

# MISSOURI CAMPER



CHAPTERS OF FAMILY CAMPERS AND RVERS

Volume 31 Issue 2

Summer 2026



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**DASAT Director:** Vacant

**Conservation:** Vacant

**Wildlife:** Vacant

## Newsletter Information

Thank you to all who contributed to this newsletter. There is always room for more information. The deadlines for contributions to the newsletter will be March 1, June 1, August 1 and December 1. A request for articles will be sent out approximately 2 weeks prior to the deadline and again about 2 days prior to the deadline. Requests for Christmas ads will be sent in early November to allow plenty of time for receipt of your ad and payment. Each chapter is asked to contribute articles but

anyone is welcome to contribute. Don't think you have to be a great reporter - just send the information and it will be reformatted for you.

## Next Newsletter Deadline August 1, 2026

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Missouri Camper is the official publication of the Missouri State Campers Association, 7912 Jim Weber Road, Eureka MO 63025-2706. Subscription Price: Included in the membership of MSCA.

## Missouri State Campers Association web site.

Click on the link below to go to the Public MSCA Facebook Group  
<http://mofcrv.org>

## MSCA SPRING CAMPOUT BOD MEETING - May 2, 2026

05-02-2026 MSCA BOD Arrowhead Point, Osceola, MO

Tannehill, Jerry & Kathy  
Hopkins, Don  
White, Linda  
Coleman, Larry & Beth  
Toliver, Don & Sandy  
Bahl, Alan  
Van de Riet, Mike & Linda  
Standiford, Paul & Beth

President Linda Van de Riet called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM

All recited the Pledge Of Allegiance

Prayer was offered by Missouri State Chaplain, Beth Standiford.

Chapter Roll: Gateway, Slow Travels, Non-Affiliate, no Pak & Go and no Pitch N Pull

Previous minutes were in the Missouri Camper and Kathy Tannehill made motion to accept; Paul Standiford seconded. Passed unanimously

Treasurer's Report - Don Hopkins

9-1-2025 beginning balance \$5301.18 Ending balance of \$5379.92 Bank says \$50 more (outstanding donation for Glorine Bahl memorial) but there is a \$50 check awaiting process. He will check with bank which will leave an actual balance of \$5329.92

One outstanding invoice for Paul Standiford which will be paid.

Don Toliver moved to accept, Mike Van de Riet seconded - motion passed unanimously

President's Report - Linda Van de Riet we have started making reservations for next year. Process has started for the fall St. Charles RV Show at St. Charles - first weekend after labor day. Paul Standiford reported that at the previous show, 3 families signed up and never camped with us. Those families have been e-mailed but without response. A recent new sign up for 3 years and we are trying to encourage them to camp with us. It was noted we should bring camping schedules to RV show and include photos of other than camping activities.

1ST VP - Paul Standiford Report - FCRV lost a long time member - Ernie Karch member 60 years. Passed around report on Ernie. No e-mail sent out yet as we are waiting on an official obit.

2nd VP - Kathy Tannehill Report - Ladies invited to do craft (flowerpots) Ham for dinner tonight. Coffee if wanted, for Sunday devotion.

No State Director

No Regional Director

Membership Committee - Paul & Beth Standiford spoke to organizers at STL RV and got put on their list for the St. Charles show.

Scholarship Fund - Don Hopkins - Edie Hensley is not sole signer on scholarship fund (Rod & Sheila McMillen). No reports have been provided regarding the balance. Option to cash out Scholarship and rolled into general fund. It was noted that this scholarship fund is currently under the control of members who do not participate in MSCA activities. Don Hopkins moved to see if we can simply liquidate it and put it as a line item in the general fund. Larry Coleman seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Don Hopkins will review rules and regulations to ensure that we can go forward with this motion.

Shelly Winter is still doing Cheer, but no report.

Website - Paul Standiford Not actually website, but it's actually just FB pages - one private and one public. It does need someone to be an additional administrator. Don Hopkins thinks he's on the account. Paul has been scanning old MSCA minutes and newsletters, etc., and have been posted on the private website. In addition, all Missouri Camper newsletters are out there, including old ones we found. If anybody interested in a copy of them, I can copy a flash drive of either yours or one of my own. They are searchable.

Don Hopkins suggested a projection of past photos at the RV show. There is no power but he has a small generator and a solar generator in route to test out.

### **OLD Business**

Paul Standiford mentioned that he had volunteered to suggest changes to Constitution and Bylaws to consolidate the BOD meeting and Membership meeting into one meeting. This would only impact the Fall meetings. We cannot vote on this today. We need a final draft and has to be approved by national before we can vote on it.

Meeting times were previously voted on and passed but not included into the Constitution & By Laws. Discussion was on the timing of the Fall campvention. It was suggested that the fall meeting be moved from the third full weekend in September to the second full weekend in September beginning with 2027. Paul Standiford will also prepare agenda template for future membership meetings.

Kathy Tannehill suggested providing a description of Chairman duties. We'd have to change Constitution & By Laws to eliminate chairman program reports

Paul also suggested that the MSCA logo is outdated Required on the logo: A tent, tree campfire and colors of green and yellow. Paul took suggestions, will rework and submit.

Trifold. A new trifold was submitted for discussion. Suggestions made include that you can camp in other states, chapter, regionals and campvention. Send Paul feedback you may think about. Include established 1949 (NCHA was but MSCA is only about 60 years old) Paul will make changes and send to delegates to get final approval and a final on cost. Might call a zoom meeting before September to pass out.

### **New Business**

Edie sent check for \$10 annual dues, however she doesn't camp but Paul Standiford had offered her honorary status, but at this time she wants to pay her dues.

Don Toliver moved to adjourn, Don Hopkins seconded, all approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Standiford  
MSCA Secretary

## 1st Vice President

*By Paul Standiford*



Missouri was well represented at the 54th Retire Rally in Mineola TX. I believe everyone had a great time. There was great entertainment, games, food, things to see and best of all meeting up with friends that we had not seen since last year. Now it is time to turn our sights on 2027. The Retire Rally next year is in a new place and is being handled a bit differently. Once you sign up with FCRV for the rally, you will need to call the campground (2027 will be in a [private campground](#)) and tell them you are with the FCRV Retiree Rally and let them know when you will be coming in for the early days. In the past early days were handled by FCRV and you just showed up sometime during the early days and paid for however

many early days you were there. This time you have to make reservations for the early days with the campground and you can come in earlier if you wish. That is up to you when you want to arrive. I know we have already made our reservations for the entire week prior to the rally. Like I stated earlier, this is just a bit different. If you have any questions send me an email or give me a call (if you have my number) and I'll try to answer them. You can also find more information on the Retiree Rally Facebook Group. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/fcrrvretireerally>. And don't forget, you don't have to be retired to attend. See page 17 of this newsletter for details on dates and location.

Next, a quick word about the 2026 Campvention. It is not too late to attend. You can actually just show up at the gate and register there. It is being held in Huron SD. See page 17 for the dates or go to <https://fcrv.org/campvention-2026/> for more information.

I am working on a few new items. First, I presented to the BOD a suggested new trifold brochure for MSCA. There were a few changes suggested. I will email them to the BOD and hope to hold a Zoom meeting to get approval to have them printed before the MSCA Fall Campvention.

I volunteered to develop a change to the MSCA Constitution and Bylaws that would combine the two meetings held at the MSCA Fall Meeting to streamline them a bit to cut down the amount of time that it takes. Hopefully, that will ready for a vote by the fall meeting.

I have been working a new MSCA logo. The old logo is a bit outdated so I have designed (AI did most of the work) a couple of new logos. I am going to place a poll on the Facebook group sometime in the next few weeks. This will not be a vote. It will simply be asking which one you like the best. Watch for it here. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/5611565165578381> All of the designs follow the guidelines set out in the Constitution and Bylaws.

At the Spring Campvention we discussed the possibility of changing the Fall date to the second weekend after Labor Day instead of the current date of the third weekend after Labor Day. This will be discussed at the 2026 MSCA Fall Campvention and if approved would go into effect in 2027.

Please note that we need candidates for the following offices - President, Second Vice President and Recording Secretary. If you are unaware, the Constitution and Bylaws were changed a few years ago so that we no longer elect a full slate of offices each year. Some are elected in the even years and some in the odd years.

A special thanks to Karen Kremer for her article. By the way, Mike and Karen certainly earned the title "Roaming Reporter" on their trip from Mineola to Margaritaville RV Park in Breaux Bridge LA. They did finally make it safely. I think we should get Karen to give a training session on "Proper Ways to Use a GPS."

If you would like to submit articles for future Missouri Camper newsletters just let me know.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Summer 2026

*By Kathy & Jerry Tannehill*



The spring campout this year was held at Arrowhead Point RV Park, located along Highway 54 in Osceola, Missouri. To be honest, when I first got there the park seemed a little bit on the “rustic” side. That feeling was short lived as the charm of the place and the owners, Mark and Caron, won me over. They couldn’t have been more accommodating the whole weekend. They even bought us a dozen Amish donuts Friday morning for us early arrivals on Thursday. They were sooo good,

We started off our weekend with our official weekend on Friday night with a Potluck Dinner, followed by a rowdy game of Left Right Center. For those that don't know, it's a game where we play three nickels per round for a total of five rounds, which equals fifteen nickels per person to play. It's a lot of fun, and we always have a good time playing it.

Saturday morning started off with breakfast hosted by the Gateway Group. We had biscuits and gravy, scrambled eggs, bacon, mixed fruit bowl, orange juice, and coffee. Following breakfast was a board meeting where we talked about many ideas for the future of the MSCA groups. Later that afternoon, while the men were busy fixing various RV mechanical problems, us ladies got together for craft time. We made these cute face flowerpots and planted pink Begonia's. They really did come out adorable. We had invited the owners of the park to join us for dinner, where we had ham roast with lots of delicious side dishes to share. We also invited them to stay and join us in our evening game of Bean Bag Baseball. We all had a great time, even though the score wound up being like 12 to 26, or something like that. It was a lot of fun laughing our way through all nine of the innings.

We closed out our weekend on Sunday morning with a Devotional from our Chaplin Beth Standiford, which included some delicious muffins, cookies and coffee. We all wished each other safe travels as some of us headed home and some of us headed out on another camping adventure.

As for our next MSCA adventure is scheduled for Friday September 25th thru Sunday 27th at Lazy Day Campground. It is located at 214 State Highway J, Danville, Missouri 63361. You can call them at (573) 564-2949 to reserve your spot. I believe they have new owners, so it would be a good idea to give them a call to reconfirm any reservations that you may have already made. I hope to see you all there! Safe travels everyone!

MSCA 2nd Vice Presidents,

*Kathy and Jerry Tannehill*

### **MSCA Sunshine**

Contact our Sunshine Chairperson to report the name and address of members needing cards from Missouri Campers Association

Shelly Winter  
204 Conrad Circle  
Truesdale MO 63380  
email: [sunshine@mofcrv.org](mailto:sunshine@mofcrv.org)

~ **Get Well ~ Sympathy ~**  
~ **Thinking of You ~**



## New year, new travel destinations

By Karen Kremer

@journeyadventuresdiscovered



This year we kicked off our travels in March with our first stop in Mineola, Texas, for the Family Campers & RVers Retiree Rally, and let me tell you, it did not disappoint! We laughed until our sides hurt, ate way too much, and made enough memories to keep campfire stories going for years. If you've never been to a rally, you really should put next year's event in Vidalia, Louisiana on your calendar now. Our Missouri chapter, the Slow Travelers, plans to arrive a week early to "check things out," which probably means finding good restaurants, exploring the area, and getting turned around at least once before somebody admits we should've listened to the GPS. Make those reservations soon though, because campsites could disappear faster than free donuts at morning coffee hour!

Our next stop was Gulf State Park in Gulf Shores. We had a few bumps and scratches while there, but thankfully nothing major. Well... unless you count the damage done to diets after several seafood dinners! The weather was beautiful, the bike trails were wonderful, and the best part was spending time with good friends. There's just something about traveling together that brings people closer!

Hubby Mike and I said good-bye to our travel companions and headed on to our next destination at Myrtle Beach State Park. Too bad the park was on the flight path of the airport. Our campsite was wooded and peaceful at night and was close enough to the camp store for all the essentials... mostly s'mores supplies. We enjoyed the nature center, long walks on the beach, and watching fishermen show off their catches from the pier. Between the ocean breeze and all that beach time, this mountain girl is starting to think she may be turning into a beach girl after all.

Then came Myrtle Beach Travel Park in Myrtle Beach, and wow, what a place! Our full-hookup site was only about 30 feet from the beach. We could hear the waves from inside the RV and even see the shoreline from the upper windows of our fifth wheel. It was the perfect setup for spending the day at the beach, collecting seashells, splashing in the water, then heading back to the camper for a snack and one of those "quick naps" that somehow turns into two hours. The campsites were roomy, and each one had its own little shelter and picnic table. Our site had lots of sand! This could be good or bad depending on how you feel about sand in the RV. We already know we'll be back there again someday.

Our last stop for this article was Pigeon Forge, Tennessee and I'll admit, I originally thought it was mostly a place for families with kids or lots of old people. Turns out, I was very wrong! We had a blast doing Dolly Parton's Stampede dinner show, riding UTVs through Great Smoky Mountains National Park, taking a comedy bus tour, and visiting Cades Cove hoping to spot black bears. Thankfully, we saw the bears from a safe distance and not rummaging through anybody's cooler! All in all, it's a wonderful destination for both young and old. I'd definitely recommend visiting during the off-season unless you enjoy sitting in traffic with half the country.



Until next time,  
Wishing you all safe travels and happy trails...

*Karen*  
Roaming Reporter



## Gateway Campers

by Jan Hopkins



Gateway folk like to get together, whether we're able to camp or not! Once again, we met in January to catch up and dream about camping. We met at Cooper's Hawk Winery and Restaurant, where we had a reserved room and a wonderful lunch. We played a new game for our annual gift exchange with two of the biggest dice ever. Before you rolled your dice, you told the group your favorite camp from last season, or last couple years, with or without the group. It was fun hearing everyone's stories

It was April before most of us broke our rigs out of winter storage and went to Babler State Park for the first Gateway camp of 2026. The weather was beautiful, if a bit chilly. The rain held off during the day, making it a good camp weekend. A group of us went to Big Chief Roadhouse for a delicious lunch. Saturday evening we had a bonfire and desserts, and lots of fun together.

The MSCA spring campout was held the first weekend in May at Arrowhead Point RV Park, in Osceola, MO. I wasn't there, because I was out of state visiting my Colorado kid, but I heard there was good food, lots of fun, and successful meetings. I can say that Saturday night there was a lot of laughter going on in the background when I spoke to Don on the phone, such that my daughter remarked they were having much more fun than we were at that time!

The second weekend in May, many of us found ourselves at the Alvey's new deck for a BBQ deck warming. Again, no stopping us getting together and having good food and fun, campers or not!

The May group campout was at Hawn State Park. I don't know anything about how that campout went, but not having heard anything bad, I am assuming it was, as usual, awesome.

Don and I weren't able to go to Hawn, as he discovered during routine maintenance that the leaf spring weld that was made nearly 3 years ago on the epic Colorado I-70 road trip had failed. Our camper was going nowhere. Side note, the failed weld was corrected the following week, and we are ready to get on the road again!

As camp season has just begun for Gateway, we're looking forward to many more of these weekends!

*Jan Hopkins*

Gateway Campers Reporter

(Editor's Note: Jan sent (via Google Drive) some photos for inclusion with this article. However, I was unable to access the drive to retrieve the photos and Jan is currently out of contact.)

### Hawn State Park Campout

by Beth Standiford

Three families camped at Hawn State Park the weekend of May 16. We traveled to Ste. Genevieve to their old town where there were lots of neat shops to investigate; Pewter, Candy, Books, Antiques, Tea, Vinegar Bar, Ice Cream, historic bars (supposedly haunted), and General Store. A couple of the stores had a cat or two; really beautiful animals. We ate lunch at The Old Brick House, the oldest brick building west of the Mississippi. Good food, reasonably priced including their "known for" dish of liver dumplings which in this writer's opinion, were pretty good. A campfire on Saturday night provided some great conversations and all were sad to break camp and head back to "normal" life. Hope to see you next time 'round our campfire.



## Slow Travelers Updates

*By Beth Standiford*

Following the MSCA Spring Campvention, The Slow Travelers Chapter headed for Air Capital RV Park in Wichita, Kansas. This RV park is highly recommended as it is clean, has concrete full hook-up sites and close to just about everything a camper needs: fuel, good BBQ, ice cream, a spacious and comfortable meeting room, and a Walmart. We spent a week exploring a lot of the sites in town. Are you interested in aviation? The history of flight at the Aviation Museum (and you know, Boeing is there), gives a comprehensive look at all things flying. Like US history? Visit the Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum to see a rare, 6-cylinder, Jones 6, made in Wichita between 1914 and 1921. Did I mention Pizza Hut? Yes, the very first Pizza Hut was in Wichita and while you can't get a pizza there anymore, you can see some great throw-back pieces that chronicle their story. More history in an outdoor setting at Cow Town where you can walk through preserved buildings that provided early settlers with everything from birth to death. A strong influence of The First People throughout the town and a not-to-be-missed 44-foot tall steel Keeper of the Prairie sculpture where people gather every night at 9 PM to view it by the light of 4 large fires. For a little bit of everything from prehistoric to modern day items of interest, visit the Museum of World Treasures. We didn't have enough time to see Frank Lloyd Wright's Allen House, The Toy Train Museum, The Art Museum or the Firefighter's Museum just to mention a few of the many, many sights to see. Maybe next time.



*Beth Standiford*

(Filling in for Frances Jackson)



## Pitch 'n' Pull - Summer 2026

by Beth Standiford

It has been a very quiet camping season for Pitch 'N' Pull. Campouts had been planned, booked and we were all looking forward to them, but, they were not to be. Due to some of the twists and turns life takes, both the June and the October campouts have been cancelled. At this time, all that remains is a meeting to plan 2027 and that date and location is TBD.



### In Memoriam David Colvin Gish February 5, 1952 - May 9, 2026



David Colvin Gish of Raytown, MO passed away May 9, 2026. David was born on February 5, 1952, in Kansas City, MO to Colvin and Doris Gish. He attended Raytown South High School, Class of 1970, followed by 2 years at Longview Community College, and he graduated with a business degree from University of Central Missouri (CMSU) in 1974. David was employed by various companies, the last being Weber Carpet, retiring in 2008. David was a member of the Vintage Motor Car Club of America (VMCCA), Kansas City chapter. Also, a member of Family Camper's and RV'ers (FCRV) and Missouri State Campers Association (MSCA), where he served as President. He was also a member and President of the Pitch 'N' Pull Camp Club, MO.

His interests included vintage cars, his diesel truck, pontoon

boat and many family dogs, his favorite being his Yorkie buddy, "Ben."

He married fellow RSHS classmate, Linda Paullin, in 1975, and they were blessed with 2 children, Tim (Melissa) Gish, New Philadelphia, Ohio and Lisa (Matthew) Sweeney, Shawnee, KS and one grandson, Zack Sweeney.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, his parents and a brother, Mark. He is survived by his wife, children and grandson and by 2 brothers, Paul, Lee's Summit, MO and Chris, Garden City, MO. He is also survived by a cousin, Cheryl, (John), Linn, MO, mother-in-law, Darlene, Raytown, MO, sister-in-law, Debbie, Raytown, MO, sister and brother-in-law, Beckie & Doug, Blue Springs, MO, sister-in-law, Sharon, Kansas City, MO, and by an aunt, Beverly, Issaquah, Washington and several nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be held on June 6, 2026, from 1 - 4pm at Grace United Methodist Church, 3601 S Sterling Ave, Independence, MO 64052. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the American Heart Association or a charity of your choice. Cremation.

Obituary can be found at <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/kansas-city-mo/david-gish-12877530>

## Feed My Sheep

By Beth Standiford (MSCA Chaplain)

### Finish this phrase....."I know...."



How many times have we heard that? If you have teens, you have heard it A LOT! Even from younger than teens. You try to tell them something and it comes back at you in all sorts of attitudes. If teachers ask a question and students have done their homework, they may jump up and be excited to say, "I know!" If you ask son/daughter not to forget something, you may get a condescending "I know" complete with eye rolls as if you are wasting your breath. Or it can show shared surprise when someone says something that you think perhaps no one else has thought about as in "IK,R?" and it gives a feeling of validation. Or how about that 60's song, As in Bill Withers, "Ain't no sunshine when she's gone" where he repeats the phrase to the point where all you can think of is that little dog in your windshield with his head bobbing up and down; And I know, I know, I know, I know....." As he laments how deeply he knows life just isn't the same without his woman.

Something I DON'T know is how many times the phrase appears in the Bible. Can you think of any? I can give examples

Jeremiah 29:11 for I know the plans I have for you

Job 19:25 For I know that my redeemer lives

2 Timothy 1:12 because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him

John 10:14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and they know me

Jesus Loves Me, this I know

The phrase,, "I know" has many different aspects.

To "know" God is to experience a covenant relationship with Him, not merely knowing about Him.

Adam "knew" his wife, Eve" to describe a sexual union.

When God says, "I know" He is providing comfort and assurance.

When Job says "I know" Job demonstrates a firm trust.

Sometimes, "I know" means I understand. I know implies having information. I understand means grasping the deeper meaning, context or why behind those facts. We may be aware of someone who is a "know-it-all" but no one says "they are an understand-it-all".

But lets not take this phrase lightly. Have you ever shared your faith with someone and they say, "yeah, I know." you have to wonder if they know? or do they understand? Sometimes, you just can't know what they're thinking. Other times, you can pretty well determine what they are thinking just by their tone of voice and/or any followup questions.

So it's something to think about the next time you hear someone say, "I know...." You know?

## Cinnamon Roll Bundt Cake

**Quick to Prepare:** This recipe takes only 20 minutes of prep time, making it easy even for beginner bakers.  
**Flavorful Swirls:** The generous cinnamon sugar filling creates delicious swirls in every slice.  
**Perfect for Any Occasion:** Serve it warm for breakfast or as a sweet treat after dinner; it's versatile enough for any meal.  
**Goopy Icing Delight:** A creamy icing on top adds an irresistible finish to each slice.  
**Feeds a Crowd:** With 12 servings, it's great for sharing at parties or gatherings.

2-3 8-roll packages of any brand Cinnamon Rolls.

1 Bundt Pan

Cooking Spray

Preheat oven to 375 degrees

Spray pan with cooking spray

Pull apart all rolls and stand on edge all the way around the bundt pan. You can stack the uncooked rolls as deeply as you like (2 layers).

Bake at 375 for time given on package. Check with toothpick for desired doneness. When only slightly warm, turn rolls out on a plate. When completely cool, drizzle with the icing that was included with the cinnamon roll package. Ta-da! Done!

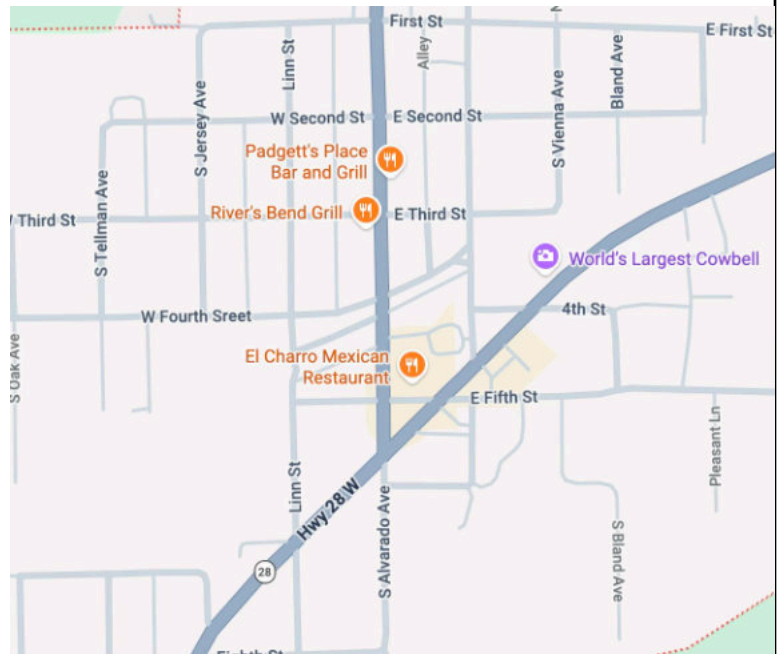


## Off The Beaten Path

by Beth Standiford

Those of you who know me, know I love a good roadside attraction. The weirder, the better. I loved, Jim the Wonder Dog near Arrow Rock. So today, camping or not, here's a place I'd love to see.

World's Largest Cowbell. Just a little south and little west of Owensville, in, of all places, Belle, Missouri. Jimmy Zumwalk created this attraction that is roughly 25 feet tall. At the corner of MO Highway 28 and Alvarado Avenue. I understand there's a restaurant nearby, so maybe sometime when you're looking for something different for lunch, take a little trip.



## Fuel for Thought

by Beth Standiford

No doubt about it, travel, and camping in particular, has gotten expensive. Fuel prices have risen to new levels. I won't get into any kind of debate on why, but thought I could at least offer ideas to help ease the pain.

### COSTCO and SAM'S

If you're a member of either of these two big box stores, they usually have a fuel island which offers discounted fuel. They are usually big enough to accommodate motorhomes and campers of size. Check ahead first.

### WALMART

Open to the public without a membership, many of these stores offer a fuel island and again, the price is discounted from what you'll pay on the corner gas station.

### REWARDS / MEMBERSHIPS

Several companies offer loyalty rewards or lower prices on their apps.

Shell - Use their app and you can get several cents off. Continue to use it, and the amount off per gallon can increase.



Phillips 66 - Use their app and save \$.20/gallon on your first fill-up. A nickel a gallon after that.

Chevron - currently offering \$.25 per gallon off on the next five visits just for joining their program.

GasBuddy - A very popular option which can tell you while you're traveling just where the best deal is. Additionally, can offer deals and discounts at other non-fuel locations you may use regularly.

Love's - A great discount of \$.10/gallon on gas and \$.25/gallon on diesel IF you use the pumps out front, and NOT the trucker lanes. So beware and watch to see if your unit will maneuver through their site.

Your Current Charge Cards - check your current charge cards for cash back options on fuel.

Maintenance - Keep your unit in top condition with the tires properly inflated to the recommended PSA. Replace clogged air filters. And here's a big one, REMOVE UNNECESSARY WEIGHT. Sure, you needed that surf board when you went to California, but contrary to the popular song, there is no surfing in Kokomo (Indiana), so ditch the board. Does your truck need a tune up? New spark plugs/sensors? And, nobody likes this one, slow down. Use of cruise control can help, and isn't the idea of getting away to relax and enjoy the trip? Experiment with slower speeds to see how it affects your fuel consumption.

Do you have any other suggestions? Let me know and I'll share with the others.

Safe travels

## In Memoriam

### Ernest Owen "Ernie" Karch

February 26, 1926 - March 24, 2026



Ernest Owen "Ernie" Karch, Jr., 100, of Freeman, passed away peacefully on March 24, 2026. Ernie was born on February 26, 1926, in Bethel to Ernest and Mary (Silva) Karch. During his early years, his family moved between Kansas and California several times for his father's work as a machinist.

At age 17, Ernie enlisted in the U.S. Navy in May 1943. After completing training at Farragut Naval Training Station, he was assigned to the naval destroyer USS Hailey, where he served as a seaman and electrician's mate in the Pacific Theater during World War II. He took great pride in being a plank owner on the USS Hailey, serving through both the commissioning and decommissioning of the destroyer during its wartime service. He was honorably

discharged in 1947 and took a job as a laborer with Wabash Railroad. After a brief departure from the railroad, Ernie returned to Wabash in 1949 to work in the mechanical department as an apprentice oiler. He later became a full-time carman in the repair shop before moving to the general foreman's office in 1976, where he remained until his retirement in 1986.

Ernie married the love of his life, Dora, in 1948, and together they shared more than 64 wonderful years of marriage while raising three daughters. When he wasn't tinkering around his property, working in his workshop, tending his garden, or helping family members with countless projects, Ernie and Dora enjoyed RV camping - a hobby they began in 1965. In 1966, their love of camping inspired them to found the Pak-N-Go Camping Club and join the National Campers and Hikers Association, of which they remained lifelong

members. Their camping adventures took them across many states and into Canada over the years. Another treasured experience for Ernie was participating in the Heartland Honor Flight in May 2014 to Washington - an experience he held close to his heart.

Ernie was deeply devoted to his family and took genuine joy in their accomplishments and interests.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Dora; his parents, Ernest Sr. and Mary; his brother, William; his sisters, Antoinette and Dorothy; his son-in-law, Duane Drew; and his cherished dog, Sassy. Ernie is survived by his brother, Richard; his daughters, Diana Drew, Karen Perryn (Ron), and Tina Wunder (Mark); along with 20 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren, 15 great-great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family members whom he loved dearly.

Ernie's obituary can be found at <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/ernest-karch-obituary?id=61497730>

**In Memoriam**  
**Roger Fred Ziegemeier**  
**November 7, 1943 - May 15, 2026**



Roger Fred Ziegemeier, 82, passed away peacefully on May 15, 2026, due to a brief struggle with an aggressive type of lung cancer.

Roger was born at St. Joseph Hospital in St. Charles, MO on November 7, 1943, to Fred and Isabel Ziegemeier. He was the eldest brother to Sharon Mueller and Richard Ziegemeier.

Roger enjoyed bowling, playing cards, tending his garden, and riding around in his golf cart with his loyal dog, Daisy, by his side. With an easy smile and a twinkle in his eye, Roger could engage anyone he met in lively conversation. He loved to tell stories of his recent escapades, always seeming to have a tale to top the last one told.

In 1961, Roger graduated from St. Charles High School. He proudly served in the U.S. Navy as a Seabee (Construction Battalion). As a skilled carpenter, he worked for several construction companies over the years and continued to build on various projects after retirement.

Roger was married to Sharon Ziegemeier 28 years. His stepdaughter and her husband, Brenda and Chris Dupont, their daughter and son-in-law, Sierra and Alex Chavez, were a big part

of his daily life as well as his dear neighbors in Foristell, MO.

Roger survives in the hearts of his son-in-law and daughter, Lee and Dianna Mills of Tulsa, OK; his grandsons, Matt and Noelle Mills, Mark and Katie Mills, and Micah Mills. His sister and brother-in-law, Sharon and Larry Mueller, will miss his presence greatly. Roger is preceded in death by his beloved parents, brother Richard, and young son, Brian Ziegemeier.

A memorial service for Roger will be held at Baue Funeral Home in O'Fallon, Missouri on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. with a graveside tribute at Assumption Cemetery immediately following. Visitation precedes the service at 10:00 am.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Evelyn's House, a hospice house in Creve Coeur, MO, in which Roger rested comfortably in his final days.

## Complete Camping Schedule - 2026 - 2027

June 19 - 21, 2026 - Gateway Campers - [Country Bend Campground](#) - Litchfield IL  
July 3 - 4, 2026 - Campvention 2026 Early Days - [South Dakota State Fairgrounds](#) - Huron SD  
July 5 -11 2026 - Campvention 2026 - [South Dakota State Fairgrounds](#) - Huron SD  
July 17 - 19, 2026 - Gateway Campers - [Blue Springs Ranch](#) - Bourbon MO  
August 21 - 23, 2026 - Gateway Campers - [Pomme De Terre S. P.](#) - Pittsburg MO  
September 11 - 13, 2026 - Gateway Campers - [Coles Creek Campground](#) - Carlyle IL  
September 25 - 27, 2026 - MSCA Fall Campvention - [Lazy Day Campground](#) - Danville MO  
September 27 - Oct 2, 2026 - Slow Travelers - [Ray Behrens, Mark Twain Lake](#) - Perry MO  
October 16 - 18, 2026 - Gateway Campers - [370 Lakeside Park](#) - St. Peters MO  
March 11 - 13, 2027 - FCRV Retiree Rally Early Days - [River View RV Park](#) - Vidalia LA  
March 14 - 21, 2027 - FCRV Retiree Rally - [River View RV Park](#) - Vidalia LA  
April 16 - 18, 2027 - Gateway Campers - [Echo Bluffs State Park](#) - Eminence, MO  
May 14 - 16, 2027 - MSCA Spring Campvention - TBD  
May 21 - 23, 2027 - Gateway Campers - [Johnson's Shut-Ins](#) - Middle Brook, MO  
June 18 - 20, 2027 - Gateway Campers - [Rend Lake - South Sandusky](#) - Sesser IL  
July 16 - 18, 2027 - Gateway Campers - [Perryville KOA](#) - Perryville MO  
August 20 - 22, 2027 - Gateway Campers - [Pere Marquette S.P.](#) - Grafton IL  
September 17 - 19, 2027 - [Ray Behrens, Mark Twain Lake](#) - Perry MO  
September 24 - 26, 2027 - MSCA Fall Campout - TBD  
October 15 - 17, 2027 - [Shelbyville, Coon Creek](#) - Findlay IL

REMINDER: Please send any additions or changes to [missouricampernewslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:missouricampernewslettereditor@gmail.com) for inclusion in the next newsletter. [CLICK HERE TO SUBSCRIBE TO ONLINE CALENDAR](#)

You don't have to be a member of the chapter to attend any FCRV campout but make sure to contact a MSCA officer or chapter president for additional details before you attend.

Slow Travelers - Email: [slow.travelers@mofcrv.org](mailto:slow.travelers@mofcrv.org)  
Gateway Campers - Email: [gateway.campers@mofcrv.org](mailto:gateway.campers@mofcrv.org)  
Pitch N Pull - Email: [pitch.n.pull@mofcrv.org](mailto:pitch.n.pull@mofcrv.org)  
Pak N Go - Email: [pak.n.go@mofcrv.org](mailto:pak.n.go@mofcrv.org)

### NEW READERS - PLEASE READ THIS

If you are new to this newsletter - this is what FCRV, MSCA and the local chapters are all about. There are 18 opportunities for camping with wonderful people listed above. Make the most of these opportunities. If you want more information about any of these campouts please email the Chapter president listed above. Or, if you wish you can email me at [missouricampernewslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:missouricampernewslettereditor@gmail.com) and I'll be happy to help you out.

## Membership Application

### Missouri State Campers Association

Chartered Under National Campers and Hikers Association, Inc.  
(dba Family Campers and RVers)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (Husband) (Wife)

Street \_\_\_\_\_

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

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Current Chapter Office Held \_\_\_\_\_  
(President, Secretary, Treasurer, etc.)

I hereby apply for membership (renewal)(new) in Missouri State Campers Association, Inc. And enclose my annual dues of \$10.00 for the year 2026.

A part of this amount is for a subscription to Missouri Camper.

### Forward to MSCA TREASURER

Don Hopkins, 2140 Telford Drive, Saint Louis MO 63125

Where  
Strangers  
Become  
Friends  
and  
Friends  
Become  
Family

### Missouri Camper

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