



HOOSIER CHATTER

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



December 2024/January 2025
Volume 57 Number 10

"Where strangers become friends, and friends become family!"

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Camp Family!

I pray that your Thanksgiving was blessed with family and food. I'm sure I gained a few pounds. Our Club Family is meeting at Arni's December 7 at 1:00 pm. We look forward to seeing and catching up with y'all!

As we enter the New Year, may the resolutions you make have the Lord's help for you and your family.

And now, here is my annual Christmas Story from the gospel of Luke, chapter 2.

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. ²(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) ³And all went to be taxed, every one to his own city. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David.)⁵ to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

⁶And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. ⁷And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

⁸And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And, Lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

¹⁰And the angel said unto them, "Fear not, for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth peace, good will toward men."

¹⁵And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known to us."

¹⁶And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the babe lying in a manger.

¹⁷And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning his child. ¹⁸And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. ¹⁹But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them."

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
God bless until we share another campfire.

Harlan Nigh Indiana FCRV Chaplain

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From the State Director

Angie Shaneyfelt

Indiana Members,

Where did our 2024 camping season go? It just flies by and we never get enough time together! Make sure you have all the dates in your calendar for next year's schedule (state and national events) so you don't miss out on any of the campouts!

From the National level:

Nominations are being accepted for the offices of Vice President Planning & Development and Comptroller. If you are interested in either of these positions, please contact Rhonda O'Neal (State Director from Illinois). Rhonda is on the nominating committee and can be reached at rhonda_oneal@yahoo.com.

The Retiree Rally will be March 24-30, 2025 (early bird days March 21-23) in Dothan, Alabama. Make sure to get your reservation in for this event if you are attending. See more information at www.fcrv.org or on the Facebook page for the 2025 FCRV Retiree Rally. There is a registration form in this issue of the CHATTER.

The Spirit of Friendship will be alive at the 65th Annual Campvention being held in Lebanon, Tennessee. We hope to see many of you there the week of July 20th through the 26th, 2025. The Campvention will be held at the James E Ward Agricultural Center/Wilson County Fairgrounds. This location is near Nashville, so plan on visiting Nashville (and other area sites) on Wednesday that week. The schedule for Campvention is being left open for travel/site-seeing day on Wednesday. REMEMBER to get your reservation in by December 31st to save \$25.00.

Regarding Campvention 2025. The parade that is usually held on Friday morning is being discussed by the CV committee. They would like to see 10 participants signed up by Jan 1, 2025. If you are interested in entering a state/chapter/individual float, walking/golf cart/motorized scooter/vehicle units, please



From the State President

Ed Shaneyfelt

Well all the rigs in the north should be winterized and tucked away until the spring. To the ones traveling south, enjoy where you are going with safe travels.

Hopefully you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and didn't stuff yourself too much. Speaking of that I would like to thank the Happy Glampers for their invitation to their Thanksgiving meal. It was delicious.

With the schedule full for next year, make sure you get your reservations in to camp with everyone, including campvention. You have until December 31 to save 25.00 dollars on your registration. Also think about hosting a campout for the 2026 camping schedule.

We all should make sure we are doing things the proper way to get on the nice list for the big guy coming at the end of the month. As we celebrate the holidays with friends and family make sure to be safe.

I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Until next time,

Ed Shaneyfelt

email shari.fcrv.pastpres@gmail.com. *If the 10 participants aren't received in that time frame the committee will make a decision to have the parade or cancel.*

Reminder, you have until December 10th to get your holiday greeting in the Camping Today December issue. If you want to purchase a greeting, for \$5.99, please see the November Camping Today issue.

I hope you had a very Happy Thanksgiving and I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Angie Shaneyfelt



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 and do not necessarily represent the opinion of FCRV or INDIANA STATE ASSOCIATION.

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FCRV website	www.fcrv.org
HOOSIER CHATTER online	www.fcrv.org/IN/chatter.php

A Prayer for the New Year

God of all time, help us enter the New Year quietly,
thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others,
mindful that our steps make an impact
and our words carry power.

May we walk gently.

May we speak only after we have listened well.

Creator of all life, help us enter the New Year reverently,
aware that you have endowed
every creature and plant,
every person and habitat
with beauty and purpose.

May we regard the world with tenderness.

May we honor rather than destroy.

Lover of all souls, help us enter the New Year joyfully,
willing to laugh and dance and dream,
remembering our many gifts with thanks
and looking forward to blessings yet to come.

May we welcome your lavish love. In this new year,
may the grace and peace of Christ bless us now
and in the days ahead.

—*Vinita Hampton Wright; Offered by Douglas Ruschman*

2025 Camping Info

SUMMER CAMPOUT REGISTRATIONS

If you are planning on attending the summer camp out August 22-24, 2025 at Friends o' Mine Campground in Nashville, Indiana, you need to RSVP the campground by April 1st. We have 30-amp and 50-amp spots blocked, but after April 1st they will open them back up to the public. The campground closes the first of November, but they do monitor their phones daily (The owners live at the campground all year round.) **Do not make reservations over the website** because it is a special event, and you need to let them know you are with FCRV. Contact information is on the back page of this CHATTER.

Thanks

John Stock

Happy Glampers

FALL INVITATIONAL INFORMATION

From Ron Cohee:

Camping rates for Shipshewana North Campground:

(Location of 2025 Fall Invitational)

Tent Site with Water and Electric	32.00
Water & Electric back-in site	36.00
Water & Electric pull-through Site	42.00
Full (Water, Electric & Sewer (back-in)	44.00
Full (Water, Electric & Sewer (pull-through)	46.00

Safe Holiday Decorating



Getting into the holiday mood includes putting up Christmas decorations. But emergency rooms see many injuries that come from this annual tradition. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, the National Safety Council, and other organizations have lots of precautions that should help prevent a decorating disaster.

LADDER SAFETY:

- * Choose the right ladder for the task when hanging lights and other decorations. Always have someone “spotting” you when using a ladder. Make certain that the ladder is level and supported well. Never climb to the top rungs of the ladder and do not reach out to the sides that might set it off balance. Do not climb up a ladder carrying the decorations... use a hoist system or someone who could hand the decorations to you.
- * Have the right equipment available to attach the lights and decorations to the house. Do not tack or nail electric wires onto roofs or gutters. Use plastic hooks instead. Consider hiring a commercial decorator with a lift or hoist to place second-story decorations.

DECORATION SAFETY

- * Remember that some holiday plants are poisonous to children and pets: mistletoe, holly berries, Jerusalem cherry and amaryllis, for example.
- * Avoid placing breakable ornaments or ornaments with detachable parts where small children can reach them.
- * Keep electric cords and plugs off the ground and away from puddles or snow.
- * Use only indoor lights indoors and outdoor lights outdoors. Replace light sets that have broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections.
- * Remember that LED lights burn cooler and are less likely to start a fire.
- * Follow package directions for the number of light sets that can be plugged into one socket or can be strung together. Incandescent lights are generally limited to 3 sets maximum, though LED can accommodate more.
- * Turn off all lights and decorations when you go to bed or leave the house.

CHRISTMAS TREE SAFETY

- * If using an artificial tree, check that it is labeled “fire resistant.”
- * Never use electric lights on metal trees.
- * If using a live tree, cut off 2 inches from the bottom of the trunk to expose fresh wood for better water absorption.
- * Keep live trees watered. Do not use fire-retardant in the water if you have pets that might drink from the base of the tree.
- * If the needles become brittle and dry, it is time to remove the tree from the house.
- * Place a tree at least three feet away from fireplaces, radiators, and other heat sources, making certain not to block doorways or pathways in the house.

AVOID FIRE-STARTERS

- * On the average, candles cause 46% of fires in December (info from the National Fire Protection Association.)
- * Place candles, matches, and fire starters out of reach of children.
- * Place candles where they cannot be knocked down or blown over.
- * Use flameless, rather than lighted, candles near flammable objects (including curtains).
- * Never burn trees, wreaths or wrapping paper in the fireplace.
- * Use a screen on the fireplace at all times to avoid sparks from flying when a fire is burning.
- * Never allow candles of fireplaces to burn unattended.
- * If necessary, place space heaters away from walls, furniture, and any combustible materials.
- * Remain in the kitchen when cooking. Keep stovetops and ovens free of oils and grease.
- * Check and clean the chimney and fireplace area at least once a year.
- * Have fully operating smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in your home.
- * Have a fire extinguisher available, but if a fire does start, evacuate the house and call 911 if a fire does start. They can get out of hand quickly.

Recipes Worth Sharing

Golden Pumpkin Dinner Rolls

- 2 1/4 tsp. instant yeast
- 1/4 c Light (or dark) brown sugar, packed
- 1/2 c lukewarm milk
- 4 tbsp butter, softened
- 2 tsp table salt
- 2 tsp pumpkin pie spice
(or 1 1/4 tsp cinnamon plus 3/8 tsp cloves and 3/8 tsp. ginger)
- 2 large eggs
- 3/4 cup pumpkin puree
- 4 cups all purpose flour
(for topping)
- Egg wash (1 large beaten egg with 1 tbsp. water)



DIRECTIONS:

1. Combine all of the dough ingredients in a large bowl. Mix and knead to make a soft dough.
2. Place the dough in a lightly greased bowl. Allow to rise for 60-75 minutes (until puffy) in a draft-free, warm place.
3. Gently deflate the dough. Divide it into 24 equal pieces. Round each piece into a smooth ball. (You can also shape them into knots if desired.)
4. Lightly grease 2 9" round cake pans or one 9"x13" pan. (If you prefer individual rolls instead of pull-apart, you can use 2 baking sheets instead to allow more space between the rolls.)
5. Space the rolls evenly in the pans (12 each in the round pans or 24 in the 9 x 13)
6. Cover the pans and allow the rolls to rise until they are "crowded" against each other (for pull apart rolls) and are quite puffy (1.5-2 hours).
7. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.
8. Uncover the rolls and gently brush them with the egg wash. Bake the rolls for 25-30 minutes (A digital thermometer in the center of a center roll should be at least 190 degrees)
9. Remove from oven and brush tops with melted butter. Cool in the pan for a few minutes before turning out onto a cooling rack.
10. Serve warm. You can store completely cooled rolls, well wrapped, at room temp for several days or freeze for longer storage.

Cranberry Honey Butter

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1/3 cup finely chopped dried cranberries
- 1/4 cup honey
- 2 tsp orange zest.
- 1/8 tsp salt

DIRECTIONS

1. Beat all ingredients in a small bowl until well blended.
2. Store in an airtight container in refrigerator for up to 2 weeks.
(Note: set out for about 30 minutes before serving to allow it to soften.)
1. Can be frozen for up to 3 months.

Note: I substituted pure maple syrup for the honey... delicious!!





FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers 2025 CAMPVENTION

“Spirit of Friendship”

July 20-26, 2025

James E Ward Agricultural Center

945 E Baddour Pkwy, Lebanon, TN 37087



REGISTRATION:

Welcome to Campvention 2025. Everyone must complete a registration form, including second families and camp day passes. Submit payment with the completed form. All funds shall be in US currency, including checks and money orders. There will be room for you if you decide to come at the last minute. Simply bring this registration form with you.

****Refund policy:** If you are unable to attend, all except \$25 will be refunded AFTER the conclusion of 2025 Campvention.

Registration deadline May 15th - Pay before December 31, 2024, to receive a \$25 discount (\$325.00).

	<u>Registration</u>	<u>At Gate</u>
One Family in the Unit	\$350.00	\$385.00
Extra Family in the Unit (separate pay)	\$180.00	\$200.00
Week Drive-in Day Pass (June 23-29)	\$175.00	\$190.00
Drive-in Day Pass (per day)	\$30.00	\$35.00

Early Bird Days: July 18 - 19 @ \$30/night (pay upon arrival – cash/check). The gates will be open Friday at 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Are you an FCRV member: Yes No Please provide your Member # if known: _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse/Guest: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____ 2ndEmail: _____

Is this your first Campvention? Yes No Are you a Veteran and what branch? _____

Number of people in your unit: Adults: _____ Teens: _____ Youth: 9 – 12 _____ Youth: 5 – 8 _____

Total number of people in Unit: _____

****Please list the names and ages of all youth and teens on the back of this form.**

We would like to help with event(s) at Campvention. Staff will follow up with a contact if yes: Yes No

CAMPVENTION PARKING: (There will be no special needs sites available at the gate.)

Check if you are requesting a special needs site: _____ (Valid Handicap parking proof must be presented upon arrival.)

Please note the LENGTH of camping rig behind type:

Motorhome _____ 5th Wheel _____ Travel Trailer _____ Pop-Up _____ Number of slide outs _____

Electricity: 30 amp _____ 50 amp _____ (50amp is limited. Handicap first. Then first come, first served.)

****Bring extension cords. Water available. Bring hoses and Y connectors.**

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: FCRV Campvention 2025 Funds

Mail checks and completed forms to:

FCRV Campvention 2025

137 Crandon Blvd.

Cheektowaga, NY 14225

For inquiries please call (716) 668-6242.

Confirmations will be sent via Email.

Please allow a month for Processing.

53rd FCRV INTERNATIONAL RETIREE RALLY
 NATIONAL PEANUT FESTIVAL FAIRGROUND
 5622 HWY 231 S
 DOTHAN, ALABAMA 36301
 RALLY STARTS: MARCH 24TH – MARCH 30TH, 2025
 EARLY DAYS: MARCH 21, 22, 23

FOR REGISTRAR ONLY

REG# _____
 CK# _____
 CASH _____
 AMT _____

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING: (PLEASE PRINT)

LAST NAME _____ FIRST _____ SPOUSE/OTHER _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

MAILING ADDRESS OF OTHER: _____ #OF PEOPLE IN UNIT _____

CELL PHONE #1 _____ CELL PHONE #2 _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ CONFIRMATION SEN: _____ PDF _____ WORD

MAILED: _____ MAILING ADDRESS IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE: _____

REGISTERING FOR CAMPING: ON GROUND _____ OFF GROUND _____ CAMP PASS _____

IS THIS YOUR FIRST RETIREE RALLY? YES _____ NO _____ ARE YOU A VETERAN? YES _____ NO _____

SPECIAL NEEDS: MUST HAVE ON FILE WITH THE REGISTRAR: LICENSE REGISTRATION INCLUDING HANDICAP PLATE, OR HANDICAP PLACARD. THIS AREA IS RESERSVED FOR WHEELCHAIRS, WALKERS, OR THOSE WITH LIMITED MOBILITY PROBLEMS.

RATES: REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE MARCH 1, 2025. ALL THOSE ATTENDING MUST BE REGISTERED BY THE MARCH 1ST DEADLINE, OR AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF \$35 WILL BE ASSESSED WHEN REGISTERING AT THE GATE.

EARLY DAYS: EARLY DATE FEE OF \$40 PER NIGHT PER UNIT WILL BE COLLECTED BY THE TREASURER AT THE REGISTRATION DESK.

INCLUDED IN THE FEE: FULL HOOK-UPS, (30/50AMP), ICE CREAM SOCIAL, 2 DINNERS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND A LOT OF FUN.

2 PEOPLE IN UNIT	\$ 330	\$ 365
1 PERSON IN UNIT	\$ 300	\$335

CAMP PASS STAYING IN UNIT ON GROUNDS AS 2ND FAMILY IN UNIT:

2 PEOPLE \$ 200

1 PERSON \$ 100

CAMP PASS STAYING OFF GROUNDS:

2 PEOPLE \$ 200

1 PERSON \$ 100

REFUNDS: ALL BUT \$35 WILL BE REFUNDED IF NOTICE IS RECEIVED BEFORE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE RALLY. AFTER THE RALLY DEADLINE OF MARCH 1, 2025, ONLY THE CAMPING FEE WILL BE REFUNDED. REFUND REQUESTED AFTER RALLY STARTS WILL BE MADE AFTER THE RALLY.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: FCRV/NCHA RETIREE RALLY. NO CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED.

Mail to: Mildred Pauwels, P.O. Box 193, Dana, N.C. 28724

I WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER FOR:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Indiana State Events

2025 Indiana Spring Campout

April 25-27, 2025
Cornerstone Campground
75 W County Road 500 S
New Castle, Indiana, 47362
(765) 987-8700
"Celebration of Life"
Hosted by Fireflies and Coffeepots

2025 Indiana Summer Campout

August 22-23, 2025
Friends O Mine Campground
4557 IN-46
Nashville, Indiana, 47448
(812) 988-0008
Hosted by the Happy Glampers

(MAKE RESERVATIONS BY APRIL 1, 2025)
DO NOT SCHEDULE ON THE WEBSITE.
LET THEM KNOW YOU ARE WITH FCRV

2025 Indiana Retiree Rally

October 1-3, 2025
Shipshewana North Campground
5970 IN-5
Shipshewana, IN 46565
260 768-7770
(Reserve before September 15, 2025)
Mention that you are part of the
FCRV group.

2025 Indiana Fall Invitational

October 3-5, 2025
Shipshewana, IN 46565
260 768-7770
(Reserve before September 15, 2025)
Mention that you are part of the
FCRV group.

International Events



2025 Retiree Rally "Spring Has Sprung"

March 24-30, 2025
National Peanut Festival Fairground
Dothan, Alabama



2025 Campvention "Spirit of Friendship"

July 20-26, 2025
James E. Ward Agricultural Center
Lebanon, Tennessee

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YOUR CHAIR AWAITS

Your Chair Awaits P2 - 9-1-23

- International Camping Club
- Non-Profit Member Owned
- National & Local Events
- Wildlife & Conservation
- Scholarship Programs
- Youth, Teen, Adult and Retiree Programs

WWW.FCRV.ORG