

Volume 29 Issue 2

Western Area FMCA

Sandy King - Editor

Spring 2015

President's Message



We have just returned from FMCA's 91st FAMILY REUNION & MOTORHOME SHOWCASE at the Fairplex in Pomona, CA. What a great facility to have a big rally. As always the Western Area volunteers

did a great job and for the most part everything went quite smooth. We had a great time seeing old friends and meeting new ones. We had great weather & all the Eastern folks really enjoyed the warm California weather. Our attendance was less than we had hoped, but all who attended had a great time.

This next year we will have 4 Western Area Officers term out. Lee Clemons, Northern VP, Bob Golk, Central VP, Judy Jackson, Treasurer, and Debbie Golk, Secretary. All other Officers will be running for reelection. We would very much like at least 2 people run for each office. If you have interest in any office please get in touch with any member of the Nominating Committee. Shelley Herman 323-849-4136,(Chairman) Carol Gillespie 951-492-0787, June Davis 209-492-0254, Marilyn Johnson 916-486-7211, Pat Walker 503-364-9986.

As all of you know our attendance at our Indio Rally was also down last January when we only had 871 family coaches in attendance. We need between 1100

and 1300 coaches if we are to continue to put on the Great rally that we have had in past years. I am asking that each Chapter start now to promote the January Rally to build our attendance back up. We have the best parade in all of FMCA, the more coaches we have in attendance the bigger our parade is. Next year is our 28th year at Indio and the theme is "Call of the Wild".

There will be another contest this year for the 2017 theme, details will be announced later.

We have a great line up for entertainment at our 2016 Indio Rally, make sure you don't miss it.

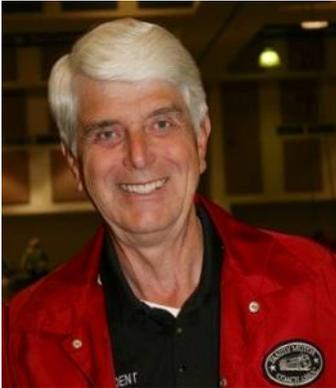
"THE ALLEY CATS"
America's Premier A Capella Doo Wop Vocal Group
 (4 people)

"NEW WEST" -
Western Swing At It's Best
 (3 people)

"THE DIAMONDS"
Classic Rock N' Roll With Today's Attitude
 (6 people) Famous "NAME" Group

Safe travels,
 Dick Gibbs F278983
 Western Area President

WMHA Senior Vice



I sure can tell that spring is here...this morning as I was having breakfast on the back patio I saw many birds flocking to the feeders including three Humming birds. Most of the trees have leafed out and the vines on the arbors are filling in nicely.

As mentioned by other authors in this issue of the Byways FMCA's 91st "California Gold" Family Reunion at Pomona was loads of fun. There were 1,135 family coaches and 310 display coaches for a grand total of 1,445. The weather was great with temperature reaching the 90's on several occasions. This is a large venue to hold this Rally, and it took a boatload of volunteers to pull it all together. A big thank you goes out to the 17 Captains and the hundreds of Volunteers that gave up all or part of their time to assist with the rally.

I was pleasantly pleased to see so many folks (90) at the Western Area Gathering. WMHA President Dick Gibbs MC'd this meeting. We discussed a wide range of issues from the new website to the how to generate better attendance at the Indio Rally. Audience participation was excellent.

On Sunday night California Chapter was recognized by National President Charlie Adcock for their 50th anniversary.

sary. They are one of four chapters that will be celebrating this landmark anniversary this year. What followed was a wonderful evening of entertainment from the Frustrated Maestros. They presented *Patriotic Night*. They honored all branches of the service through their music. What a touching and wonderful way to conclude the rally.

Work has started on the 2016 Indio Rally (Jan. 6th – 10th). One important issue we are working on is how to generate better attendance, both with Day Passes and on-site camping. We are also looking at how to best get state and local coverage. The theme will be "*Call Of The Wild*".

Another item we are working on is the distribution of the WMHA newsletter. We, the WMHA executive Board, would like to see that everyone in the Western Area receives a copy of the Byways. Hopefully, by the time of the next newsletter release we will have a plan in action.

Again, I would like to say Thank You to all that attended or volunteered at Pomona.

Travel Safe,

Lon Cross WMHA Senior VP



Northern Area Vice President

From your Northern Area Vice President Margaret and I attended the 91st family reunion and Pomona California I volunteered for the region area information booth there I met a lot of my old family members of FMCA from the late eighties and nineties and it was nice to see all of them still participating in FMCA lot of first timers stop by for information my thanks go out to the chapters that have gotten the word out to new motor home owners about FMCA they seem to be so happy to stop by the booth and get information on FM CA areas in which they live in and chapters that they might want to join I saw a lot of day passes from FMCA members so I asked why weren't they parked in the fairground the answer I got back was it cost too much for electricity combined with the registration so many of them decided that they would get full hookups in a campground. And by day passes instead of staying on the fairgrounds there was nothing I could say against that this is a good time for me to ask all chapters for ideas on how we can raise the coach count at these rallies

There will be an election coming up this year for Secretary Treasurer northern area VP and central area VP We have finished Terms in office. Steve Shade expressed to me A desire to run for northern area VP I hope he put his hat in the ring for the office and all the others for the various offices to toss their hats in for all the other offices that in need of someone to run for also sincerely.

Lee Clemons

Vice President Northern Area, WMHA F.M.C.A.
lee2675@msn.com Cell# 209-992-6097

Central Area Vice President

When I wrote this message a year ago I remarked how it was spring time and the hills were green, etc. Well, this year is even drier than last year and while the hills were green it was short lived. We had hoped for a change but it did not happen. During this time we attended a rally over in Laughlin with the Beat-The-Odds chapter. Even though it was February, the temps were in the mid to upper 80's and it looked like the snow birds were there to escape the northern winter as the park was full. Walking around I saw lots of license plates from Canada, Wyoming, Montana, etc. Lady luck did not smile on me this time but Debbie won a little in the slot tournament. To cap the event we had a fabulous banquet to accompany the award ceremonies. Of course, the big event was the FMCA 91st Family Reunion & Motorhome Showcase held in Pomona in March. The Fairplex is a great venue to put on a large event such as this. It is also a very large venue which means having several trams to transport people to and from their coaches to the various events. Debbie and I had volunteered to captain the volunteers needed to ride on the large trams as "conductors" to make sure everyone was seated and to tell the tram drivers when to start or stop. This proved to be a daunting task as it required 40 volunteers per day to man the 40 tram shifts each day. In the end, we ended up using close to 60 volunteers working up to 12 hours each. I want to thank the following chapters for providing volun-

teers: **Golden Spike, Komfort Kruisers, Golden State Trackers** and the **California Coasters**. In addition, we had many individuals help us out on short notice to fill gaps in the schedule. To all the volunteers who worked the trams a very big thank you. These people pulled tram duty in addition to working other duties at the event. Scheduling people around their other jobs as well as seminars was a challenge and worked out due to volunteers willing to pull a shift on short notice.

As mentioned in Dick Gibbs message, WMHA officer candidates are being sought for next year. This is my last year as your Central VP (term ends in June 2016). If any of you are interested in this position and would like some information about it feel free to contact me. I will answer any questions and will gladly go over the duties. I will say this, it has been a very rewarding time and I will miss it very much when it ends.

Have a safe spring time and see you down the road.

Bob Galk

WMHA Central Area Vice President



Southern Area Vice President

In February, Ann and I had the pleasure of attending the California Roamers Rally in Indian Waters, Indio, where I presented them with their 35 year award and check. We would like to thank Virgil and Sharon George as well as all of the members for their warm hospitality. They were gracious enough to make us honorary members of the chapter. We particularly enjoyed the breakfast around the pool in the mornings and the terrific Chinese Dinner.

One of the members Bill Tinney had an excellent suggestion for all members. When he and Sandra go to a rally out of town, they place a note in their car that gives pertinent information that can be used in case of an emergency: i.e. we are visiting from out of town in our recreational vehicle and are staying the ----- campground. In case of emergency please contact the following, give name and telephone numbers. Include a description of your RV and the license plate number. If you have a pet in the coach you can also indicate that.

In March, I was the FMCA Store Captain at the Pomona Rally, where I worked with Doug Uhlenbrock and Chris Lay

from the Cincinnati office. They are both professional and knowledgeable and represent FMCA in the highest standards. I was very fortunate to have the crew I did, they were outstanding, not only did they work the store, but also volunteered at other jobs, some of them as much as three different positions. I would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to each of you, you made me look good. On the last night of the rally Charley Adcock recognized the California Chapter for their 50 year anniversary. Also, the Maestros entertained us with a great tribute to the armed forces. The California Chapter will also celebrate its 50th anniversary in May at the Golden Village Palms in Hemet.

Remember to have fun.
Roy Mc Daniel Southern Area Vice President

MEMBERSHIP – CHAPTER FAIR

We haven't received any requests from the National office wanting information about chapters for some time. There is a place that people can request information about chapters on the web site and also there are little cards they can fill out and turn into the National office – then these requests are forwarded to the various chapter. They are working on the computer programs so hopefully we will be getting those requests again before long.

Some of our chapters attended the chapter fair at Pomona, there seemed to be some interest in the chapters that were there and it was good exposure. Thanks to the people who took the time to attend and display the information on their chapters.

POMONA & INDIO VOLUNTEERS

We would like to thank all of the people who volunteered at Pomona. We were short volunteers but thanks to those who attended (and some did more than their share) we were able to cover all the duties. Thanks again to all who helped.

We heard via the grape vine that some members in chapters in the Western Area didn't know that we needed volunteers – the need for volunteers was put in the Byways in the last couple of issues. Also at Indio we had sign-up sheets at the Information desk and also the FMCA information booth in the tent. Also a note was sent out to the contact person in each chapter, who had an e-mail address letting each chapter know that we needed volunteers.

On another note it is not too early to start planning for our Western Area Rally next January 6th – 10, 2016 and possibly volunteering at that time.

Bud & Alice Bernard

2016 Indio Theme

“CALL OF THE WILD”





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Need a Western Area Badge?

Anyone who is interested in a Western Motor Home Association badge please contact Alice Bernard by phone: 530-934-7346 or cell phone 530-519-7346 or e-mail: bernardfrog-farm@yahoo.com

The price of the badge is \$11.50 (Which includes your name and F number). The hangers are \$2.75 each these hangers can be for your city or your job or your chapter. You may have several hangers if you like. I will be ordering badges by the end of this month (October) and will have them for you at Indio in January.

...WANTED...

A Chapter to volunteer to help set up table and chairs at the 2016 Indio Rally Ladies Tea

(Then re-set it for nightly entertainment)

Friday Jan 8, 2016

**Please contact Lon Cross
661-886-5077**

Looking for Indio photos?

FlickR Photo Tutorial

There are several ways to get into FlickR to see many RV photos.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/12765661@N06/>

or

<http://www.wafmca.com/> (look for link to photos)

Once in FlickR Photostream, click on Sets, (Do Not use Photostream)

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/12765661@N06/sets/>

then click on the Set you wish to see. (Sample)

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/12765661@N06/sets/72157625715483763/>

Double Click on the photo you want to see or download:

(Sample)<http://www.flickr.com/photos/12765661@N06/5362080447/in/set-72157625715483763/>

Right Click on the photo—Click on All Sizes, and decide the size you want.

(Sample)<http://www.flickr.com/photos/12765661@N06/5362080447/sizes/o/in/set-72157625715483763/>

Then click on Download the Original Size

I would then click Save As, and give it a name and location to Download. (I put them in a Folder on my Desktop called "Photos" and make a new Subfolder called (?) "Indio")

Once Downloaded, you can choose to either; keep it, e-mail it, print it, or save on CD to have printed somewhere else.

**Western Motor
Home
Association
Chapters**

Alpine Coach NorCal
Alpine SoCal
The Ambassadors
Apollo Amigos
Beat the Odds
The Big E
California
California Capitals &
Bay Area Liners
California Coaches for Christ
California Coasters
California FMCA HMC
California Heartland
California Pacers
California Roamers
California Southwinders
Colorado River Ramblers
Crafty Crafters
Cruisin' Condos
Delta Sierra Coachers Club
Discovery Club Of California
Frustrated Maestros
GMC Forty Niners
GMC Pacific Cruisers
Gold Diggers
Gold Dust Travelers
Golden Gate
Golden Spike
Golden State Trackers
HMC Club
Komfort Kruisers
Midweek Wanderers
Monaco Nor' Cal
Monaco Romers
NorCalRex
Northern California FMCA Elk
Outdoor Resorts Palm Springs
Overland Trailblazers West
REXasaurus'
Rockwood West
Safari R Us
Sierra Hi Rollers
Sierra Ramblers
Southern California FMCA Elk
Southwest Country Coachers
Southwest Roamin' Catholics
Southwestern Bus Nuts
Thousand Trails West
Western Bus Nuts
Western GM Coach

Western Motor Home Association, Inc.

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Deadline for next Byway's July 13, 2015