

California Heartland News



ORANGE GROVE RALLY

December 7-10, 2021

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December 2021
Volume 1, Issue 6

Well here we are wrapping up another year; another Covid year but some progress is being made on that front. More than 75% of the population has been vaccinated with at least one dose. The second shot and the final booster is making major progress as well. Now we are facing a new variant as the Omicron makes it way rapidly across the US. It's like taking two steps forward and one back. Never-the-less, we will continue to use our RVs and have rallies as we can. There may be issues ahead on the use of clubhouses that will depend on the local health officials spot regulations.

Although the turnout for the rally in Bakersfield produced the lack of a quorum for an official Board and general meeting, we still had an informal discussion group. Bob and Debbie Golk are not only members of California Heartland but Bob is president of WMHA and Western Area VP for FMCA. We discussed informally many of the issues forcing the cancellation of the Indio Rally in 2022. Whether these can be worked out in time for January, 2023 remains uncertain. On the bright side, membership in FMCA has increased to 75,529 which includes 7,231 towable units. Much of the increase in membership has been fueled by the reduction of dues to former levels. Registrations for the **FMCA International Rally in Tucson** are coming in nicely at about 1,300 rigs so far with a strong showing of 24% or more from the western region.

There are many jobs available for **volunteers in Tucson**. One critical area to fill at this time are Captains for various events. After some gentle prodding by Bob, it was agreed that I, **Dave Mendonca will be the Coffee & Donuts Captain and that Heartland will be volunteers**. Things are much different at Tucson than Indio. The coffee and donuts will be delivered to the serving area by the restaurant near by. Servings will be 8-9 am Thursday, Friday, Saturday and we need to be on station about 7:00 am. There will be perks for Coffee/Donut volunteers. We will be parking together close to serving. It is possible that 30 amp electric is all sold out now but we volunteers will have it (of course we have to pay for it.) I will be sending out an Email on this but if you are coming to Tucson, please be a volunteer for California Heartland and so state that on your registration form.

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Officers & Directors

- President Dave Mendonca
- Vice President Mike Davidson
- Secretary Sam Mendonca
- Treasurer Cindy Murray
- Nat'l Director Julie Burger
- Asst. Nat'l Dir Pat Parkins
- Director Ron Reimer
- Director Linda Kozachenko
- Director Elvin Kozachenko
- Wagon Master Open
- Membership Sam Mendonca
- News Letter Dave Mendonca



Presidents' Corner
"The Best is yet to come "



Get connected, stay informed, be involved:



Facebook is a great way to stay in the know, share information, and see pictures of our events. **Follow us at** www.facebook.com/californiaheartland

Flickr is where you will find all the event pictures taken, We currently have over 5,800 pictures indexed over 21 Rallies.. Once inside the site, click on the Albums tab.. **Go to** www.flickr.com/photos/caheartland

Western Motor Home Association WMHA Family Western Motor Home Association of FMCA is located at <http://wafmca.com/?> **This website takes you deep inside the 50 chapters represented by the Western Association of FMCA. Check out the newsletters and websites of the chapters. Here's where you can find tons of pictures and histories of past Indio Rallies.**

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Recruit New Members to California Heartland RV

One of the best ways to advertise is by word of mouth. We can use the above links to promote our chapter. Additional copies of this newsletter are available on request by Email or hard copy. See Membership information and blank membership application following on pages 3 and 4 download and print

CALIFORNIA HEARTLAND FMCA			TENTATIVE		RALLY SCHEDULE 2021-2022			
Date	Year	City	Venue		Trail Boss			
Nov 10-13	2021	Hanford, CA	Hanford Fairgrounds		Mendonca / Davidsons			
Dec 7-10	2021	Bakersfield, CA	Orange Grove RV Park		Burger, Peggy & Pat			
Jan	2022	Indio, CA	Cancelled for 2022		WMHA Western Region unsure of 2023			
Feb	2022	Dark						
Mar 8-11	2022	Hollister, CA	Casa de Fruta RV Park		Murrays Rally has been booked			
Mar 23-26	2022	Tucson, AZ	Pima County Fairgrounds		FMCA National convention unsure of number of rigs			
Apr	2022	Hemet, CA	Golden Village Palms RV		Depending on interest . Ramona outdoor theater			
May 24-27	2022	Tuolumne, CA	Black Oak Casino & RV		Wilsons Rally has been booked			
Jun	2022	Open						
Jul	2022	Dark						
Aug	2022	Dark						
Sep	2022	Open						
Oct	2022	Albuquerque, NM			Davidsons ?????		Depends on interest & Availability	
Nov	2022	Hanford, CA			Mendonca			
Dec	2022	Bakersfield or Pismo						
Possibly: October, 2022 Albuquerque, NM for the Balloon Festival or Perhaps Seaside Highland Games in Oxnard, CA...will discuss later								
	Call Louise Wilson with comments or concerns (661) 706-3686 Cell (L)							
	Please sign-up for Rally Trail Boss. Call if you want to boss at a particular venue or date. We will book it for you							



California Heartland Chapter

Family Motor Coach Association (FMCA)

California Heartland is a chapter of Family Motor Coach Association (FMCA). We agree to abide by the provisions of F.M.C.A. Inc.'s Code of Ethics in order to build and maintain our good public image.

Our club holds rallies approximately 9 months of the year, February, July and August being dark. Most of the rallies are held in central California, encompassing the mountains and coastal areas. Occasionally there are exceptions, and we travel to other areas and also out-of-state. Rallies are for the purposes of encouraging travel, sharing experiences, meeting new people, and enjoying life. Our membership includes those who hail from other states as well.

Each rally has an in-charge Trail Bosses, members who volunteered to make all arrangements and act as hosts for that particular event. A continental style breakfast is served each morning; there are usually two planned dinners, and various activities.

We publish a newsletter which is mailed to all members each month. It includes news of the previous month's rally, stories about member's adventures, general information, and a registration form for the next event.

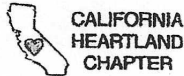
California Heartland welcomes guests. You may attend two (2) rallies as a guest. A third one would require membership status. Our rallies are listed in the F.M.C.A. magazines calendar of events. Please note that an additional requirement to join the California Heartland Chapter is membership with the Family MotorCoach Association. (F.M.C.A.)

Enclosed is a California Heartland membership application for your convenience. If you have questions, please contact me at (209) 602-3595

Yours Truly,

Shirley A. Mendonca (SAM)
Membership Chairperson
1332 No. Central Ave.
Modesto, CA 95351
Cell: (209) 602-3595
Emails: Shirleym6951@sbcglobal.net

We invite you to visit our Facebook page- @ <https://www.facebook.com/Californiaheartland/>



California Heartland Chapter F.M.C.A.

Membership Application

Applicants must be a member of Family Motor Coach Association, or must have applied for, or be applying for membership simultaneously with this application to be eligible for membership in the California Heartland Chapter of the F.M.C.A..

Name _____ Name _____

Birthday (MM/DD) _____ Birthday (MM/DD) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

(Place on membership roster? Yes ___ No ___)

F.M.C.A. # _____ Coach Brand/Model _____ Length _____

(Required)

We agree to abide by the provisions of F.M.C.A. Inc.'s Code of Ethics in order to build and maintain our good public image.

Membership dues are from January through December. One year's membership is \$12.00 and will be prorated from the date of application. Chapter badges are required and must be worn at all club rallies.

Membership- \$1.00/month x _____ months \$ _____

Chapter Badge \$9.00 x _____ \$ _____

Total- \$ _____

Names to be printed on badge(s) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Make checks payable to California Heartland F.M.C.A. and return application to:

Shirley Mendonca
1332 No. Central Ave.
Modesto, CA 95351

Office use only: Membership List _____
Sec. _____
Badges _____
Flag _____
Window Plaque _____

Julie and Peggy did a fantastic job putting on our Christmas Rally at the Orange Grove RV Park in Bakersfield. They got in early, and with Velda's help, did an amazing job decorating the club house in a festive Christmas theme with two Christmas trees. It was so fun to meet up with everyone and catch up on who had been traveling where. Sounded like the Shinn's and the Gee's have been putting some miles on and enjoying life, and the Golk's have been attending several rallies with the different groups they belong to.

Julie and Peggy made a change in the meal lineup, which made me very happy. Because several people were not able to make the rally, they decided to do the turkey dinner Tuesday night instead of Thursday. They knew there was going to be a lot of leftovers, and this meant we would be able to eat turkey sandwiches for lunch. My household did not do a turkey for Thanksgivings, so I was looking forward to a good turkey sandwich with stuffing and cranberries.

The Christmas dinner was excellent. Peggy did up a 22 lb. Turkey, and they served it with all the fixings. We gave it our best shot, but only put a small dent in it. But somehow we managed to save room dessert, coconut cream and chocolate cream pies. Woody and Louise joined us for dinner and we enjoyed catching up with them. The wood stove kept the clubhouse toasty warm as we visited late into the evening.

Breakfast the following morning was prepared by the ladies. They served a delicious Egg Casserole, with Biscuits and Gravy. And guess what, we had coffee!!!! An impromptu meeting was held and Bob filled us in on what was happening with FMCA. I think Sam will report on what was said, but it looks like attendance for the Tucson Rally will be good.

Did I mention turkey sandwiches? Even though we were stuffed, several of us managed to enjoy one. Some spent the afternoon shopping while others enjoyed some game time. Peggy, Julie, Melanie, and I got into a serious Aggravation Tournament. Dinner was a traditional Tamale meal, followed by a trip to the CALM Holiday Light Show. The light show was a drive through event this year. I must admit I was not too excited about going, but I tell you it was fantastic. I was glad we did it. It is just amazing to see the set up they had this year, and we saw it from the comfort of our vehicle.

After the light show we returned to the club house for drinks and deserts. We did a gift exchange with a bit of a twist. We all sat around the table with our gifts as Julie read a Christmas story. Every time the words left, right, or across, were used in the story, we had to pass our gifts in that direction. At the conclusion of the story, we opened the gift we ended up with. Not only was this funny, but it was also a workout. Everyone seemed happy with the gift they received.

The guys cooked breakfast Thursday morning. We did Bacon and Eggs, with Pancakes. I must admit, the guys did a fantastic job. We received some much needed rain that day, which may have convinced some of us to relax, or even take a nap. Julia fixed a fantastic dinner meal of Chicken Cordon Bleu, Rice Pilaf, and Asparagus Spears.

After dinner the winner of the Coach Decoration Contest was announced. David and Alicia Shinn won that honor with their beautiful display of lit trees on a snow-covered dash. They took home a very cute Christmas Decoration for their effort. Because there was much food left over, Julie decided to sell raffle tickets and allow the winners to pick anything they wanted. The group was rolling with laughter as people collected their winnings of tomatoes or half a loaf of white bread. I am pretty sure we will read of this craziness in the next Western Area Byways Newsletter. We finished off the evening with an "F" Number drawing for the table decorations.

This Rally may have small in numbers, but it was big in fun. It was so good to see everyone laughing and having a good time. The next Rally is scheduled for March 8-11 at Casa De Fruita RV Park. Mark those calendars now and plan on joining in on the fun.

This just in by the editor: We may have an issue concerning the lack of an inside Clubhouse at Casa de Fruta that is Covid related...more details coming.



CALIFORNIA HEARTLAND CHAPTER – FMCA

Treasure's Report November 30, 2021

Beginning Balance	Checkbook Balance as of October 31, 2021	\$5,082.76
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Monies Received

11/13/2021	Dues	Membership Dues	120.00	
11/10/2021	Rally	Hanford Rally	4072.00	
11/29/2021	Donation	Pat Murch	100.00	
	Total Received		\$4292.00	\$4292.00

Disbursement

11/01/2021	#3113 Dave Mendonca	Hanford Rally Advance	500.00	
11/12/2021	#3140	Kings Fair Grounds	1790.00	
11/12/2021	#3141 Michael Davidson,	(Hanford Rally-Food)	212.65	
11/13/2021	(Cash)	Rally Entertainment and Prize	220.00	
11/13/2021	(Cash)	Dave Mendonca Rally Expense	60.00	
11/22/2021	#3142 Louise Wilson	(Wilson Rally)	300.00	
	Total Expenses		\$3082.65	(\$30882.65)

Deposited

11/20/2021	Rally	\$3941.00	
11/29/2021	Donation-Pat Murch	100.00	
	Checkbook Balance		\$6621.11
	Bank Statement		\$6621.11

Hanford Rally Financial Report

November 10-14, 2021

By: Cindy Murray
Treasurer**Income:**

Rally Money Collected	\$3641
50/50 Raffle	\$ 155
Mini Raffle	\$ 276
Total Received:	\$4072.00

Expenses:

Kings Fair Grounds	\$1790.00
Food	\$ 729.42
Decorations	\$ 27.09
Prize (Best costume)	\$ 20.00
Entertainment	\$ 200.00
Misc. expenses	\$ 16.14

Total Expenses:	\$2782.65
Rally Profit/Loss	+\$1289.35

CALIFORNIA HEARTLAND CHAPTER – FMCA

Treasure's Report December 16, 2021

By: Cindy Murray
Treasurer

Beginning Balance Checkbook Balance as of November 30,2021 \$6621.11

Monies Received

12/13/2021	Dues	Membership Dues	\$36
12/13/2021	Rally	Orange Grove Rally	\$1788
Total Received			\$1824.00

Disbursement

*12/10/2021	#3143 Orange Grove RV	\$450
12/10/2021	#3144 Julie Burger (Food and Decorations)	\$480.39
*12/13/2021	#3112 Orange Grove RV Deposit	\$750
Total Expenses		\$1680.39

Deposited

12/13/2021	Rally and dues	\$1800
12/13/2021	Dues	\$ 24
Total Deposits		\$1824
Checkbook Balance		\$6764.72
Available Bank Statement		\$7964.72

*Checks #3112 and #3143 to Orange Grove RV have not cleared bank (\$1200).

Orange Grove Rally Financial Report

December 7-11, 2021

Income:

Rally Money Collected	\$1690
Raffle	\$ 98

Total Received: **\$1788**

Expenses:

Orange Grove RV	\$1200
Food	\$ 407.77
Decorations	\$ 72.62

Total Expenses: **\$1680.39**

Rally Profit/Loss **+107.61**



Bad Santa



The group left to right: Debbie Golk, Velda Johnston, Julie Burger, Melanie Freeman, Bob Golk, Peggy Gruber, Sam Mendonca, Allica Shinn, David Shinn, Dave Mendonca. Not pictured, Mike Davidson the photographer, Glen & Beverly Gee had to leave early , Woody & Louise Wilson came for dinner .



Velda and her Son



Melanie dresses up our graffiti



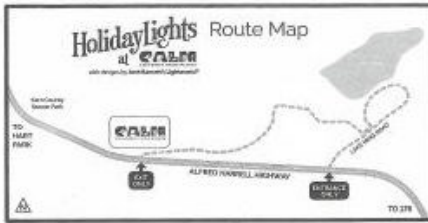
Thank You to our Visitors!

At Nearly 39 Years Old, CALM Continues To Grow & Thrive!

Next year CALM will celebrate 39 years of serving Kern County. CALM is consistently voted as Best Family Attraction/Entertainment Place and HolidayLights is in the running for the third year in a row as one of USA Today's top 10 light shows in the nation! Your support allows CALM to continue to grow. Stay tuned for big news about our new veterinary clinic in partnership with the Oiled Wildlife Care Network!

Your attendance at HolidayLights is an investment in CALM!

Tune to 87.9 FM to hear Mento Buru's album "East Bakersfield Christmas" and other holiday favorites.



CALM Master Plan

The CALM Foundation is in the middle of a master planning effort with world-renowned zoo experts C&A Designs to develop a master plan that will guide CALM's growth over the next 20 years. The plan will incorporate the latest industry standards and innovations with CALM's unique educational mission.

Western Town at the Central California Children's Railroad

The Central California Children's Railroad (CCCCR) volunteers have made amazing progress on the new western town—a welcome addition to the railroad experience. The town has been running on weekends and during school field trips. Volunteers are also building a new water wheel that will delight generations to come. Thank you CCCR volunteers!

Wildlife Rehabilitation

The CALM Wildlife Rehabilitation Center is the only major wildlife rehabilitation facility in the southern San Joaquin Valley caring for injured and orphaned California native wildlife. We work closely with US and CA Departments of Fish and Wildlife and the Endangered Species Recovery Program to rehabilitate and release native species. CALM rehabilitated nearly 100 animals last year. Stay tuned for our next major project to come. All!





