

Volume 32, Issue 9

Western Area FMCA

Debbie Golk - Editor

Summer 2019

President's Message



The Magic in Minot was Marvelous...

Hello Everyone,

Christine and I attended the 100th FMCA convention in Minot, North Dakota, as did 251 (128 rigs) of our members from the Western Area. There

were 1,791 RVs on-site during the fun days from August 14-17. Thursday night's entertainment headliner was Captain "Sully" Sullenberger and during his address you could hear a pin drop! The movie *Miracle on the Hudson* was shown the night before and it had to be moved from the theater to the main arena because there were so many people who wanted to watch it. FMCA has been growing. 24 of the last 25 months have all been positive. We have just a little over 80,000 family members and over 5,000 towables.

Governing Board

The FMCA Governing Board met in Minot, ND, on Thursday, August 14, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. and was adjourned at 6:15 p.m. The Western Area was represented by 62% of our chapters. Following are the results of that meeting.

National Officer Election Results

President: Jon Walker (incumbent; second 2-year term)

Sr. VP: Rett Porter (incumbent; second 2-year term)
Secretary: Kathie Balogh (first 2-year term)

Treasurer: John Reynolds (incumbent; second 2-year term)

National Area VP Election Results

Rocky Mountain Area: Jamie Erickson (first 2-year term)

Northeast Area: John Traphagen (first 2-year term)

<u>Budget</u>

- A budget was presented and passed with a surplus of \$98,194.
- FMCAssist (Seven Corners) will be funded by a \$25 dues increase, effective August 29, 2019.
- A new \$285,000 software management program from Protech was voted to replace the Élan system and will be funded by a loan amortized as appropriate.

Policy and Procedure Amendments

Proposal #1: P&P #1028, Commercial Membership Fees and Dues. Proposal passed.

Proposal #2: P&P #2031, Reimbursement of Travel Costs for Individuals Traveling on Official Business. This proposal was divided. The part that restricted visitations of the Area VPs failed. The part requesting

President's Message (Con't)

legible detailed receipts passed.

Proposal #3: P&P #3006, Area Bylaws Format. Proposal passed.

Proposal #4: P&P #1024, Policy and Procedure Amendments. The text from any proposal is to be submitted by the P&P committee to the Executive Board no less than 3 days prior to the next meeting. Proposal passed.

Proposal #5: P&P #2023, Area VP's Responsibilities. The Area VP is to provide FMCA with area filing, amendments, and IRS findings within 30 days of filing. Proposal passed.

Proposal #6: P&P #2028, Campaign/Election Activities. This proposal was divided. The part that only personal email addresses can be used to send or receive campaign materials passed. The part regarding listing candidates being acceptable in area newsletters passed.

Proposal #7: P&P #3009, Chapter and Associate Chapter Application. Chapters can now be formed with 15 or more voting members. It was 20. An Associate Chapter can be formed with 7 or more voting members. It was 10. Proposal passed.

Proposal #8: P&P #3011, Chapter and Associate Chapter Operations. A chapter may assess annual dues. It was shall assess annual dues. Proposal passed.

Proposal #9: P&P #4002, Commercial Council Responsibilities. The council is to meet at each International Convention. It was three times a year. Proposal passed.

Proposal #10: P&P #4008, Nominating Committee Election and Responsibilities. This proposal was divided. The changes had to do with insuring a confidential interview process and how questions are to be asked. Proposal failed.

President's Message (Con't)

Proposal #11: The name of the P&P handbook will change to FMCA Policies and Procedures. It was Member and Volunteer Handbook. Proposal passed.

Dates to Save

Sept 23-25, 2019, WMHA Annual Governing Board meeting, Hanford, CA. (To be attended by at least one President, National Director or alternate from each WMHA chapter and all Indio Captains)

January 8-12, 2020, WMHA Area Rally, Indio, CA. (Theme is: At The Hop)

March 26-29, 2020, 101st FMCA Convention, Tucson, AZ.

July 29-Aug. 1, 2020, 102nd FMCA Convention, Syracuse, NY.

HAPPY & SAFE TRAVELS,

Im n. Chors

LON CROSS, F233066
WESTERN AREA NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
OF FMCA
WMHA PRESIDENT

Try to stay cool this summer like these guys!



Senior Vice President's Views



In my last two messages I have been boring you with stuff regarding our new house that we moved into in January, so enough of that. It has kept us very busy along with getting our old house on the market. The good news is that our old house has sold and we closed escrow last

week. During this time we had our WMHA Executive Board meeting where we put together a preliminary budget to present at the Governing Board meeting next month up in Hanford. As I mentioned in my last message, this is the first of a whole series of events for me and Debbie.

First off will be our Golden State Trackers anniversary rally in Bakersfield. From there we head up to Hanford for the WMHA Governing Board meeting. Besides budget deliberations we will have a breakout session where the regional Vice Presidents meet with their respective chapters to discuss items of interest. We will also have our Indio planning session where we meet with our Indio captains and discuss their rally needs. The end of the day will be capped off by a catered dinner. Hopefully the caterers will remember what day the dinner is this time. Hope to see all of you Governing Board members there.

After Hanford I, along with Lon, will be visiting the California Pacers at their rally in Paso Robles, where we will present them their 30-year anniversary certificate. Following this, Debbie and I will be heading to Laughlin for a Beat-The-Odds rally. This is one of our favorite rallies and we are really looking forward to it as we had to miss the February rally. From there we will be heading down to Hemet for the California Chapter's Oktoberfest rally. This is a

Senior Vice President's Views (Con't)

fun event held at a first-class venue (Golden Village Palms).

Debbie and I are really looking forward to dusting off the old motorhome and getting back on the road as all of this moving stuff has kept us too busy to enjoy the RV lifestyle. Speaking of dust, our motorhome is so dirty from spring rains and weed mowing on the property that I think our first day in Bakersfield will be an appointment with the RV wash crew. I can't wait until we get the RV parked, washed, the awning out and relax for a change.

See you all down the road. Enjoy the end of summer and be safe.

Bob Golk, F316752 WMHA Senior Vice President



Take time to smell the pretty flowers.

Northern Area Vice President's Message



Hello to all! I hope that all of you are healthy. I have had a few medical issues since Indio, but I'm hopefully on the road to recovery.

The only trip that we have taken was to the Elks in Oceano. We had a great time! We were able

to have dinner with my cousin and his wife who live in Pismo Beach. We went to a great restaurant in Pismo Beach which is on the ocean, and gave us a beautiful view of the bay as the sun set. We enjoyed an excellent meal, and afterwards walked to observe hundreds of pelicans up close. Then my cousin drove us around the Five Cities area to sight-see.

I hope to see you all in Hanford. If not, I will see you in Indio! Remember, it's all about having fun!!

Stephen M. Shade, F395353 Northern Area Vice President





Hi folks,

We have a few positions that need to be filled for the rally at Indio:

- 1. Donations Captain
- 2. Pet Extravaganza Captain

If you are interested in either of the above positions, please contact either Bob Golk at 661-599-3548, or Lon Cross at 661-886-5077. Please remember, we can't have a rally without volunteers. Thanks!

Make sure you stay hydrated!



Central Area Vice President's Message



May, and time to meet with the WMHA Board in Bakersfield at A Country RV Park, which is a very good venue. A lot was accomplished by the board including the budget.

After the board meeting, we returned home and

replenished the coach for the trip north to attend the Northwest Area Rally held in Albany, Oregon. During the trip north, we stopped overnight at the Lodi Elks Lodge. I had forgotten to switch the bypass ignition fuse, and the battery was dead in the toad. I was assisted by a Lodge member and got everything working as good as new.

The Northwest Area Rally was a good one. We enjoyed ourselves and were made to feel at home. It is always nice to renew old friendships and make new ones.

After the rally, we headed to the Elks rest area and RV park in Tillamook, Oregon. The weather is alot friendlier in Tillamook at this time of year (100+ at home). Tillamook has a great museum, a fun thing to do. We visited the Tillamook Cheese Factory and sampled the cheese (great). My favorite was the Tillamook ice cream cone.

Tillamook is a dairy county and they celebrate every year with a wonderful parade. They draw entries from all over the state. We counted 124 entries. I recommend a visit to Tillamook to catch the parade in June.

Our trip was interrupted on the 4th of July by a phone call from friends at home with news of the 6.4 earthquake in Ridgecrest. We decided to head home to check on things. We were blessed to find the only

Central Area Vice President's Message (Cont'd)

damage was things hanging on the walls were for the most part, no longer on the walls. Things are still rocking and rolling around here.

I think we will be ready to rock AT THE HOP at the Rally in Indio, January 8-12, 2020.

Be safe in your travels and remember, "It's all about having fun."

Guard Your Health.

Fred Wells, F128327 Central Area Vice President

Also, wear good sunglasses!



Southern Area Vice President's Message



"To all who shall see these presences, greetings." Or, hello to all in the Western Motor Home Association.

As the summer winds down, at least on the calendar but maybe not by the hot summer temperatures, I

realize there is something I never heard, a travel trailer or motorhome saying, "why am I not at a rally?"

With that conundrum always in the back of my mind, I read the various chapter newsletters and set out a course to visit chapters of the Southern Area. Marilyn and I have never attended a rally that wasn't fun, that didn't have great activities, and the friendliest members. But what rallies we want to visit doesn't reflect what we did this past summer.

About an hour and a half southwest of St. George, Utah, are the Bloomington Caves. A labyrinth of tunnels formed amongst an earthquake fault and overseen by the BLM. A group of young adults and I left 96 degree hot sun and descended 250 feet through darkened tunnels to ascend 3 hours later. Following a preset course, hoping the batteries of our headlamps wouldn't run out, we enjoyed the damp 60 degree atmosphere.

Next was 3 days and 2 nights rafting down the Colorado River. Pulling over to the water's edge in the evenings and sleeping under the stars, we were either bitten by flies during the day or mosquitoes by night. While the guides prepared good meals, the river was higher than normal thus not the rapids we expected of the Colorado River in Utah.

Southern Area Vice President's Message (Con't)

Our adventures finally ended in the Orderville canyons northeast of Zion. This canyon, made from water flowing over the rocks for thousands of years, resulted in a series of step-down tiers. The 13 repels, of various heights and level of difficulty, tested our strength and endurance. The drawback included a 5-mile uphill hike from the canyon bottom, to the top, to where we found our transportation.

That brings us "Back to the Future" – autumn and fall rallies, and Indio, 2020.

To refresh our memories, FMCA does allow the listing of your chapter rallies in *Family RVing*. Look under FMCA events, chapter rallies, in your current edition of *Family RVing* for procedures.

As you are reading the Byways, WMHA rally "At The Hop" will be right around the corner. What have you volunteered to help with? Is your chapter planning a float or group participation in the parade? "At The Hop" will be only as good as what we contribute. I will make a bet that if you volunteer for something that interests you, large or small, just doing it once you'll be hooked. If you'd like to volunteer just for a couple of hours, let me know.

Dave Franke, F443367 Southern Area Vice President





CHAPTER FAIR/MEMBERSHIP

Hope you are enjoying the summer and that your chapter is gaining some new members. There are a number of people joining FMCA that are in the Western Area – your membership person can contact the National Office to find out about getting names of people to contact about your chapter.

It is not too early to think about having a table at the Chapter Fair in Indio in January. Doesn't have to be anything fancy — mainly have the name of your Chapter — maybe some newsletters and/or pictures of your rallies. You also should have one or two of your members at the table to answer questions about your chapter. I still have the list of chapters with information and a contact person that I send to people who are interested in finding a chapter. Please keep me advised about your contact person so I can keep my

information current.

As a number of you know, I have done membership/chapter fair for a number of years and am not quite ready to give it up yet, but if there is someone out there that might be interested in doing this, please contact me and I can give you all the information. The Membership person is an appointed position (President of Western Area appoints this person). When I became the Membership person I told the President at that time it seemed appropriate that the person who does membership would be the person to do Chapter Fair. It does not take a lot of time for either of these jobs and is a good way to get to know the different chapters in our Western Area. I have the job requirements written down as a guide for both jobs, but of course changes can be made. I would like to have someone think about doing this before I stop, so if they would like some assistance I could help them (only if my help is wanted).

Alice Bernard, F079098

Membership, Volunteer Coordinator
Chapter Fair Captain

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 email: bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com.

The price of the badge is \$11.50 (Which includes your name and F number). The hangers are \$2.75 each. The hangers can be for your city or your job or your chapter. You may have several hangers if you like.

Take time to enjoy a little treat every now and then





Looking for Western area 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.

CHAPTER RECRUITMENT BENEFIT

• LET FMCA ASSIST YOUR CHAPTER •

Each chapter is entitled up to \$125 in recruitment funds from FMCA per year. There are three options to choose from (Brochures, Mailings, and Advertising). You can do only one of the three options per year.

Contact your Regional VP for COMPLETE details...

...START PLANNING NOW...

January 8-12, 2020 Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival • Indio, California

32nd Annual Western Area

materials must be returned to the FMCA home office. No refunds after January 8, 2020. Registrations after December 23, 2019, will be held at Will Call,

HIGHLIGHTS: 4 Nights of Camping • 3 Nights of Entertainment • 2 Ice Cream Socials • Parade Ladies' Sock Hop Lunch - \$10 • 1st Time Attendee Orientation • Bingo • Pet Extravaganza Pickleball • Commercial Exhibits • New/Used Display RVs • Chapter Fair • Seminars & Crafts Door Prizes . The Frustrated Maestros . Coffee & Goodies Served Each Morning

GENERAL INFORMATION: Early Arrival Area opens Sunday, Jan. 5 (Fee Payable On-site)
Bus Tour: Palm Springs Windmills - Jan. 8 (Tour Departs Gate 5 at 11:45 am). EXHIBIT HOURS: Display RVs Open Wed., Jan. 8, 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm / Commercial Exhibits Open Thur. - Sat. 9:00 am - 4:00 pm • PRIVATE GOLF CART RENTAL AVAILABLE: Call GTI for reservations, Mindy Hawkins 800-477-0467 • DIRECTIONS: I-10 to Monroe. Monroe south 3 miles to 48th. Left ½ mile to Arabia Street. Left on Arabia to the arrival area on the right.

Western Area Rally Regi	stration	Form	Perm	anent change	es to membersh	ip files cannot be n	nade from this fo	orm.
Member Number: Last Name:			Pilot:			Co-Pilot:		
Address			City:			State/Province;	Zip/Postal Code:	
E-mail: Teleph			one:			Cell Phone:		
RV Make:	License: RV L		RV Length:	O First Time at a Western Area Rally				
1. Guest/Child's Name/Age:						O Hold Confirmation Packet at Will Call		
2. Guest/Child's Name/Age:							○ Yes ○ N	lo
	Pre-Reg	On-Site	Qty.	Total	Parking	Parking Information		
RV with 2 Adults - Dry Camping	\$ 185.00	\$ 195.00		\$		Electric Parking – 25-30 amps		
RV with 1 Adult – Dry Camping	\$165.00	\$ 175.00		\$		Generator Parking – 7:00 am - 10:00 pm Disabled Parking – Reserved for those		
Additional Fee for 25-30 Amp Electric	\$150.00	\$ 160.00		\$		with proof of qualifying medical needs. State-issued placard must be visible. • Early-Arrival Fee — \$25 per night payable on-site, cash or check only		
RV with 2 Adults – 24-Hour Generator	\$185.00	\$ 195.00		\$				
Each Additional Occupant	\$ 50.00	\$ 60.00		\$	Payme	Payment Information		
Passport ¹ for 1 Adult	\$ 70.00	\$ 80.00		\$	CREDI	CREDIT CARD		
Children Under 13	FREE	FREE		FREE	0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000	Place your credit card registrations by: Phone: (800) 543-3622 • (513) 474-3622 CHECK Make checks payable in U.S. funds to FMC, Inc. Mail to: FMCA / Attention: Western Area Rally 8291 Clough Pike		
Ladies' Sock Hop Lunch	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00		\$	(4,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5			
Palm Springs Windmill Tour 2 – Jan. 8	\$ 57.00	\$ 57.00		\$	2000			
Day Passes Avail. Thurs., Fri., & Sat. \$15/day/person	On-Site	On-Site		On-Site				
 No RV parking; includes exhibits, entertainment, seminars, socials, and Coffee Hour. Requires early arrival (\$25). Tour length 3½ Hrs. No Lunch. Tour departs at gate 5 at 11:45 am 		TOTAL \$		\$	Would	Cincinnati, OH 45244 Would you like to Volunteer?		
Rally Contacts						s. If interested, plea	se contact	
WMHA President/Rally Master – Lon Cross Seminars & Crafts – Gary Mann (661) 886-5077 • Icross@fmca.com (562) 217-5634 • indiosems@gmail.com						Alice Bernard (below) Volunteers – Alice Bernard (530) 519-7346 • bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com		
WMHA Sr. VP/Co-Rally Master – Bob Golk (661) 599-3548 • rgolk@outlook.com Display RVs – Paul Bostwick (714) 240-8105 • cabpb@earthlink.net								
Parking Chief - Rod Kenly Commercial Exhib (760) 608-2791 • rod.kenly@gmail.com (714) 964-3731 • (14) 745-7002			ation Policy		
Groups & Caravans – James McDaniels (925) 818-7718 • jmcdan2296@sbcglobal.net		(714) 964-3731 • (714) 745-7092 IndioVendors@gmail.com Volunteers – Alice Bernard (530) 519-7346 • bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com				A \$25.00 processing fee applies to all cancellations. Refunds will be given only upon written request if received by January 8, 2020 (no refunds for electric after December 1, 2019). Badges and confirmation		

Sponsored by the Western Motor Home Association

Western Motor Home Association Chapters

Alpine Coach NorCal Alpine SoCal The Ambassadors 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 Camping Squares Colorado River Ramblers **Crafty Crafters** Cruisin' Condos Discovery Club Of California Dolphins, The Frustrated Maestros GMC Forty Niners **GMC Pacific Cruisers Gold Diggers Gold Dust Travelers** Golden Spike Golden State Trackers Komfort Kruisers Midweek Wanderers Monaco NorCal Monaco Romers NorCalRex Northern California FMCA Elk **Outdoor Resorts Palm Springs** Overland Trailblazers West Rexasaurus' Roamin' Catholics Southwest **Rockwood West** Safari of Southern California Safari R Us Sierra Hi Rollers Sierra Ramblers Southern California FMCA Elk Southwestern Bus Nuts Thousand Trails West Valley Cruisers Western Bus Nuts

Western GM Coach

Western Motor Home Association, Inc.

Executive Board 2019

<u>President</u>

Lon Cross F233066 Cell 661-886-5077

e-mail: lcross@fmca.com

Senior VP

Robert Golk F316752 Cell 661-599-3548

e-mail: rgolk@outlook.com

VP Northern Area

Steve Shade F395353 Cell 925-337-0633

e-mail: 67jeep.ss@gmail.com

VP Central Area

Fred Wells F128327 Cell 760-384-8338

e-mail: <u>frdcwells@aol.com</u>

VP Southern Area

David Franke F443367 Cell 909-973-1051

e-mail: dfranke928@msn.com

Secretary

Carole Hazeltine F376336 Cell 916-838-7200

e-mail: dickhazeltine@yahoo.com

<u>Treasurer</u>

Kurt Simon F166058 Cell 530-305-0265

e-mail: kurtsimon@gmail.com

<u>Immediate Past President</u>

Dick Gibbs F278983 Cell 661-203-9180

e-mail: dickgibbs349@gmail.com

APPOINTED OFFICES 2019

Membership

Alice Bernard F79098 Tel. 530-934-7346

Cell 530-519-7346

e-mail: bernardfrogfarm@yahoo.com

Bylaws Chairman

Phil Griffin F128165 Tel. 818-346-9869

Cell 818-406-4619

e-mail: griffip@earthlink.net

Western Byways Editor

Debbie Golk F316752 Cell 661-599-0865

e-mail: dgolk56@gmail.com

Webmaster

Warren James F352839 Tel. 925-212-4450

e-mail: wajames@pacbell.net