ones that can and will make the difference in getting this information accurate.

Now above all please enjoy the camping season taking time to share a kind word and pass along some knowledge to a new camping family in your travels.

We will see you at the next campfire!

Gerry Pfirsch
National President





FCRV Health Guidelines

Hey Happy Campers! (And you Grumpy Campers, too!)

Your Trustees have been very busy this winter and I wanted to share some important news with you.

Last May, Camping Today, published some information for you regarding COVID and how FCRV wanted to handle all the differing viewpoints and widely variant information on staying safe at Campvention. In this ever-changing world, the Trustees want you to know we are still concerned about the many variants that seem to be popping up as well as “hot spots” of disease and how we can keep our campers safe without coming on too strongly.

That being said, the article printed in the May covering meeting and social gatherings has been completely revamped. It has been replaced with kinder, gentler, but no less effective, health guidelines. So please take a look at our new FCRV Health Guidelines and stay safe out there!

FCRV HEALTH GUIDELINES – EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2022

These are simply guidelines and as such supplement—and do not replace—any state, provincial, local, territorial, or tribal health and

safety laws, rules, and regulations that govern any meeting or social gathering.

We recommend campers and their guests are up to date with vaccinations and immunizations and carry this information on a medical card as well as showing all current medications, medical conditions, and allergies that emergency medical personnel may need to know.

Have a mask available to use for your protection and the protection of others as they can be used for more than deterring COVID.

Use common sense in protecting yourself and others.

Official CDC Guidelines change quickly so be aware of the local conditions and be prepared to adapt to them.

Vaccinated? No mask may be necessary.
Unvaccinated? Mask is recommended.

Event coordinators will announce if local conditions change, requiring adjustments to these statements.

Help Wanted (Open Volunteer Positions)

FCRV needs your help. Please consider filling one of these positions. They are very important to the operation of FCRV. Contact [VP Ops – Jeff Kendle](#), or [Immediate Past President – Shari Weber](#) for details.

Volunteers are needed for the following National Positions:

Membership Director – Reports to Vice-President Planning & Development and is a member of the Advisory Council. Primarily responsible for the growth and retention of membership. Field Manual job description is currently under review and subject to change.

Commercial Director – Reports to Vice-President Planning & Development and is a member of the



Advisory Council. Main responsibility is the development and retention of commercial



membership/accounts. Field Manual job description is currently under review and subject to change.

Youth Director – Reports to Vice-President Programs and is a member of the Advisory Council. Works for the betterment of future youth programs in FCRV. Field Manual job description is currently under review and subject to change.

State/Provincial Directors for Maryland, DC, Ohio and Connecticut – Reports to their Regional Director and is a member of the Advisory Council. Position is to administer and coordinate the activities of the State/Providence in the areas of membership and National programs at their level. Maintain current membership list for said State/Providence. Appoint Field Director(s). Keep Regional Director apprised of chapters status. Approve constitution/bylaws, promote FCRV and State/Provincial activities, submit reports to Regional Director, hold meetings with field staff. Field Manual job description is currently under review and subject to change.

Communication & Security Director – Reports to the Vice President Planning & Development and is a member of the Advisory Council. Communication to be used for FCRV Campventions and Retiree Rallies. Integration of electronic communication into a balanced communications system. Responsible for electronic (walkie-talkies) equipment. Field Manual job description is currently under review and subject to change.

Conservation Director – Reports to the Vice President of Programs and is a voting member of the Executive Board. Conservation is at the heart of FCRV. Maintain existing program guidelines and formulate new as needed. Maintain records of the program. Field Manual job description is currently under review and subject to change.

Historian – Reports to the Recording/Corresponding Officer and is a member of the Advisory Council. Preserve FCRV’s history through

media and memorabilia. Field Manual job description is currently under review and subject to change.

Veterans – Reports to the Vice President Programs and is a member of the Advisory Council. Show support FCRV members who are Veterans, conduct or arrange for, informational seminars featuring other Veterans and promote information about FCRV Veterans about activities and opportunities for them. Field Manual job description is currently under review and subject to change.

Travalong Director – Reports to the Immediate Past President and is a member of the Advisory Council. Program is designed to help travelers enjoy group-planned activities and help members and non-members learn about areas of travel and who to contact for information. Establish Travalongs with at least one to coincide with National Campvention. Field Manual job description is currently under review and subject to change.

Region 5 Director – Reports to the Vice President of Operations and is a voting member of the Executive Board. Represent FCRV in the region, assist State Directors in the region and provide coordination of administration between the States and the Vice President of Operations. Recommend appointments and/or releases of State Directors to the Vice President of Operations. Coordinate activities between the various States in the region. Act as the State Director in those States that have none. Within the region, administer National bylaws, Constitution, regulations, policies and directives.

Volunteer Background Records Custodian – Member of the Advisory Council Reporting to the Vice President Programs. This position receives permission forms from volunteers working with teens or youth to run a background check. Full job responsibilities are in the field manual. Field Manual job description is currently under review and subject to change.



Message From Teen Director Ms Beth

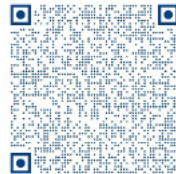
I cannot believe May is here already, but I do hope that it brings with it some warm weather as we start the camping season. My family will be enjoying our first campout of the season in the middle of May and by the looks of the International calendar, on our website, so will many of you.

The Campvention committee has been hard at work creating a fabulous week. I have been working with those who are planning the teen activities and am excited about all things that are underway. Our off grounds trip will be roller skating and I have also recently heard from a wildlife organization about going there to work on a conservation project during the week. We will be doing our own Chick Fil-A cow day for lunch on Tuesday, so be sure to bring your best cow “costume”. After all, you never know what prizes might be available. Also, don’t forget your white cotton item for tie-dyeing. We will still be selling lunch on Family Fun day to earn funds, playing sports, holding our annual Teen/Adult softball game and the Teen Center will be open every evening for music and activities. I am also still looking for float ideas. Be sure to get them in so we can be prepared with supplies.

As many of you have probably heard, I have been tasked with putting together a committee to work on revamping our Teen Program and bring it into the 21st century. As a virtual teacher, who has taught both middle and high school (face to face and virtually), I am looking forward to the challenge. Our first task is to create a competition that will continue of tradition of having teen representation in FCRV. The new competition will replace our pageant tradition with something that brings it into the 21st century. I am looking for two (2)

representatives (preferably 1 male and 1 female to get both perspectives) from each region. If you would like to be a part of this piece of FCRV history, click the link below. For those who printed the pdf version, simply use your cell phone to scan the QR code.

[Request to join Teen committee](#)



I look forward to seeing many of you at Campvention in Pueblo. Until then happy camping!

Beth Coniglio

International Teen Director





Miss FCRV May Update

Hey y'all! I am finally on my spring break, with summer quickly approaching. I am spending my time and resources on promoting FCRV and my new community service project.

To promote FCRV I've decided to go back to our foundations and focus on conservation and environmentalism. Both of these are important to me given that I am studying science in school. To do this I've decided to spend my last few months as your queen setting up various service projects that will help our planet and get our name out there. My first one will take place this April as a Family Project, where we will be cleaning up the shores of the Caloosahatchee River. I want to challenge each state and teen chapter to get in at least one such project prior to Campvention in Colorado. As I travel off to Colorado, I hope many of you will invite me to your project or at least share with the organization what you're doing.

As for my community service project, I am building upon our organization's relationship with the Ronald McDonald house. This project is part of something that I've wanted to do for years, and the teens actually did it at the 2018 Campvention in Virginia. I am making blankets, and little goodie bags for the kids at my local Ronald McDonald house, and for retirement homes in the area who may need them. I absolutely love making these and seeing the recipients faces (especially the kids) when they get them. Recently, I received a donation to help me with these new projects from a member of my state, and I can't thank them enough. I had no idea other people might want to help out. If you or your state would like to help out with any donations, you can send them to 13206 Curry Dr. Spring Hill, FL 34609. For goodie bag donations some items suggested include: toothbrushes, toothpaste,



toiletries, socks, small stuffed animals, small toys, crayons, coloring books, puzzle books, etc.

Now that the Camping season is upon us, I look forward to seeing pictures and articles on what everyone is doing prior to Campvention.

In camping friendship,
Brianna Coniglio
Miss FCRV 2021



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Campvention 2022

Event Details!

Register Today!

Event Forms!

CAMPVENTION IS LESS THAN 2 MONTHS AWAY

If you have not sent in your 2022 Campvention Registration, please do so as soon as possible. The deadline for pre-registration is June 1st, 2022. We will still take registrations at the gate, but it will cost you an additional \$30.00. So, get it in today and don't miss out on the fun!

TOAD VEHICLES

For those of you who are towing cars behind your motorhome – you MUST detach your toad before you arrive at the Gate (3) to enter the fairgrounds. There is a parking area on W. Mesa Ave and Acero Ave. that you can pull into for that purpose.

Rocky Mountain Summer Camp Youth Registration Message

Hiya Campers!

With the 2022 Campvention making its way closer and closer, we at the Rocky Mountain Summer Camp just wanted to remind everyone to get their registrations in, especially those for youth 12 years and under.

A copy of the Youth Registration form that will be turned in at Campvention, can be found here. <https://fcrv.org/campvention-2022/> Youth Registration at the 2022 Campvention will take place in the CAB (Creative Arts Building) from 1- 5 pm on Friday, from 9 am-12 pm and 2-4 pm on Saturday, and 10 am-12 pm and 1-3 pm on Sunday. While we prefer for those registering a youth to do so on these days, we will also accept youth registrations at the Youth Parent Meeting on Monday which will be held from 4-5 pm in the CHC (Cultural Heritage Center). Upon

arrival to youth registration, we ask that parents/guardians provide a small current photo of their youth. Other information, such as the name of the registering youth, the name of their parents/guardians, home state/province, campsite location and number required upon registration can be found on the youth registration form.

As always, please be on the lookout for further announcements regarding the Rocky Mountain Summer Camp that can be found in Camping Today, on the FCRV Region 1 Campvention 2022 Facebook group, and by email.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in 2022, and if you have any questions about the Rocky Mountain Summer Camp program, please email campueblo2022@gmail.com

See you soon,
Your Camp Counselors, Breanna and Dez

Rocky Mountain Summer Camp “What to Bring to Camp”

Hiya Parents!

As Campvention 2022 is just around the corner, we at the Rocky Mountain Summer Camp just wanted to remind you to bring with your youth some important supplies when you come to Colorado this summer.

Given the Youth Program’s extensive itinerary, some general supplies you should bring with your youth this summer includes:

- Towels
 - Sunscreen
 - And clothes that you would not mind getting dirty or wet
 - (For activities that include painting and water fun such as Tie-Dye, Birdhouses, Splash Pad Fun, and Water Balloon Games; a swimsuit and painting smock/apron would suffice)
- Some specific supplies you will need to send with your youth include:
- A white cotton t-shirt for Tie-Dye
 - A personal family lunch for the Family Picnic on Friday.



- PLEASE NOTE: On Tuesday afternoon, we are planning on having a pizza party for the youth. If your youth has any dietary restrictions that would prevent them from eating pizza, please send your youth with a personal lunch for that day.

As always, please be on the lookout for further announcements regarding the Rocky Mountain Summer Camp that can be found in Camping Today, on the FCRV Region 1 Campvention 2022 Facebook

group, and by email.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in 2022, and if you have any questions about the Rocky Mountain Summer Camp program, please email campueblo2022@gmail.com

See you soon,

Your Camp Counselors, Breanna and Dez

Adult Game Competitions

by Karen and Robert Snodgrass. National Adult Activities Directors

As we have done the past few years, we will be playing our official games: Horseshoes, Washer Toss and Ladder Golf. Any adult may play. You don't have to be a state/provincial champion to play; the games are open competition.

New this year will be a Corn Hole tournament, dubbed Coffee and Corn Hole because we are playing in the morning. We will have coffee and other refreshments. In order for game play to progress at a quick pace, WE NEED YOUR HELP. We need additional corn hole boards. If you have a

set and are willing to let us borrow them in Pueblo, please let us know. kssnodgrass@gmail.com.

We are also planning a family beanbag baseball event. All ages are welcome; sign up a whole team or meet new friends and join a team as an individual. We could also use additional beanbag baseball boards and bags. Again, please let us know if you have a set we can borrow.

Sign-up sheets for all events will be in central registration. Check your programs for day, time and location of all the games. See you in Pueblo!

2022 CAMPVENTION REMINDERS

Don't forget:

To take your pop tabs to a Recycling Center between May 15, 2022 and June 15, 2022, get them weighed, obtain a receipt for pounds and the dollar amount. Then take the donated amount to your local Ronald McDonald House or similar charity. Make sure to bring a copy of your receipts to Campvention and place them in the box during Registration.

- To bring a picture in remembrance of a member, loved one, or a relative to place on the "Memory Board". Pictures should not be any larger than a 4 by 6 inch.
- To bring a gift basket from your state/province.
- To bring non-perishable items such as canned foods, peanut butter, boxed cereals, rice, beans, pasta and pasta sauce, shelf stable milk, and oatmeal. No clothing or hygiene items, please. Cash donations are also appreciated. Campvention 2022 will be supporting a local food bank, Care and Share Food Bank for

Southern Colorado. Donations are especially needed this year with so many more families in need. Donations will be accepted Sunday through Thursday in the Palace of Agriculture.

- To bring a 3 x 5' state/provincial flag, 8' flag pole, and a flag stand for the Opening Ceremony on Sunday.
- To submit your reservation forms for the Marketplace and Hospitalities. Forms can be found in prior issues of Camping Today or on the FCRV website.
- To send in your Registration Form for the Talent Show.
- To bring white cotton T-shirts for the Youth and Teens to Tie-dye.
- To detach your toad before arriving at Gate 3 upon arrival.
- To bring a small photo of your youth or teen for registration.
- TO SEND IN YOUR CAMPVENTION REGISTRATION FORM BY JUNE 1ST, 2022.



Hello Crafty Campers!

We are so excited to share some pretty cool crafts with you. First of all, due to a supply issue we are not going to be able to do the wind chimes. However, we will still have the clay pot people with the choices of a frog, a gnome, or the clay pot person. Also, the Bottle cap magnets will be ready to do as well. I have added a few crafts: campfire starters, Glow stick Camp buckets and Birdhouses.

The costs of the crafts vary but, I hope everyone that wants to create with us, will. I am still working on getting some workshops together for some afternoons. I have a confirmed beginner/intermediate card making class for one afternoon. If you have any questions please email me at cotechroughingit@gmail.com

Blessings, Chris Hawkins



Rocky Mountain Summer Camp Talent Show for All

Hello Everyone,

As Campvention 2022 approaches, we at the Rocky Mountain Summer Camp are excited to announce that we are now accepting applications for the Rocky Mountain Talent Show from adults who plan to attend this summer's Campvention in Pueblo, Colorado!

We are looking for talented individuals, musicians, dancers, comedians, and performers who would like the opportunity to perform to register for the Rocky Mountain Talent Show today! Registration forms will be accepted by email before Campvention and should be emailed to brecheese520@gmail.com (A

registration form can be found within Camping Today. on the Region 1 Campvention 2022 Facebook page and on the FCRV website). However, for those wishing to register for the talent show at Campvention, forms will be available during Youth Registration (locations and times for Youth Registration will be available in the Campvention 2022 schedule).

As always, we are looking forward to seeing you all in 2022, and if you have any questions about the Rocky Mountain Summer Camp program, please email camppueblo2022@gmail.com

See you soon,

Your Camp Counselors, Breanna and Dez





Retiree Rally 2022 [Recap]

Photo Album!

2022 FCRV RETIREE RALLY EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

Attendance expectations for the 2022 Retiree Rally were exceeded with 82 RV units and 170 + people on hand at the Mineola, Texas Civic Center, It was a great facility for the 50th annual rally with level parking, full hookups, lots of meeting / activity rooms, the large Live Oak Auditorium, and lots of usable outdoor space for games. Several early arrivals opted to attend a Mystery Play Dinner Show at the Civic Center.

After a 2 year moratorium caused by Covid, old friends from all over the U.S and Canada were very glad to see each other again. Monday night's opening ceremonies, hosted by MC, Kip Cushing centered on past, current, and next International Retiree King and Queens. 16 past King and Queen couples were introduced as well as the three 2022 candidates. Crowned in 2019, Matt and Marla Mantia, cut the opening ribbon following the placement of the U.S., Canadian, Texas, and FCRV flags on stage. Ashley Taylor led the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner", Sharon Sandau and Beth Standiford led "Oh Canada", and Chaplain, Bill Buggeln led a prayer.



Nancy Murphy, General Manager of the Civic Center welcomed everyone and gave some of the history of the town of Mineola and the Civic Center. Her presentation was laced with humor and good will. Mineola Mayor, Janie Langford also welcomed everyone. Also introduced were Rally Coordinators, Kip and Jan Cushing and Assistant Coordinators, Ron and Reba Ray.

Ron and Jo Hersom introduced the three couples running for 2022 International King and Queen. Each couple spoke to the audience telling of their

life experiences as well as their FCRV experience. They are : Ed & Vina Haggerty, Illinois, Steve and Diane Hitchens, Kansas, and Phil and Joanne Rich, South Carolina.



The evening concluded with a thank you hospitality by the Rally Coordinators. Goldfish Crackers and bottled water matched the rally theme –“Fishing For 50”.

Tuesday was a day for signing up for activities and day planning. The commercial vendors were open. The First Timers Meeting explained what goes on at an FCRV Retiree Rally and how to make the most of it. Events of the day included Line Dancing Lessons, Tee Shirt Trimming Craft, Trivet Tiles Craft, Tire Minder Seminar, Sky Med Seminar, Chicken Foot Cards, Fun and Games With Jan, and the ever popular, skill testing Frog Races.





The evening's entertainment was a hit (or many hits from the 50's, 60's and beyond in all genres) by Ben and Doug from Dallas, Fort Worth, who have an impressive song catalog using background music true to the original. They even sang like the original greats of country, rock, r& b, and other formats. Many memories came back as the audience, sang along, clapped time, and filled the open dance floor. After playing for over an hour and a half they agreed to stay on after door prizes and an ice cream break. The audience stayed too and enjoyed more music and dancing. The happy evening ended with everyone forming a big circle and joining in "God Bless the U.S.A."



Wednesday included the daily activities such as Morning Devotional, Walking with Bill and Rita, Food Bank Collection and Commercial Vendors open. Also happening were State/Provincial Group Pictures, Line Dance Class, Seminar on

Kitchen Gadgets, Card Game 3-13, and South Carolina Hospitality. The Jam Session was rescheduled.

While Billie Jo and Mat Fisher were setting up to perform for the evening show, Kip Cushing challenged the audience with TV trivia questions.



Billie Jo, who grew up near Mineola has been in the music business for a few years, She has written and recorded several songs including "Favorite Place to Be" which was nominated in 2018

for the Texas Country Music Award and she was nominated for Female vocalist of the year. She has opened shows or many for several popular country entertainers and has appeared on The Voice and American Idol. With her vocal and her accompanist partner, Mat, she shared her versatility, singing several songs solo and others in harmony with Mat. Mat Fisher is also a very talented singer with that deep country voice and nimble fingers on guitar. He accepted a song request and opened the flood gates,

but he did his best to fulfill them. "Fishing In the Dark" was a favorite. Several of the tunes by both had the audience singing along and a few couples danced. A highlight of the show was Billie Jo's rendition of Dolly Parton's "I Will Always Love You." The evening wrapped up with door prizes and Bingo by Lawrence Phillips.

Thursday was another busy day as rally goers selected what to do. Among the choices were C.A.M.P. WALK, Sky Med Travel Assistance Seminar, Card Bingo, Fire Suppression Seminar, Beaded Bracelet Craft, Illinois Hospitality, Fun Games With Jan, Washer Toss Doubles, and Kansas Hospitality.

A catered chicken dinner was served before the annual Memorial Service where members who passed away since the last Retiree Rally. Chaplain Bill Buggeln's message theme was "Water and the Winds", stressing that you are not alone in trying times. The



FCRV Choir directed by Kip Cushing and accompanied by Craig Weber, sang 3 hymns at appropriate

times. The list of those being remembered was read by Linda Hennie. The Service closed with a prayer. Beth Standiford announced that \$550 plus several boxes of packaged food was donated to the Kindness Kottage Food Bank by rally attendees. 57 lap pads, quilts, and crocheted were donated to the Mineola Heights Health center.



Switching from the serious to the lighter side, The FCRV Variety Show took to the stage. MC, and Show Coordinator, Kip Cushing introduced each performer or act. Some appeared twice to round out the show. (See separate article). A karaoke session was available after the show.

Friday was another busy day with the usual scheduled daily activities plus more. Women's Singles Washer toss started at 8:30 a.m., same time



as the Men's Hard Hat Breakfast. Guest speaker was Owen Tyler, Mineola's Marketing Director. He explained what made Mineola a 'Main Street' city with its unique, attractive shopping streets. Mineola also has a 3,000 acre Nature Preserve, Amtrak Depot and Railroad Museum, Historical Museum and The Select Movie Theater which is the oldest movie theater in Texas, still in operation since 1922. It has modern equipment today.



The popular Pet Parade started at 10 a.m. (Separate Article) The Ladies Red Hat Lunch was at 11:30 a.m. and the Men's Singles Washer Toss rounded out the morning. Skip-BO and Corn Hole Doubles were held in the late afternoon. (Sports and Games will be covered in separate articles).



Prior to the National FCRV Retiree Meeting, Led by Ron and Reba Ray was the Ice Cream Social, which besides ice cream is the collection of the Ballots For the

2022 International FCRV Retiree King and Queen. The meeting was short and sweet, recognizing First Timers and Veterans. The 2023 FCRV Retiree Rally will be held at the National Peanut Fairgrounds in Dothan Alabama, March 28 – April 3, with early days March 24 – 27



Before the evening entertainment began, Shari Weber thanked Ron and Reba Ray for their years of service as FCRV National Retiree Directors and noted that they are retiring from the position. Agreeing to accept the job, were Dave and Linda Hennie

of Ohio who have worked on several Retiree Rallies ,in addition to their other FCRV duties. They received their new badges and a warm welcome of applause from the audience.



Folks were ready for some 'Real Country Music' which they got plenty of from the 5 piece group, Busting Loose with lead singer, Ira Bradford. Ira paid

tribute to several of the well known country singers who are no longer with us by singing their hits. He also did some rock numbers and whenever possible he joined the audience in a line dance, two step, or slow dance, etc. using a portable microphone. First class is the only way to describe the show. Ira led the audience in



singing "Happy Birthday" to Gene Beasley who just



turned 84 and wished a happy 16th wedding anniversary to the Retiree King and Queen whose term is ending, Matt and Marla Mantia of IL. After the show

ended with a standing ovation, a Thank You Hospitality was held by Matt and Marla in appreciation for 3 years of support by the members.

Saturday was a day for the morning Flea Market in the large room , First Timers (there were several) Recap Meeting, and afternoon Bean Bag Baseball. There were so many who wanted to play that several group teams worked down to a final 2 teams.

The second catered dinner of the week was served and Nancy Murphy drew receipts from money spent in Mineola. Several gift cards from Cracker Barrel, Bass Pro Shop and The Civic Center were drawn. The top prize, a \$100 gift card was won by Betty Smith.

While people waited for the announcement of the FCRV International King and Queen election results, Marla Mantia gave a summary of their activities during their first year first year, which included considerable travel to several FCRV Retiree events to which they were invited. Covid



put a crimp in activities for the last 2 years.

Before the election results were announced by Ronald and Jo Hersom who were in charge of the Retiree King and Queen Program for the last few years, welcomed Leon and Lynelle Ishmael who will be taking over that position. The envelopes were opened and the results are: Second Runners Up - Phil and Joanne Rich, SC, First Runners Up - Ed and Vina Haggerty, IL, and 2022 International Retiree King And Queen - Steve And Diane Hitchens, KS. After receiving the sash, crown, and trophy, The Hitchens promised to be active in the promoting the Retiree Program and visit as many FCRV State/Provincial Retiree Activities as possible. They also thanked Kansas for their support as Retiree State King and Queen.



Dale Cummings known as “The C”, Sang “Can’t Help Falling In Love With You” for the King and Queen’s first dance. The other candidates, plus all the Past Retiree Kings and Queens soon joined them on the floor. After that, Dale C became a human jukebox, reading the audience and providing danceable music both slow and upbeat for the next couple hours of enthusiastic dancing. Dancers did take a break to visit the hospitality tables, organized by the YARS Chapter.



SUNDAY was the final day of activities , beginning with a Non-Denominational Church Service, led by Chaplain Buggeln and the FCRV Choir. At

noon a thank you luncheon was held for the committee staff. The Parking committee headed by Joe and Sandy Wingert was the largest one.

Special recognition was given to Ron and Reba Ray, 2022 Co-Chairpersons who are “retiring” from their 6 year service of FCRV National Retiree Director. They will be serving as Chair Persons for the 2023 Retiree Rally set for the National Peanut Festival Grounds in Dothan Alabama, March 28 – April 3 2023. Although Kip and Jan Cushing were doing most of the thanking, they were given a round of applause for their work as this Year’s Rally Chairpersons. At 7 p.m. the game awards were presented by Shari Weber followed by the always exuberant Parade of States & Provinces took to the stage . (Largest states groups marching were Kansas and Colorado.) The flags were retired and Kip Cushing thanked everyone for coming and left them with this message, “Take time to say goodbye to all your old friends, new friends and now family. We hope you had a wonder full time and for the 2023 hopefully we will see you in Dothan, Alabama for the 2023 International Retiree Rally.”



Topeka KS Couple Crowned International Retiree King and Queen

Topeka Kansas Couple Crowned FCRV International Retiree King And Queen

Steve and Diane Hitchens went camping on their honeymoon and since, have had several campers/RVs in the 46 years they have been married. In the last 9 years they have been enjoying camping with The Kansas Chapters and State Association of Kansas FCRV (Family Camping & RVers). Steve has served as Vice President and Diane as Secretary. They have also volunteered to serve on many National FCRV National Campvention and Retiree Committees. They still enjoy traveling camping, meeting new friends and introducing them to FCRV. They belong to Kansas Campfires, Kansas Sunchasers, and YARS Chapters of FCRV.

Steve and Diane Hitchens live in Topeka and have 2 children and 4 grandchildren who also live nearby so they all get to 'Play A Lot'.

Prior to retirement, Diane held several positions in Administration with Topeka Public Schools. Steve

monitored water quality and compliance for the City of Topeka Public Works Department.

Diane likes to do genealogy and helps others get started with it. She also likes garage sales where she finds things to use while fixing up their 'New Old House'. Steve likes to tinker around the house and RV and can fix just about anything. He is also a ham radio operator and likes contacting other hams and preparing for emergency communications.

The Hitchens were one of 3 candidates for the role of 2022 FCRV International Retiree King and Queen based on dedication and service to the goals of FCRV and its Retiree Program. Ironically they received the honor at FCRV's 50th annual winter Retiree Rally in Mineola Texas on March 3, their 46th Anniversary

FCRV is the oldest non-profit family camping and RV club in North America with members and chapters across the U. S. and Canada. Originally founded as National Campers & Hikers Assn. in 1949. The name was changed in 1983 to reflect its current direction. See www.fcrv.org.





Lanelle and Leon Ishmael Elected Retiree King & Queen Coordinators



Another Retiree Rally is in the books. Leon and I would like to thank Jo and Ronald Hersom for their dedication as king and queen coordinators. We feel we have big shoes to

step into. Being elected king and queen is a great honor both by your state and ultimately as International Retiree King and Queen. We have had a decline in participation the past few years due to aging and because most people think you have to travel. Whereas it is nice to visit other states

campouts, the only requirement of the winner is to return the following year to crown the new King and Queen. If you would like to run, first you must be elected from your state or province. Then contact us for an application. Either call Leon @ 515-520-7858 or LaNelle @ 803-341-2470 or email lanelleishmael@yahoo.com. Hope to see you in Dothan.



Variety Show

Variety Show

FCRV Variety shows are always fun and entertaining and usually involve the unexpected. Some of the participants appeared twice in order to round out the show. Leading off was Beth Standiford from Missouri singing Anne Murray's "Could I Have This Dance". Next was Donna Powell, IN singing "Wings Of A Dove", accompanied by Horst Schaller, WI (accordion) and wife, Joane (saxophone). Horst & Joane then teamed up for Edelweiss with the audience joining in. JoAnn Wollinger, WI told the humorous story of "The Preacher's Wife" stuck in traffic. Ashley Taylor SC, entertained with two Christian Songs - "Take My Hand" and later "Nothing To Prove". Two NC couples, Lanelle & Leon Ishmael and Phil and Joanne Rich did a skit in poodle skirts and t-shirt to "My Boyfriend's Back". Craig Weber FL, played and sang an original song he wrote with his daughters in mind, "Where The Water Goes". Horst and Joanne came back and had people who knew how to polka dancing in the aisle to "Liechtensteiner" and "Beer Barrel" Polkas. Beth Standiford, the next to last performer, stilled the waters with a beautiful version of "Amazing Grace" and MC, Kip Cushing sailed smoothly to the end



singing "Together Again" and "There's A Place For Us".





Pet Parade

Pet Parade

11 Dogs and proud owners entered the 220 Retiree Rally Pet Parade. All received participation certificates. First Timers, Michael and Mary Hatter enjoyed judging the entries.

Winners were:



Best Owner / Pet Look-alike – Lab ,Mary Ella– Jack & Pat Thomas, MD

Best Trick- Terrier Abbey – Pat Crowe, MD

Best Behaved –Poodle Sasha – Cynthia Lindley

Most Adorable – Bichon / ShiTzu Max – Sandy Tolliver, TX

Best in Show – Retriever, Suzy –Sally Hayland, CO

Acting Parade Chairman, Donna Powell filled in for Rita Latellier who had the category certificates ready.



Campers Actively Moving (C.A.M.P.) Activities

Campers Actively Moving (C.A.M.P.) Activities

16 Hikers walked a combined total of 61 miles over a measured course of 61 miles 4 of the 5 days scheduled. Participants representing 4 states were awarded C.A.M.P. Certificates in recognition of their efforts.

Classes in line dancing were taught by Marla Mantia and husband, Matt helped out with Couples sessions. 16 dancers representing 6 states danced a total of 1,390 minutes or 23.17 hours, Dancers were awarded C.A.M.P. Certificates (and were able to show off their newly learned skills at the evening programs.)

By Bill and Rita Newell, Chairmen





Game Winners

FROG RACES

1st Dave Jurek
2nd Jackie Jurek
3d Don Tolliver

LADDER GOLF

1st Joe Wingert
2nd Dot Clark

CORN HOLE

1st Dave Jurek
2nd Dot Clark

CHICKEN FOOT

1st Rita Newell

5 CROWNS

Lowest Score- Diane Buggeln and Dave
Highest Score- Dennis

TABLE WINNERS

Diane/Dave
Jerry Rozelle
Ronnie Penton
Art ... Willie WalkerCheryl

WASHER TOSS DOUBLES

1st Dave Jurek
Dot Clark
Women's - Willie Walker/Dot Clark

BEAN BAG BASEBALL

Team COCO -Captain Dora Lewis - Bill, Willie,
Joan, Joe, Sandi, John, Cheryl, Dorothy

TEAM HODGE PODGE

Captain George Hall - Aletha, Jim, Michael, Ed,
Vina, LeWayne Cynthia, Gene

Games Chairmen, Craig and Sherry Weber





2022 Retiree Rally Golf Results

2022 Retiree Rally Golf Teams

13 Total Golfers

69

Jim Turner	FL
Tommy Garner	GA
Roger Snyder	IL

72

Barb Turner	FL
Sharon Sandau	ONT
Roger Hall	AL
Roger Carter	AL

74

Gene Beasley	AL
Ron Ray	GA
Rudy Sandau	ONT

74

Craig Weber	IL
Dave Hennie	OH
David Wolf	KS





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Regional, State, Chapter Event Schedule and Recaps



[Click Here For Full Event Calendar]

Family Campers & Rvers
about a week ago

Woodland Wookies
54 followers · May 1 at 7:01 PM
Forest Dudes..

6 likes, 1 comment

Family Campers & Rvers
about a month ago

The Woodland Wookies enjoying their April campout in Colorado City, CO! A surprise turtle sighting was the highlight as well as beautiful weather for the first time camping for the season!

10 likes, 6 comments

Family Campers & Rvers
on Monday

The NCFCRV Campout was hosted by the Western region at Mayberry Campground in N.C. There was a hike each morning, crafts, games, golf, a planned trip to the Mayberry museum, & great meals shared. The weather was wonderful! Mayberry is full of fun things to do and see.

26 likes, 2 comments, 3 shares

[Click here to submit a recap of your event or outing]



Family Campers & RVers
about 3 weeks ago

Prattville Boll Weevils enjoying what we do best, camping at Camp Sherrye on the Coosa and eating at Coach's Corner Wetumpka, AL

13 likes, 0 comments, 0 shares

Family Campers & RVers
about 2 weeks ago

Colorado – Hi Country camper out for dinner at the Old Spaghetti Factory.

13 likes, 1 comment, 0 shares

Family Campers & RVers
about 2 weeks ago

Teresa , Handsome Jack, and I are having fun at Planning Meeting for the FCRV 2022 Campvention! We're ready to have fun, are you? ~ Rick Walorski

13 likes, 2 comments, 0 shares

Family Campers & RVers
about 2 weeks ago

Tom Martinez ▸ **Family Campers & RVers**
Owner/Photographer at Scenic Lens · April 30 at 12:28 PM
Campvention 2022 Pueblo Colorado planning session.

24 likes, 1 comment, 2 shares

Family Campers & RVers
on Thursday

Campfire Coyotes, April at St. Vrain State Park. Spring weather had windy days and cool nights, offset by warmth of good friends. 16 members attended welcome social, lunch at Rosario's Peruvian Restaurant, tour of Sandstone Ranch (est. 1857), birding, games, and potluck dinner.

12 likes, 0 comments, 1 share



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National Water Safety Month - May 2022

National Water Safety Month May 2022

Advice from a Wildlife Technician by Amy Wittmeyer

Growing up camping, I became very familiar with two big components of summer recreation: heat and water. I was often called a little fish for how much I loved to swim, usually in whatever lake, waterfall, or river our campground was near. I grew up with knowledge and respect for the water, taught to me by my mother and aunt, who were both lifeguards in their college years. I also traveled all around the eastern US and into the Midwest for campventions and other big weeklong trips. Doing so introduced me to blistering heat, often accompanied by high humidity. Now I'm a wildlife technician and have spent the last two summers working in the mountains of California. I've worked hard in temperatures over 95°F, often exposed to full sun thanks to wildfires destroying forest canopy cover. As part of my outdoor career, I've also received Wilderness First Aid certification. I highly recommend this 8-hr course for anyone who spends a lot of time outdoors; it introduces you to common medical emergencies suffered by outdoor recreators and trains you to recognize symptoms and provide

care for a wide range of illnesses and injuries. Here are some things about water safety and heat illnesses that I've learned through both professional education and personal experience growing up and working outdoors.

Water Safety

As temperatures begin to climb and summer kicks off, many people will seek water sources like pools, lakes, and even the ocean to cool down and have some fun. Swimming is one of the most popular summer activities in the US and can be very beneficial to mental and physical health. But despite its relatively harmless appearance when bubbling along a stream, water can be very powerful and dangerous. According to the Red Cross, over 50% of Americans either can't swim or don't know basic water competency skills. Drowning is a leading cause of death for children and a risk to everyone who partakes in water sports, whether they're swimming in their backyard,





boating in a lake, riding rides at a water park, or surfing in the ocean. Even non-fatal drowning can cause brain damage and long-term health effects.

General Water Safety

Learning how to swim is one of the most important risk prevention strategies someone can employ to ensure safe water enjoyment of any kind. Water competency is an extra layer of knowledge and skills someone can have to increase safety and be able to prevent or respond to water emergencies. According to the Red Cross, water competency has 3 main components: water smarts, swimming skills, and helping others.

Water Smarts: Take sensible precautions when in and around water

- Know your limitations, including physical fitness, medical conditions.
- Never swim alone; swim with lifeguards and/or water-competent friends present.
- Wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved [life jacket](#) appropriate for your weight and size and the water activity. Always wear a life jacket while boating, regardless of swimming skill.
- Understand the dangers of hyperventilation and hypoxic blackout.
- Understand and adjust for the unique risks of the water environment you are in, such as:
 - River currents.
 - Ocean rip currents.
 - Water temperature.
 - Shallow or unclear water.

Swimming Skills: Learn how to perform these 5 skills in every type of water environment

1. Enter water that’s over your head, then return to the surface.
2. Float or tread water for at least 1 minute.
3. Turn over and turn around in the water.
4. Swim at least 25 yards.

5. Exit the water.

Helping Others: These actions can help you avoid and/or respond to water emergencies

- Paying close attention to children or weak swimmers you are supervising in or near water.
- Knowing the signs that someone is drowning
 - ****Calling for help and splashing are signs of distress but not true drowning; true drowning is often relatively quiet**
 - True drowning signs include gasping, head low in the water and tilted back, eyes closed, no forward swimming progress, and not using legs.
- Knowing ways to safely assist a drowning person, such as “reach or throw, don’t go”.
- Knowing [CPR](#) and [first aid](#).

Lake and Ocean Safety

Swimming in a lake, river, or ocean adds many risk factors. Swimming in any kind of open water is much more difficult, tiring, and unpredictable than swimming in a pool. Many competent swimmers can be caught by surprise and quickly get into trouble in natural water setting. In rivers, currents can pull people away from their group. Distances in lakes and oceans are easily misjudged. In natural environments, underwater obstructions like branches, rocks, and plants can entangle a swimmer or cause cuts, bruises, and abrasions. When swimming in natural environments, keep these tips in mind:

- Pay attention to weather forecasts, including precipitation and wind. High winds can affect boats and swimmers with high waves and strong currents.
- Seasonal changes can affect water levels. In spring and early summer, rivers are subject to sudden changes in water level due to rainstorms or snowmelt upriver. Water is often still very cold and can cause hypothermia.
- Swim at beaches patrolled by lifeguards if possible.
- Always have a swim buddy.



- In the ocean, be aware of tidal changes, rip currents, beach slope, wave break line, and “sneaker” waves, or unexpected sets of larger-than-normal waves.
- Avoid swimming around piers, docks, in rough water, at night, or during thunderstorms.

Resources:

[Water Safety | American Red Cross](#)

[Drowning Facts | Drowning Prevention | CDC](#)

[Water Safety – Oceans, Coasts & Seashores \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#)

[Water Safety for Lakes, Rivers, and Beaches | Washington State Department of Health](#)

Dear RV



Hi there everyone, we are introducing a new article in Camping Today. We would like to welcome you to [Dear RV](#). This is a place where you can ask the questions that you are hesitant to ask members of your Chapter, State, or your Neighbor. Your questions will be answered from our point of view, and it will hopefully give you a chuckle as well as some useful information to help you in your RVing experience. You may not agree completely with all our answers, but our goal is to give honest information to you as to how we do our RVing. We would prefer to not know who is submitting the question. So, send us your questions and we will send you an answer (possibly that you were not expecting) but an answer, just the same and possibly with a small dose of humor for good measure.

Us here at Dear RV!

[Click on this link to go to the Dear RV web page to submit your question.](#)

Dear RV,

Hi, new to camping here. Is there any rule or guideline about camping at a disabled site at a state park. Have made reservation and the only available site was a disabled one. Can I use that if I'm not disabled?

Curious

Dear Curious,

Many areas have rules that apply to handicap auto parking places that also apply to the camping spot. In my state, you are required to have a handicap placard or license plate to be allowed to park in the space. When you think about it this is only a courteous thing to do as many parks only have 1 to 3 handicap spaces in the entire park. Please let the marked places for them, to them.

Thanks for writing to Dear RV.



Dear RV,

Hope you don't think this is a frivolous question, but I am new to RV life and just don't know. My spouse bought a regular hose to hook up for fresh water. We saw white hoses on other RV's. Will any garden hose work or do we need to have a white one? Thanks for the clarification.

Hosed

Dear Hosed,

This is not a silly question. It's one about which I would caution you. A regular garden hose left in the sun will leach vinyl chemicals into the water causing the water to taste very bad. For years, doctors have cautioned us to not drink from a regular garden hose. The color of the hose is not important, but what IS important is that it is marked "potable" or "safe for consumption/drinking".

I can't recommend a specific brand but it would be good to look for one that collapses to save on storage space.

And PLEASE do NOT use the same hose to rinse your black tank. Keep it separate – different color, mark it, tag it. Anything to help you know the difference on sight.

Thanks for writing to Dear RV

Dear RV

My question is on RV refrigerators. My fridge just does not get and stay cold enough in the hot weather. What can I do to help improve how it works?

Trying to keep my Cool!

Well Cool, fear not!

There are several things that one can do to help with the cooling. One thing that seems to help is the simple installation of a small battery-operated fan in the fringe to help move the air around inside. Another thing that is often overlooked is to not overload the fridge. Leave space for the air to move around the items and you will find things cool better. There is also a small thermo coupler that is attached to the fins in the back of the fridge and by moving it up or down you will change the temp that the fridge is working at. I also have learned that there is a bar that will install over the fins in the upper back of your fridge that hooks into the light, I think, for power that greatly increase the air flow, and some say they are great for improving the cooling of the fridge. Also, you should talk to your dealer and have a fan installed to the back of the unit to help move the air in the outer part of the fridge compartment. I had one installed on a 5th wheel fridge that I had several years ago, and this made a great difference in cooling.

Thanks for writing to Dear RV



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Disaster Kits

Disaster Kits

By Joe Boswell, DASAT Director

Do not let the unexpected catch you off guard. Many times, a disaster strikes, which can include bad weather, fire, flooding, tornadoes, or other types of disasters and you, must be prepared. So, let us take a few minutes of review and discuss the content of our disaster kits, or as they are commonly referred to as our “to-go” kits.

The American Red Cross and Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends keeping enough supplies your home to meet your family’s needs for a least a week. Keep in mind you never know during a disaster how long it will be before help can arrive. Think of it this way, “What can you do, until help arrives.” Remember this disaster kit, may have to travel with you to an emergency shelter or other evacuation location until you can return home. The contents should be in some type of container that can “travel” with you. Remember this includes ideas for office, school, home, RV and car. So, let us review the contents of our “to-go” kits.

Water: “A normal active person needs to drink at least 2 quarts of water each day.” So bottled water is various sizes is best suited for this purpose. You need water for each person that may be with you during this emergency. You need at least three days’ supply. (Replace this water at least two time a year.)

Food: Keep foods that do not need refrigeration, preparation or cooking and use little to not water as you may not have cooking facilities available. If you must cook, use sterno or a propane camping stove. For this purpose, ready to eat canned foods are the best. Remember to include a manual can opener! High-energy foods are helpful, such as peanut butter and jelly-good old staples. Vitamins C and E are helpful. Food for infants or the elderly or special dietary need include, too. Do not forget the pet in your household. Comfort food, such as cookies and hard candy will be helpful.

First Aid Kits: you should have one in your home, car, and RV at all times. Learn what is in it and how to use it affectively. There are many on the market, so you purchase one that fits your needs. You can also make your own. Here is a few suggestions to include in your First Aid Kit: Ace Bandages,

adhesive tape, antiseptic toilettes, safety pins, cold pack, cotton swabs, disposable gloves, masks, flashlight and extra batteries, hydrogen peroxide, lip balm, plastic bags, scissors, roll of gauze, hand lotion, sunscreen thermometer, bandages of all sizes, tweezers, and the list grows as your needs change.

Tools and Emergency Supplies: Here is a list of suggestions to include in your container; aluminum foil, plastic bags, battery operated radio and flashlight with extra batteries, cash or travelers checks, alarm clock, compass, fire extinguisher, utility knife, maps of your area. You should also include matches in a waterproof container, paper and pencil stored in a watertight container, paper cups, plates and utensils, paper towels, plastic sheeting for a shelter or room divider, pliers, duct tape, flares, and small shovel.

Sanitation items include the following: disinfectant feminine supplies, bleach, personal hygiene items, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shaving cream, plastic bucket, soap, liquid detergent, hand sanitizer, toilet paper, baby wipes, wash clothes and hand and bath towels to name a few.

Clothing and Bedding: Here is where a sleeping bag is most useful. It can service as a blanket or for bedding whichever is first. Several sets of complete clean clothes, specific for the various weather seasons. Hats, gloves, thermal underwear, rain gear or poncho, safety glasses or sunglasses, and small stuffed toys for the little one in your home. Remember to pack a book-this will help to pass the time of day.

Special Items: Entertaining items such as games, and toys for the children. Copies of important documents-in a watertight container-such as insurance information, an inventory of household goods, and other important items specific to your family. This should include items for infant care and for the elderly or disables children or adults in your family. Remember to include items for your pet(s); such as veterinary records, prescription list, a copy of their shot records. A cage or carrier, chew treats, leash are all helpful items.

Car Kit: Many of the above listed items can be included in your Car Kit. Remember to keep everything up to date, handy, and in a watertight container so that is it dry and ready to use at any



time. Whatever you have prepared, do the same for each vehicle you have to you are prepared and ready for any type of emergency.

Classroom or Office Kit: Your schools have plans for various types of emergencies, so they have prepared kits ready to go all the time for such emergencies. In your place of employment, this is also true and many have emergency plans in place as to what to do, where to go, it is important that you have become familiar with the various procedures and are ready to act accordingly when needed.

Suggestions: Remember that it is important to keep enough supplies to meet your family need for at least three days or longer. Rotate the items at least twice a year to that they are fresh and ready. When a disaster strikes you are ready to “go” and you do not

have to look for anything. Store your disaster Supply Kit in a place that is accessible quickly.

For more tips, about your “to-go” kits check out the following web site: www.ready.gov.

Preparing for the emergency ahead of time makes things easier when and if it does occur. So, take the time, prepare, and keep safe everyone.

Source:

It is A Disaster! And What Are You Gonna Do About It? 4th edition 2005; By W.L. (Bill) and Janet Liebsch, 1999-2005, A Disaster Preparedness, Prevention and First Aid Manual

RV Recalls

RV recalls

- Forest River Inc. is recalling 1,561 2022 Palomino Puma and Puma XLE fifth wheel and travel trailer recreational vehicles. The exterior micro kitchen griddle may be stowed while still connected to propane.
- Forest River, Inc. is recalling 74 2022 Surveyor travel trailers. The fresh air intake tube length may be too short, allowing it to detach and causing the burn chamber to crack.
- Ford Motor Company is recalling 391,866 2021-2022 F-150, 2022 Maverick, Expedition, Lincoln Navigator, F-250, F-350, F-450, and F-550 vehicles. Due to a software error, a towed

trailer equipped with an electric or electric-over hydraulic brake system may not brake.

- Keystone RV Company is recalling 1,155 2022 Bullet, Outback, and Passport travel trailers. The coupler hitch may have been welded improperly, which can cause the trailer to separate from the tow vehicle.



Tick Season

NJ Labs Cautions Americans to Know The Bug That Bit You This Tick Season

March 21, 2022 10:23 ET | Source: [NJ Labs](http://NJLabs.com)

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J., March 21, 2022 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) — Once considered a regional issue, tick season, which officially takes place between April and October, is now a national concern due to the migration of these insects and the frequency in which people travel and opt for outdoor

adventures. Although Lyme disease is the most known tick-borne disease, it is not the only tick-borne pathogen out there, which is why [NJ Labs](http://NJLabs.com) recommends testing for other tick-borne pathogens including:





Rickettsiosis, a spotted fever, or Ehrlichiosis, a potential breathing and blood disorder.

“When it comes to finding ticks, people worry most about Lyme disease and as a result, the market focus is on promoting Lyme disease testing. However, other tick species carry different types of tick-borne pathogens that can be just as dangerous to your health,” said Sandra Lee, CEO of NJ Labs whose analytical testing lab offers tick collection testing kits under the name [Tick SURE](#). “Our tick collection testing kit is designed to avoid expensive, in-person lab visits by giving broad-range, quick results at a reduced cost.”

Deer ticks are the only ticks that carry Lyme disease, however, there are many other tick species that can also cause virus-like symptoms including headaches, fever, fatigue, chills and muscle aches. If a tick has bitten you or your pet, Lee says you should make sure that the tick is tested for the most common tick-borne pathogens, in addition to Lyme disease, using a DNA-based method to test with a higher specificity.

“It’s important to know the bug that bit you,” says Lee. “This old adage is especially true when it comes to tick bites, because when you know the specific species of the bug that bit you, you can test for every tick-borne pathogen known to that species, not just Lyme disease. This way you are covering every possible compromised health issue.”

[Tick SURE](#) is a tick test and sample collection kit that can be purchased in advance as a precaution to finding a tick on you or your pet’s skin. It is a great addition to any first aid kit. Tick SURE includes tweezers, easy directions on how to remove a tick, safe packaging for the tick in a pre-paid, first-class envelope that is delivered to NJ Labs for full identification and testing. Once at the lab, the tick’s DNA is extracted to first identify the species, then tested for the different pathogens it may carry.

The known species of ticks in the United States that bite and transmit diseases in humans include:

- Black-legged tick (deer tick), which transmits Lyme disease, [Anaplasmosis](#), [Babesiosis](#) and Powassan disease;
- American dog tick (wood tick), which transmits Tularemia and Rocky Mountain spotted fever;
- Lone star tick (turkey tick), which transmits

bacteria that cause [Ehrlichiosis](#), Tularemia and STARI;

- Gulf Coast tick, which transmits [Rickettsioses](#);
- Brown dog tick (kennel tick), which transmits Rocky Mountain spotted fever;
- Western black-legged tick, which transmits Lyme disease and Anaplasmosis; and the
- Rocky Mountain wood tick, which transmits Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Colorado tick fever and [Tularemia](#).

If you find that a tick has bitten you or your pet, Lee recommends sending the tick, using the Tick SURE kit, to NJ Labs in addition to making an appointment with a doctor or veterinarian since symptoms do not always show up right away.

“A positive test just means that we detected the pathogen in the tick, it doesn’t necessarily mean that you have the disease,” says Lee. “Regardless of the tick test result, you should always consult your doctor. Walking into a doctor’s office armed with information about your tick will make your appointment that much more productive.”

Lab fees for walk-in testing can vary across the country, but can cost up to \$200. In contrast, purchasing a Tick SURE kit in advance costs as little as \$80. Plus having the test kit available during vacations or weekends, when doctor’s appointments are not readily available, can provide peace of mind, allowing those affected to take swift action. [NJ Labs](#) is an FDA, DEA registered and inspected, ISO (17025:2017) approved, CGMP certified laboratory that has provided tick-testing services for more than 15 years. To learn more about tick identification and testing, or to purchase a kit, go to: <https://testticks.com>. Tick SURE kits are also available at Amazon and [Walmart](#). To learn more about NJ Labs visit: <https://njlabs.com>.





In The Town of Bean Blossom In.

Bill Monroe's
Music Park & Campground
5163 State Road 135 North
Morgantown, In 46160

www.billmonroemusicpark.com

GEN-Y Intros Redesigned 'Executive' Fifth-Wheel Hitches

GEN-Y Intros Redesigned 'Executive' Fifth-Wheel Hitches

By: [RVBusiness](#) | Published on: Apr 12, 2022 |
Categories: [Today's Industry News](#) |

NAPPANEE, Ind – GEN-Y Hitch announced in a press release its RV line of hitches, the Executive, has been redesigned to create a more enjoyable towing experience.

Here's what's included in the new redesign:

- It's Up To 17% Lighter – The company wanted to make the unit as light as possible without sacrificing the strength or heavy-duty feel that this product embodies. The team worked hard on trying to reduce the weight to make installation easier for customers.
- Newly Designed Auto-Latch – Officials changed the routing of the Auto-Latch cable to provide much better leverage to pull (or release) the latch when unhooking from a trailer from a truck. Overall, it reduced the friction of the cable which lead to the reduced amount of pull required.



- New Look – The new design is more appealing to the eye with a sleeker, more modern design all around.

“All of these new benefits are in addition to the TORSION-FLEX Technology that is built into the hitch, which creates up to a 90% smoother ride than a hard connection hitch. We're excited to continually innovate and produce new products for RVers across the nation. Our RV line of hitches has expanded over the past few years and we can't wait to continue our growth in this market,” the release stated.



Milestones

 **Family Campers & RVers**
about a week ago 

Milestone! Garold & Linda Smith, former Kansas State Directors Have attended all 50 FCRV Retiree Rallies and many Campventions and volunteered at both. Garold has the Badge tags to prove it!



 68  20  2

SOUTH CHICAGO'S LARGEST RV DEALS



[20450 S. LAGRANGE RD](#)
[FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS 60423](#)
 PHONE: [815-464-7510](tel:815-464-7510)
terrysrv.net

YES WE HAVE RENTALS
SERVICE & PARTS
MONDAY - FRIDAY: 8AM - 5PM



Farewells



Clyde Nafsinger, Past Delaware State Director

Clyde Nafsinger, 89, 4-15-22, Wilmington, Delaware. He and wife, Carolyn were former Delaware State Directors and very active in NCHA/FCRV's Northeast Region for many years. Clyde was a nurse at Dewey Point Veterans Hospital for 30 years. He was a partner in a dairy farm and a farm store. He also was Fire Chief for Hack's Point Volunteer Fire Department. Clyde was a jovial and outgoing man, easily recognized by his white beard and his state mascot – a wooden life size blue hen on wheels which he pulled around behind him at rallies and campouts. He would also ride an antique bicycle with the tall wheel in parades. He was definitely a memorable character. He and Carolyn were Delaware's first Lifetime Members. Caddie Joseph said, "Clyde was a great State Director and did much to move FCRV/NCHA ahead." He will be missed by his many friends" Survived by wife, Carolyn, 5 children an several grand and great grandchildren.

Lawrence Phillips, Texas State Director

Lawrence Phillips, current FCRV Texas State Director, Terrell, TX died Sunday, May 1st, 2022 from complications of a kidney infection that caused him to be hospitalized shortly after the 2022 FCRV Retiree Rally in Mineola, Texas.

Barb Turner, a long time friend, said this, "Lawrence and his late wife, Pam were active campers and travelers for many years and Lawrence continued after her passing. He had become a fixture at the Retiree Rallies, making sure we had sound for all the activities and just being helpful wherever he could. He was the entertainment and sound chairman for the 2022 Rally. When we were Rally Coordinators for 2017, he brought his popcorn popper and his bingo equipment. He has been the Texas State Director for a long time and was Charla Yost's 'right hand man' when she was State Director. He was also a YARS member for many years and had just paid his dues, He made the arrangements for the campground last month for our spring rally even though he couldn't attend. He travelled with us on many of our Travalongs. We're so going to miss him." No services will be held as he has donated his body to a medical center.



Ed Kibbler, NCHA/FCRV's First Commercial Director

Ed Kibbler who did much in the early days of NCHA to make the organization known to law makers, campers and the RV industry passed away 4-3-22. Ed was NCHA/FCRV's first Commercial Director and later became National Legislative Director. He used his connections at The Recreational Vehicle Association in Fairfax,

Virginia where he worked, to keep up with proposed legislation affecting camping and RVing. He and his late wife, Jean were very active in Virginia FCRV, serving as State Directors for several years. Jean later served as National Recording Secretary. Ed was a Vietnam Veteran and was Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Captain (nautical), After retirement Ed and Jean moved to Englewood, Florida and after Jean's passing he lived with his daughter Carol's family in Virginia.



Allison Lockett Farewell

Allison Lockett, 52, 4-27-22, New York City, daughter of George and Neva Locket, long time FCRV members in Virginia. Allison enjoyed traveling and camped with the family when possible. A kidney condition caused her to go on dialysis 5 years ago forcing her to work from and curtail her travels. The Locketts lost their son, Adam to the same condition.



John Parke, Past New Jersey State Director

John Parke, 77, 1-19-22, Cornelius, North Carolina, formerly Hamilton, NJ. He and wife, Susan were active several years in NCHA/FCRV, holding several positions and served as New Jersey State Director in the 1980s. He never let the organization forget its founder, Hank Nathan and attended the placing of a marker at the Beaverkill Public Campground at Roscoe NY, where Hank Nathan first started NCHA in 1949. The Parks kept in touch with the Nathan family for many years until Hank's passing. John was a graduate of Rutgers University and worked for the State of New Jersey. The Parks moved to NC in 2017. John is survived by wife, Susan and son Chris and his wife, Tara.



Luella Sprague, Past Missouri State Director

Luella Sprague, 82, 4-24-22, Kansas City Missouri. An NCHA/FCRV member for over 55 years, she and husband Donald served in several positions with the MO State Association including, Teen Directors and long time State Directors. Member of Push 'n Pull Chapter, Led Scout Explorer Troop 845. Known for her sewing skills. Preceded in passing by husband, Donald, son Don, and daughter, Donella (Wilkes) who became FCRV's National C.A.M.P. (Hiking, Walking) Director. Luella is survived by 5 daughters, 10 grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild.



Roberta May Farewell

Roberta May, 82, 3-24-22, Lake Whitney, Texas, Formerly Lyons, Kansas. FCRV. Active in Kansas FCRV. Came back to Kansas every year to visit camping friends with husband, Floyd.



Clement Williams Farewell

Clement Williams, 92, 4-15-22, Douglasville, Georgia. He and wife Rheba Doris were active in FNCHA/FCRV since the 1960's. Attended many Campventions and Retiree Rallies. Members of Spring Lizards Chapter and GA State Assn. Clement was known for helping others.



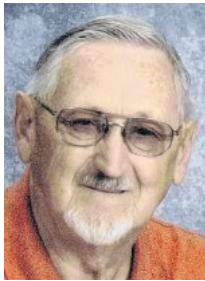
Lois Kurtz Farewell

Lois Kurtz, 96, Greene County, Virginia, 10-23-21 (late report), She and husband Rev.C. C Kurtz worked in the Ministry. They were well known in VA FCRV and she was known as ‘Mama’ Kurtz.



John ‘Jack’ Trimble Farewell

John ‘Jack’ Trimble, 88, 4-8-22, Manheim, Pennsylvania. He and wife of 67 years, Grace, were very active in PA NCHA/FCRV for many years. They worked on each of the PA Campventions and attended many others. Jack was an Army Veteran and served in Korea. During camping season the Trimbles camped every weekend for 52 years.



Marland ‘Mac’ McCleary Farewell

Marland ‘Mac’ McCleary, 87, 4-9-22, Marion, Iowa. Army Veteran, served in Korea. Active in Church, Scouting, and camping. Active in Iowa FCRV and Winter Texans with wife of 64 years, Carolyn.



62nd INTERNATIONAL CAMPVENTION
FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers -Hosted by Far West Region 1
"ROCKY MOUNTAIN BLISS"
 Colorado State Fairgrounds
 1001 Beulah Ave., Pueblo, CO 81004
Campvention Days: July 10 -15, 2022



EARLY BIRD DAYS: July 8 & 9, 2022 - \$35.00 per night (Pay upon Arrival at Central Registration -Cash or Check)
6 Nights of Camping -Sunday thru Friday -5 Days of Activities

ALL PARKING WILL BE HOBO STYLE. YOU WILL BE ASSIGNED A SITE UPON ARRIVAL
NO EXCEPTIONS

DEADLINE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION: June 1, 2022

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Spouse/Guest First Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ St/Prv _____ Zip Code _____
 Cell Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Is this your first Campvention? YES ___ NO ___

of Adults ___ Young Adults ___ Teens ___ Youth 9-12 ___ Youth 5-8 ___ Youth 0-4 ___

Total # of people in Unit _____

Please list the names and ages of all Teens and Youth

Name	Age	Name	Age

CAMPVENTION PARKING

On Friday, July 8th -Gates open at NOON to 7 pm. On Saturday & Sunday, July 9th -10th, Gates open at 8 am to 6 pm
 After **gates close** go to overflow lot across the street from the gate.

SPECIAL NEEDS INFORMATION

Are you requesting a Special Needs Site? Yes ___ No ___ There **will not** be any special needs sites available at the gate.

REGISTRATION

Everyone must complete a registration form including second families and week/day passes. Submit payment with the registration form. **All funds MUST BE US currency—ONLY Checks and Money Orders will be accepted. NO CREDIT CARDS.** Please indicate the unit owner's name if attending as second family in unit: _____

Type of Registration	Registration Fee	At Gate	Type of Unit
One family in unit	\$335.00	\$365.00	Motor Home _____
Extra family in unit	\$160.00	\$175.00	5th Wheel _____
Week Pass (Not Camping)	\$175.00	\$190.00	Travel Trailer _____
Daily Pass (Not Camping)	\$40.00 per day	# of days ___ x \$40.00 \$45.00	Pop-Up _____
			Tent _____

MAKE CHECKSPAYABLE TO: Colorado Chapters of FCRV

Mail To: Jeff Kendle -2278 Dogwood Circle -Erie, CO 80516
 Questions, contact Jeff or Shirley Kendle at: 303-717-9339 or
 email campueblo2022@gmail.com

REFUND POLICY: If you are unable to attend, all except \$25.00 will be refunded.

Total Amount Enclosed:

Check Amt \$ _____ + Mdse Cert \$ _____ = \$ _____

Check the box if you plan on attending:

Red Hat Luncheon

Cowboy Hat Luncheon

Check the box if you are a member of the Ambassador Club:

We would like to volunteer for the following jobs: _____

There will always be room for you at Campvention! If you decide to come at the last minute, bring the registration form with you. We Want You To JOIN US for a week full of FUN!!



Youth Registration Form



All youth under the age of five must be accompanied by an adult during all Rocky Mountain Summer Camp crafts, games, and activities.

Youth Name: _____

Gender: _____ **Age:** _____

Allergies/Medical concerns: (Do not leave blank, if NONE, please write NONE)

Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Name: _____ **Cell Phone Number:** _____

Name: _____ **Cell Phone Number:** _____

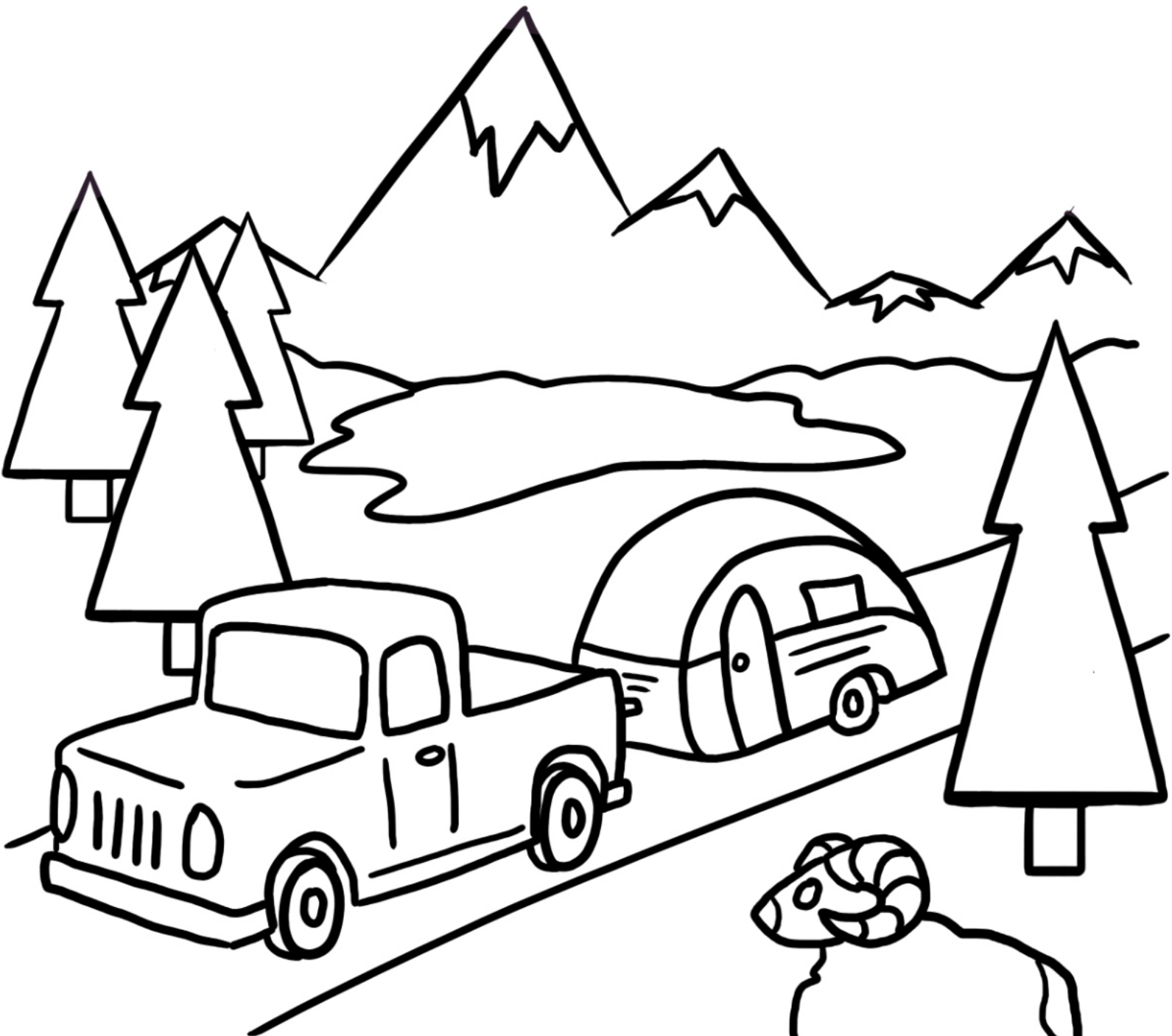
State/Province: _____

Parking Area: (Please Circle One) Carnival Lot Event Center Fountain Park Street Parking

Site Number: _____

Rig: (Please Circle One) Motorhome 5th Wheel Travel Trailer Other: _____

Camping is ...



2022