



The International Traveler



A newsletter for the chapters and members of the International Area of the Family Motor Coach Association

December 2017

INTO.FMCA.com

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Greetings to my FMCA friends:

Patsy and I left our home near Dallas, Texas, at the end of September. We headed for Goshen, Indiana, for the Thor Diesel Club Chapter rally. It was so nice for them to allow us to come. One of the first questions that I get is "are you spying on us?" Nothing is further from the truth. I spoke to a lot of people and everyone made us feel at home. Jack Arnold and his wife,

Karen, and Nancy Jarossy and her husband, Jay, parked next to us and always included us in the events. We had a wonderful time. Thank You.

After leaving Goshen, we headed to Elkhart, Indiana, for the Executive Board meeting. What a change from going to FMCA headquarters in Cincinnati; the meeting was held at the RV/MH Museum and Hall of Fame. If you have not visited the RV/MH Hall of Fame facility, by all means make an effort to do so. It is a tribute to the history of RVing. FMCA has upgraded our very impressive promotion booth in the museum. We now have a 72-inch-screen TV there that can be controlled by our IT department in Cincinnati. On Saturday night, we attended a banquet recognizing Past Presidents of FMCA. Past Presidents attending were: Charlie Adcock, L311374; Charlie Atkinson, L10327; Jim Ballentine, L8780; Judy Czarsty, L79148; Don Moore, L154921; and Charlie Schrenkel, L140050. Another highlight of the evening was Jean Pryor, a past Area Vice President, sharing lots of great memories. It was a very enjoyable evening. Sadly, Jean passed away the weekend of December 2, 2017. She will be greatly missed.

The Membership/Member Services Committee and headquarters did a lot of work to enable all members to purchase a discounted Verizon jetpack to receive the internet. There have been some challenges with Verizon, but they have added a team to answer our questions. We will change our coach plate vendor (goose egg) in March. The new company is Custom Molded Products (CMP). Switching to CMP will result in significant savings to FMCA. The FMCA-discounted mail forwarding has changed from Dakota Post to Your Best Address. I tried to keep them both, but the board felt differently. We no longer have a trip-routing plan. The Executive Board voted to terminate our agreement with Spatial Data Sciences, Inc. and not to seek a replacement at this time. However, our roadside assistance plan has a similar service if you have an FMCA Roadside Rescue policy.

The International Traveler continued . . .

I am sure a lot of you know that we have a campground on Round Bottom Road near headquarters in Cincinnati. It has 50-amp full hookups, and as a member you can stay for two nights free every month and \$20.00 per night for an additional five nights. You can check on availability by calling 513-474-3622 or 800-543-3622. Early next year, there will be a reservation system online. Once the reservation system is implemented, you must have reservations in order to stay at the campground.

We also talked about convention locations. I know that I get a lot of questions about new locations. Our Convention Committee works very hard on your requests. Hopefully, we can come up with some new sites.

The results are in for the recent vote of the membership, and towable owners are now allowed to join FMCA. There will be a lot of advertising to encourage everyone to join, including email blasts.

Patsy and I will be leaving home at the end of December and heading for Yuma, AZ, to stay warm and get ready for the INTO rally in Tucson, AZ. For those of you who have registered, we are working very hard so that you will enjoy yourselves. We are full with over 400 coaches signed up.

This letter includes a list of the 2018 INTO Chapter Anniversaries. Some are getting a certificate and some are getting a check. Please contact your INTO Vice President for your chapter, or me, and let us know if you are going to have an Anniversary rally where we can possibly present your certificate. Some Chapters receive them at the International Conventions. This is an important day, so please let us know.

All Chapter Officers: This newsletter only goes to you. Please forward it to your chapter members, and include it on your chapter website. As always, don't forget to encourage RV owners to join FMCA.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Patsy and I would like to wish y'all, a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year!

See you down the road,



David Kessler
President,
International Area Organization (INTO) of FMCA

CHAPTER FAIR

FMCA is holding a Chapter Fair during the convention in Perry, Georgia, in an attempt to encourage non-chapter member convention attendees to join existing chapters. All 387 chapters are invited to come and show their chapter's personality. They will be decorating their allotted table space any way they choose.

We will also be contacting the non-chapter members who have pre-registered for the Perry, Georgia, convention to encourage their attendance. Note that the Chapter Fair will follow the First-Time Attendee seminar.

We would like you to help us encourage the chapters in your area to participate. If you are planning to attend the convention, it would be great if you could be on hand to greet and help guide these members to a chapter that might be of interest to them.

The Chapter Fair will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14, at the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter.

INTO NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee for INTO (International Area Organization) is seeking candidates for INTO Executive Board officers consisting of a Senior Vice President, four (4) Vice Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. Watch for detailed information regarding nominations for these positions coming soon.

INTO PRESIDENT ELECTION

In January, FMCA's National Office will be sending out a request for nominations for the position of International Area National Vice President. The national directors representing the International Area chapters may nominate and elect by mail ballot a member to represent the International Area on FMCA's Executive Board. The ballots will be mailed in April 2018, and the results will be announced in May 2018. The successful candidate will take office in July 2018 and serve a two-year term.

2018 INTO CHAPTER ANNIVERSARIES

JANUARY

20 Year Anniversary (Letter and Certificate)

Royale Coach Club (1/22/2018)

FEBRUARY

25 Year Anniversary (Letter, Certificate, and \$100 check)

Past National Officers (2/28/2018)

Roadtrek International (2/26/2018)

MARCH

5 Year Anniversary (Letter and Certificate)

Tour Connections (3/22/2018)

20 Year Anniversary (Letter and Certificate)

Newmar International of FMCA (3/2/2018)

30 Year Anniversary (Letter, Certificate, and \$150 Check)

GMC Western States (3/29/2018)

Safari International (3/27/2018)

APRIL

30 Year Anniversary (Letter, Certificate, and \$150 Check)

Marathon Coach Club International (4/4/2018)

MAY

15 Year Anniversary (Letter and Certificate)

Alfaseeyas (5/29/2018)

JUNE

5 Year Anniversary (Letter and Certificate)

FMCA Generations (6/21/2018)

JULY

40 Year Anniversary (Letter, Certificate, and \$250 Check)

3 T's (7/25/2018)

S.O.I. Motorhome Club (7/25/2018)

AUGUST

5 Year Anniversary (Letter and Certificate)

Entegra Coach Owners Association (8/30/2018)

20 Year Anniversary (Letter and Certificate)

FMCA Chapter: Habitat for Humanity® (8/18/2018)

SEPTEMBER

15 Year Anniversary (Letter and Certificate)

Bus N USA (9/1/2018)

25 Year Anniversary (Letter, Certificate, and \$100 check)

American Coach Chapter of FMCA (9/28/2018)

35 Year Anniversary (Letter, Certificate, and \$200 Check)

Beaver Ambassador Club (9/24/2018)