

CAMPING TODAY®

February 2011



Fort Sumter as it looks today!
Be sure to see when you visit Charleston, SC
Learn more about Charleston points of interest on page 22

Commercial Member Campgrounds - page 5
FCRV Golf Week Information - page 6
Wildlife Grants, etc. Information - page 16
Youth "Camping Is" Information - page 29

FCRV Corporate Sponsor & Exclusive Insurance Provider

[American National Property & Casualty Co.](http://www.american-national.com)

*We Take A Personal Interest –
Protecting What RV'ers Value Most*



FAMILY OF COMPANIES

www.anpac-insurance.com

When you choose TravelStar From ANPAC for your RV insurance protection, you can *relax and enjoy your trip, experience the great outdoors, reconnect with family and friends, create miles of memories.*

Call Toll Free 1-877-RV-ANPAC (782-6711)

Let an American National agent explain the *benefits of:*

- *personal attention from an industry expert*
- *hassle-free, 24/7 claims response*
- *convenient payment options*
- *money-saving discounts*
- *customized coverages*



Visit the American National Booth at the National Campvention in Ladson, SC, July 8-15.

Products and services may not be available in all states, and eligibility requirements will apply. Property and casualty insurance is issued by one of these members of the American National family of companies: American National Property And Casualty Company (ANPAC¹⁰), Springfield, MO; American National General Insurance Company, Pacific Property And Casualty Company (California); American National Lloyds Insurance Company (Texas); American National County Mutual Insurance Company (serviced by ANPAC-Texas); ANPAC Louisiana Insurance Company (Louisiana); Farm Family Casualty Insurance Company, Glenmont, NY (CT, DE, MA, ME, NJ, NY, RI, VA, VT, WT); and United Farm Family Insurance Company, Glenmont, NY (MD, PA).

CONTENTS

How Do Full Time RVers Handle Health Care and Medical Issues	8
How to handle health care and medical issues on the road	
Woodall's Announces Top-Rated RV Parks and Campgrounds	8
See if your favorite campground made the list.	
RVIA Louisville Trade Show Highlights	14
See how the RV industry is doing and what is predicted for 2011.	
Hank Nathan 20th Reunion Set	32
Find out all of the info so you don't miss the 20th reunion.	

DEPARTMENTS

From the President	4	Retiree Rally	19
Letters to the Editor	7	Campvention	26
Chapter/Provincial News	10	Dates to Remember	34
Commercial	17	Coming in March	34

NATIONAL OFFICERS

President: Jack Smye
 1st Vice President: Bob Price
 2nd Vice President: Dave Ludwig
 Comptroller: Jan Cushing

Recording Officer: Sandy Kendall
 Corresponding Secretary: Sue Carlsen
 Past President: Eldon Sellers
 National Director: Shari Weber



Connect with us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/FamilyCampersRVers
 Join in the Discussion Boards



FROM THE PRESIDENT - Jack Smye



One of the most difficult tasks a Family Campers and RVers National President has to do is to write the monthly article. As I approach 6 months into my second term (I've written about 25 articles with each one being between 800 and 1000 words) fresh ideas and themes

become harder to generate. I know how preachers feel having to create fresh sermons week in and week out or novelists who hit the writer's block. It is not so much that there isn't lots of camping material to write about what with chapter activities, state/provincial campouts, regional and national rallies, personal trips and so on. One could probably fill several pages with this kind of information. What I wrestle with constantly, as President, is what "message" am I suppose to convey in my article or what message do I want to convey in my article? Am I to be the cheer leader? "Keep a stiff upper lip". Or a realist? "We need to keep pushing membership" Or, a teacher or coach? "Family Campers and RVers are the friendliest people in the world and our actions need to reflect this"

Sometimes, themes just jump out. Other times, such as now, it's tough to find a theme and to stay positive.

I'm writing this article on January 12th, the first anniversary of the Haitian earthquake-with little progress in rebuilding of infrastructure being reported- and just several days after the senseless tragedy in Tucson. Weather around the world has literally been crazy this year with severe flooding, record cold (in places that aren't normally cold), blizzards, stranded motorists, and airline passengers, ad infinitum. At times like this when my mood is gloomy (and the world is probably not much better) it almost seems trite to write about camping, good times, the great outdoors and all the positive things that camping can and does create. However, it is exactly times like this that I need to remind myself and hopefully you'll

agree, that the very existence of our organization helps sustain us through troubles and disappointments. The "family and fellowship" aspect of our organization cannot be underestimated in its ability to help us feel united and supportive of one another. I'm going to close, until I'm not so grumpy, with a reminder to all of us of our mission statement and our FCRV prayer.

"To share with all campers/RVers, the FCRV fun, friendship, fellowship and family feelings of camping together and to promote and enhance the experience and enjoyment of recreational family type camping/rving."

"O God, who has so wonderfully made FCRV and set families in it to see their duty as Thy will, teach us to live together in love and joy and peace; to check all bitterness; to disown discouragement; to practice thanksgiving; and to leap with joy to any task for others.

Strengthen the good thing thus begun; that with gallant and high-hearted happiness, we may work thy Kingdom in the will of families. Guide us in our daily thoughts and our appreciation of the great outdoors."

Amen

Until next time,
Jack

Mark Your Calendar

**March 22 - 27, 2011 -
2011 Retiree Rally, Canton, TX**

**July 8 - 15, 2011 -
2011 Campvention, Ladson, SC**

Happy Valentine's Day

2011 Commercial Membership Campgrounds

By Paul & Pat Parsley
Commercial Directors

The campgrounds listed below support FCRV financially and provide a 10% discount to members. Check them out when having a Chapter campout or traveling. It's a great way to publicize FCRV and support the Commercial Campgrounds that support our organization.

Amelia Family Campground
9650 Military Road
Amelia, VA 23002
(804) 561-3011
www.ameliafamilycampgrounds.com

Lamar Sportsman's Campground
5385 US Hwy 50
Lamar, CO 81052
(719) 336-3623
www.lamarrv.com

Arrowhead Point Camping Resort
33975 US Hwy 24 N
Buena Vista, CO 81211
(719) 395-2323
www.arrowheadpointresort.com

Meadow Vale Campground
505 Gilbert Lake Road
Mt. Vision, NY 13810
(607) 293-8802
www.meadow-vale.com

Boone KOA
123 Harmony Mtn. Lane
Boone, NC 28607
(828) 264-7250
www.koa.com/campgrounds/boone

Mohican Reservation
23270 Wally Road
Loudonville, OH 44842
(740) 599-6631
www.mohicanreservation.com

Cherry Hill Park
9800 Cherry Hill Road
College Park, MD 20740
(301) 937-7116
www.cherryhillpark.com

Ramblin Pines
801 Hoods Hill Road
Woodbine, MD 21797
(410) 795-5161
www.ramblinpines.com

Fort Collins KOA Lakeside
1910 N Taft Hill Road
Fort Collins, CO 80524
(970) 484-9880
www.fclakesidecgc.com

River Edge RV Resort
22265 8 Mile Road
Stanwood, MI 47346
(877) 287-4837
www.riverridgeresort.com

Galesburg East Best
1081 US Hwy 105E
Knoxville, IL 61448
(309) 289-2267
www.galesburgeastrypark.com

Ross Hill Park
170 Ross Hill Road
Lisbon, CT 05351
(860) 376-9606
www.rosshillpark.com

Campgrounds Cont.

Geneseo Campground
22976 IL Hwy 82
Geneseo IL 61254
(309) 944-6465
www.fulltiming-america.com/geneseo

Terry Bison Campground
51-125 Service Road East
Cheyenne, WY 82007
(307) 634-4171
www.terrybisonranch.com

Wekivia Falls Resort & RV Park
30700 Wekivia Falls River Road
Sorrento, FL 32776
(407) 830-9828
www.wekiviafallsresort.com

Woodsy Hollow Campground
248 Woodsy Hollow
Goodrich, TX 77335
(936) 365-2267
www.woodsyhollow.com

Rutlader Outpost Campground
33565 S. Metcalf
Louisburg, KS 66053
(913) 377-2722
www.rutladeroutpost.com

Yates Family Camping
6185 Hudspeth Road
Harrisburg, NC 28075
(704) 773-9349
www.yatesfamilycamping.com

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park
2940 Sussex Drive
Emporia, VA 23847
(434) 634-3115
www.campingbear.com

DISCOUNT CAMPGROUNDS

Find listing of campgrounds that give FCRV discount on this page of the FCRV website

www.fcrv.org/documents/2011discount.pdf

**FCRV Golf Week**

March 14 – 21, 2011

Camping: Antique Capital RV Park Gladewater, Texas

Call the campground to make your reservations – 903-845-7378

\$140 for the week

\$25 – daily rate

Golf: 2 courses - \$21 - \$25

Attractions: Antiques in Gladewater & Museums in Kilgore

Website info: www.anticquecapitalrvpark.com www.gladewaterchamber.com

www.gladewateropry.com

www.kilgorechamber.com

Questions: contact Jim Turner – turnerfcrv@yahoo.com or 813-713-5727 **Once you register, let Jim know, please.**

An Open Letter To The Board of Trustees

Thank you for considering and acting upon the request to adjust the Camp Pass fee for campvention. It no longer penalizes those who wish to attend and cannot do so with/without their units. Now, can Retiree Rally Camp Pass fees also be adjusted?

Gloria and Phill Steinberg
New York

Helpful Winter Hints

Keep your headlights clear with car wax! Just wipe ordinary car wax on your headlights. It contains special water repellents that will prevent that messy mixture from accumulating on your lights - lasts 6 weeks.

Squeak-proof your wipers with rubbing alcohol! Wipe the wipers with a cloth saturated with rubbing alcohol or ammonia. This one trick can make badly streaking & squeaking wipers change to near perfect silence & clarity.

Ice-proof your windows with vinegar! Frost on it's way? Just fill a spray bottle with three parts vinegar to one part water & spritz it on all your windows at night. In the morning, they'll be clear of icy mess. Vinegar contains acetic acid, which raises the melting point of water---preventing water from freezing!

Prevent car doors from freezing shut with cooking spray! Spritz cooking oil on the rubber seals around car doors & rub it in with a paper towel. The cooking spray prevents water from melting into the rubber

Fog-proof your windshield with shaving cream! Spray some shaving cream on the inside of your windshield & wipe it off with paper towels. Shaving cream has many of the same ingredients found in commercial defoggers

De-ice your lock in seconds with hand sanitizer! Just put some hand sanitizer gel on the key & the lock & the problems solved!

There's a new magazine out dedicated to truck camper owners.

Visit www.truckcampermagazine.com





RV Road Trips

2010-12-16 10:00:18-05

How Do Full Time RVers Handle Health Care And Medical Issues?

[Universal Health Care](#) sure would be a good thing for RVers!

It would be nice if any person could walk into any medical facility and have their medical needs taken care of.

I think when that day comes, more people will be hitching up their RVs and hitting the road on a more permanent basis.

Health care is the one stumbling block that keeps RVers of modest means from pursuing their desire to travel with no particular agenda.

[Continue reading...](#)

http://rv-roadtrips.thefuntimesguide.com/2010/12/rv_medical.php

Woodall's Announces 2011 Top-Rated RV Parks and Campgrounds

VENTURA, CALIF. (Jan. 4, 2011) - Woodall Publications Corporation, producer of the most comprehensive and reliable campground directories available, announces the top rated privately owned RV parks and campgrounds in North America through its 5W/5W rating system. Of the 8,000 privately-owned parks listed in its *2011 North American Campground*

Directory, 333 parks earned the highest and most coveted designation in the Woodall's rating system. <http://www.woodalls.com/articledetails.aspx?ArticleID=2683351>

The unbiased rating system allows RVers and campers to search and find the top-rated 5W RV parks and campgrounds that meet their travel needs. Campers can identify parks by their 1W to 5W ratings for both park facilities and recreation. The more W's in a rating reflects the presence of more developments and facilities available at the park. Further, the maintenance of the campground heavily weighs in all park 5W ratings.

To protect the integrity of the rating system, Woodall's field teams conduct on-site inspections of campgrounds in the U.S. and Canada, as listed in the directory each year. The final ratings are a composite of several different areas of interest, including a park's physical grounds, restrooms, site and road developments, surrounding recreation and superior maintenance of its facilities.

"Privately owned campgrounds and RV parks covet the 5W Woodall's rating, valuing it as the industry's long running standard and most respected rating system," said Joe Daquino, senior vice president and publisher, Affinity Media, the parent company for Woodall's Publications. "We are very proud of the 333 campgrounds that have achieved a 5W rating for 2011."

Campers and RVers in a recent survey identified reasons behind buying a Woodall's Directory including the Woodall's rating system and the comprehensive and accurate information featured in the travel tool. Prior to the 2011 Directory going to press, Woodall's Facebook fans received a sneak peek of the 5W/5W parks for 2011.

The *2011 Woodall's North American Campground Directory* is now available at bookstores, RV dealers, Camping World stores, and online. To purchase or receive more information on Woodall's and its publications, call 800-323-9076 or visit www.woodalls.com.

Woodall's Searches for America's Favorite 100 Campgrounds and RV Parks with 75th Anniversary Sweepstakes

VENTURA, CALIF. (Dec., 2010) -Woodall Publications Corporation, publisher of the most comprehensive and reliable campground directories available, is searching for North America's preferred 100 campgrounds and RV parks through the launch of the "Woodall's Vote for Your Favorite Campground Sweepstakes." Campers will vote for their favorite campground and RV park and be entered to win a Hawaiian cruise. The campground or RV Park with the most votes will also receive a seven-night cruise for two in the Hawaiian Islands, including airfare, to Honolulu.

Privately owned parks will receive signs to promote the contest and a personalized cell phone code for voters to text their entries. The sweepstakes ends on Sept. 15, 2011. The top 100 campgrounds and RV parks will be revealed in November 2011 at the National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds annual trade show. Campgrounds and RV Parks should encourage campers to submit entries at www.woodalls.com/myfavoritecampground, or by texting the park's personal cell phone code.

"Woodall's has been awarding our top rated parks for years, but the sweepstakes gives directory users a chance to get more involved and tell us what they think about their favorite parks," said Joe Daquino, senior vice president and publisher, Affinity Media, the parent company for Woodall's Publications. "We look forward to receiving America's feedback and feel it will provide campgrounds and parks with another source of recognition for the high-quality services and

amenities they offer."

The sweepstakes launches in conjunction with the release of the 2011 *Woodall's North American Campground Directory* commemorative edition, which is now available at bookstores, RV dealers, Camping World stores, and online. The directory includes full-color state and provincial travel maps, GPS coordinates and physical addresses on select listings and "One Tank Trip" ideas, among other resourceful information for campers. 2011 also marks the first year advertisers are able to incorporate four-color process in the listing section advertisements in the Woodall's Directories.

Trusted as the industry leader for RV and camping information since 1935, Woodall's continues to meet the needs of today's RVers with its trusted dual-rating system, comprehensive listings and informative editorial. The 2011 directory contains ratings of more than 8,000 privately owned and 6,000 public parks across North America, ensuring RVers find the most enjoyable and appropriate site for their individual travel plans. New in 2011, Woodall's worked with the National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds and the Leave No Trace program to identify "green" parks that strive to meet environmentally friendly criteria.

Woodall's is the official directory of the Family Motor Coach Association, Family Campers & RVers, Camp Club USA, and Camping World President's Club. Escapees Full Timers Club and the National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds are also partners with Woodall's, while *Camping Life* is its family camping magazine. Woodall Publications is part of Affinity Media, a division of Affinity, the nation's largest provider of outdoor recreation clubs, services, media and events.

To purchase or receive more information on Woodall's and its publications, call 800-323-9076 or visit www.woodalls.com.

KENTUCKY COLONELS CHAPTER HOLDS CAMPOUT

By
Ed Griffin

The Lake Cumberland Kentucky Colonels Chapter of NCHA/FCRV met at Lake Cumberland State Resort Park, Jamestown, Kentucky during the week of Thanksgiving 2010, Sunday the 21st through Saturday the 27th. The Chapter has met during Thanksgiving week for 48 years.

Sunday morning the campout was opened with the lighting of the bonfire which is kept burning until allowed to die out on Friday evening. Games were enjoyed on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. A Hospitality tent is near the fire for drinks and snacks. Games for all ages are planned. Programs and indoor activities are conducted in the Activity Center.

On Monday evening, everyone traveled to the Jamestown Cafe on Monument Square in Jamestown for dinner. Good food and outstanding service are yours for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. On Thursday at noon, we enjoyed a Thanksgiving Dinner together, with the Indiana club, Kentucky Colonels and Friends, providing the turkey and ham and everyone else bringing the veggies, trimmings, and desserts.

This is a great place and a fun campout for Snowbirds enroute to warmer climates to stopover and invite family to come for Thanksgiving. For others, no matter from where they come, this is the last campout of the season. Your family may enjoy celebrating in a resort atmosphere either in an RV, the Lure Lodge, the Pumpkin Creek Lodge, a cottage, or a tent. Additional information can be found at: www.parks.ky.gov. Reservations are not necessary nor taken; just show up! [Turn into campground - GPS 36.920747,-85.041765; 5465 State Park Road, Jamestown, KY 42629 - South on US 127 from Cumberland Parkway at Russell

Springs, KY]

If you call the 1-800 number or go online for reservations, you will be told that the park is closed; but this park is kept open for this campout in November through the Saturday after Thanksgiving. If you wish, you can call Lure Lodge at 1-270-343-3111 and have your name put on a list as an attendee and make reservations for the lodges or cottages. With the exception of the campout committee, it is hobo, park where you desire. Water and electric at each site and two dump stations are nearby.

This writer is convinced that this chapter and this campout are two of the best kept secrets in the NCHA/FCRV family. One family has attended 46 campouts and has had five generations present. Mike and Tish Royal of Owensboro were married at Lure Lodge this year.

The Kentucky Colonels Chapter is a unique chapter within NCHA/FCRV. It is the only International chartered chapter that is for families. It is a chapter within which a family can build traditions and relationships between generations and with other families. Activities and games are planned for all families to enjoy.

This campout is open to all current and "wannabe" NCHA/FCRV members. Please do not let the name, Kentucky Colonels, keep you from this great campout. You do not have to be a Kentucky Colonel to attend and enjoy yourself. The Lake Cumberland Kentucky Colonels Chapter simply hosts the campout.

In 2012, this chapter will celebrate our 50th Anniversary with a Reunion. We are in the planning stage now and are excited about the prospects. Save the week of Thanksgiving 2012 to be part of this Reunion. Attend in 2011 to help us plan and to volunteer.

Feel free to contact President Wayne Felter, wayne.felter@comcast.net, or the 50th Reunion Committee Chair Edwin Griffin, edwin.griffin@gmail.com or 317-850-4339, for more information. See you in Kentucky!



NY MEMBERS WINTER PROJECTS

By
George & Betty Brandt

Beside the chapters once a month meetings and chapters, get a way weekends George & Betty Brant, New York State Directors are happy to report that for the past 10 years; Bev Clark and Kay Humphrey have encourage New York members to continue to make Infant quilts for locate hospitals and Woman Infants Children (WIC) groups. Bev and Kay have also knitted hats and collect cell phone for WIC; who then recycle them.

Something new they are working on is making Hooter Hiders, (for breast feeding mothers) that have been requested from WIC. The hooter hiders sell for \$ 20 a piece, some of the WIC clients can not afford them. Bev & Kay's donations are very much appreciated by WIC and the clients they serve. If you would like more information on the Hooter Hiders, please let us know and we will send you the information.

Beside Bev & Kay's project. Other members have been busy donating their time at a Ronald McDonald House; they do housecleaning, make breakfast, lunch or supper. Others are donating (food, clothing) to a transitional resident for VETERANS who have fallen on hard times.

These are just a few of the committee services that New York members are doing. While doing all these projects, they are being done in the name of Family Campers & RVers.

VALENTINE TRADITIONS

In the Middle Ages, young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who their valentines would be. They would wear these names on their sleeves for one week. To wear your heart on your sleeve now means that it is easy for other people to know how you are feeling.

In some countries, a young woman may receive a gift of clothing from a young man. If she keeps the gift, it means she will marry him.



The Winter Texan Chapter held their Christmas Luncheon at the Cedar House Restaurant in Donna on Dec. 21st. They donated \$171 and several bags of food to the Hidalgo Food Bank. L- R Ed & Kathy Hurley, luncheon chairmen with Ron & Nancy Herberholz, WT President & Treasurer.



The Scott Key Campers from Frederick, MD recently held their Christmas party at a local restaurant. Members donated food for the area food bank. Ken Morgan, club president, is shown presenting the food to members of the Walkersville Area Food Bank.

Gerhardts Crowned 2010 North Dakota FCRV Retiree King and Queen

By Jim & JeAnne Selby

Roughrider Chapter members George and Linda Gerhardt of Bismarck, ND were crowned 2010 North Dakota FCRV Retiree King and Queen during evening coronation ceremonies on Saturday June 5, during the 2010 State Campvention at Menoken.



The Gerhardts have been members of the Roughrider FCRV Chapter since June 2005. They served on the 2010 Campvention welcome bag committee this past Spring, as well as co-chaired the silent auction for the 2008 State Campvention.

In their leisure time both George and Linda enjoy camping (of course!), reading and travel. In addition George enjoys hunting, cycling (although he recently sold his motorcycle), helping his sons, and outdoor activities in general. Linda's other hobbies include sewing (especially machine embroidery) and quilting.

Their volunteer work includes serving in various capacities throughout the years at their church. Linda also previously volunteered at St. Alexius Medical Center for several years.

George and Linda have been married 46 years. They have two grown sons. They do not have any grandchildren; however they have one special great niece they enjoy spoiling.



Nebraska King and Queen



Hi! Everyone, we are Bob and Arlus DeVriendt the Nebraska Retiree King and Queen for 2011. We were

chosen by the Nebraska Retiree Chapter to represent Nebraska at the 2011 National Retiree Rally at Canton TX.

We joined NCHA/FCRV in 1973 while stationed at Hill AFB in Utah. Our introduction to NCHA was with the Capital City Campers and the Rainbow Chaser; spent many enjoyable campout with them. Before we could get acquainted with everyone and around to the various state activities, we were reassigned to a base in Germany and many more moves thereafter.

We are members of the Explorer's Chapter and Nebraska Retiree Chapter. We have served as Chapter President, Vice-President, Secretary, Historian and State Historian and SPC Directors. We have helped with spring cleanups at Stuhr Museum, Mahoney State Park, Conklin Fish Farm, planted trees at Fort Robinson (a 3-yr reforestation project after a forest fire) and Mahoney State Park and participated in numerous conservation/wildlife projects along the Platte River.

We have attended 20 of the last 25 National FCRV Campventions; we were the Historian and/or SPC Chairperson for 2001, 2006, and 2007. Served on behalf of the National Historian Chairman at the 2000, 2001, 2006 and 2007 Campvention historian program. We have worked the Mail & Information booth Retiree Rally the last 2 years and will be there again this year.

Bob grew up on a farm near Toeterville IA, and graduated from St. Ansgar Community High School. He work various job until joining the

United States Air Force. He retired from the Air Force after 25 years of service and took a civil service job at Offutt AFB. After 46 years of working emergency management plans and programs for the government he retired a second time in 2007.

Arlus grew up in Lismore MN until 1952 when her parents moved to Aurora CO. She lived with her sister until graduating from Green River High School. She worked for the Army/Air Force Exchange Service for 28 years before retiring.

Arlus and Bob have been married for 46 year. They met in Aurora CO when Bob was assigned to Lowry AFB. They have two daughter, Stacey & family live in San Diego CA and is a communication specialist for Raytheon. Debra was a contract security guard for the Army Training Center at Yakama WA but now working for CO-SCO. Both daughters enjoy camping when ever their work/family schedule allow.

Bob enjoys woodworking, yard work, camping, bicycling, helping the neighbors and being outdoors. Arlus enjoys being outdoors, scrap-booking (winning on state/national levels), reading and camping. They are involved in the church BINGO program at the Hill Crest Nursing Home, donating blood at local blood bank, and the Ride for the Cure. Both enjoy traveling to state and national rallies, sightseeing visiting with friends or relatives along the various routes.

Happy trails and hope to see you at Canton

PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION REACHES A MILESTONE

It is unbelievable that the Pennsylvania State Association of NCHA/FCRV has been around for 50 years. It seems like yesterday that this was just a group of families who thought it would be nice to camp together, and get other families to join in with them once a year for what is known as Penn Camp. We really have to thank the old timers like Clughs, Kehoes, Kerrs, and Downs and many many more who started the State Association.

This is a milestone for the PA State Association – being 50 years “young”. We hope to have many more milestones. As a way of celebrating, this year at the annual Penn Camp the committee is inviting everyone to attend even if you no longer are a member of FCRV. If you can't camp, we are inviting past and present members to at least come for the day and help us remember all the “good old days”, see friends that you many no have seen for a few years, meet and make new friends.

There will be entertainment, hospitalities, campfires and many other activities. There will be something for everyone. The festivities will be at Morrison Cove Park in Martinsburg. The Park also has activities like bowling, roller skating or swimming if it is a hot weekend that those attending can involve themselves and there is a large, beautiful playground for young children to play in. The dates are June 17-19, 2011 with the 16th as an early day.

For more information on how to join in on the PA State Association's celebration, contact Jeanie Kelly at rkelly4911@aol.com

Say Goodbye to Bothersome RV Leaks

with Our Line of Effective
RV Slide out Covers
Find more info on our website

<http://www.texasinnovators.com/>



RVIA HOLDS 48th ANNUAL TRADE SHOW AT LOUISVILLE

By
DeWayne Johnston

RV manufacturers, component suppliers, aftermarket accessories companies, officials of the Recreational Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA), and RV dealer gathered at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville November 30th – December 2nd to get a glimpse of the outlook for RV sales in 2011.



President Jack Smye in the FCRV booth

Theme for the Outlook breakfast presentation was “A New Era Begins.” 2010 marked the 100th anniversary of the RV industry and RVIA Chairman of the Board, Greg Fore stated that the industry had weathered the rises and falls in the economy over the years due to the universal appeal of family, freedom, and the American dream. RVIA President, Richard Coon said that financing is becoming more available and the Small Business Administration is helping with a dealer floor plan program. Coon said the industry is addressing concerns over pending fuel mileage requirements that include pickups and RVs. He also noted that lighter units are more available and that an electric motorhome prototype will run 180 miles on a charge. Goals for the industry include improving service training and opening worldwide markets including China.



The Monoco's slide-out had its slide-out

Sales for 2011 are expected to exceed the 236,000 units delivered in 2009 by eight percent. Sales in '09 were considerably stronger than '08.

Bob Olson and Gary LaBella

announced plans for the latest version of the Go Camping America campaign to advertise the RV lifestyle. Eleven million dollars will be spent in carefully chosen tv and print media including commercials in movie theaters and tie-ins with the Food Network. The ads emphasize affordability of RVing. Tom Stinnet discussed the new Go RVing Leads Plus program that predicts how likely an inquiry will lead to a sale. One out of five who contact Go RVing buy an RV.

PR Committee Chairman, B.J. Thompson pointed out that the industry must adapt to the changes in consumer behavior. RVing has maintained a

positive image and still offers outstanding access to the “American Dream.” Oprah Winfrey’s two part show on camping in Yosemite in a folding trailer was very positive.

Some entertainment was also part of the annual Outlook event. Musical prodigy, Patrick Henry Hughes inspired the audience with his story of overcoming the obstacles of being born without eyes and unable to walk. He played and sang several songs, ending with “America The Beautiful”. He received a standing ovation. His father who also spoke announced that Patrick is about to graduate from the University of Louisville.



Coleman's Evolution 'off road' fold down camper



Eastbound was named Green RV of the Year



Crossroad's 38' Rushmore has a floor to ceiling fireplace

changes at lightning speed. They were recently seen on America's Got Talent.

The featured speaker was NFL Hall of Fame quarterback, Terry Bradshaw who pleased the crowd with tales of his sports career and stories about how his grandfather took him and his cousins camping in a homemade camper. Bradshaw's appearance was sponsored by eco-friendly Evergreen RVs for whom he is a spokesman. Today he lives in Oklahoma and uses an RV to travel to horse shows with his daughter.

The program closed with a farewell to Gary LaBella who is retiring after 30 years with RVIA. He is credited with starting the annual Outlook program and the very successful GO RVing America advertising campaign. The stage was filled with RVA staff members who wished him well. His successor is James Ashurst who was formerly with the Travel Channel.

TRENDS

We had lunch with a photo journalist from Affinity at the RVIA show and he observed that the overall quality of the units was better. He felt that the shakeout of companies during the economic downturn left surviving companies with the most experienced workers and management. Present last year also was the emphasis on "Green Technology." Other items more prevalent this year were automatic leveling jacks, Mor Ryde suspension, nitrogen filled tires, pickup campers with full length slide outs, optional exterior paint schemes, floor to ceiling dining area windows, MCD roll up day / night shades, black

David Maas and Diana Kaseeva, known as Quick Change mystified the audience with amazing costume

appliances, double door refrigerators, dark color decor, and warm color painted cupboards. Almost every fifth wheel maker had a luxury residential model. We did notice that retail prices have also increased on some models.

FCRV was present at the show with a booth promoting the organization and the dealer chapter program. On hand for FCRV were Jack and Sonya Smye, Bob Price, Elva and Anthony Forte, and DeWayne and June Johnston. Marti Price and several agents of FCRV's corporate sponsor, American National Property & Casualty Insurance (ANPAC & Travel Star) also had a booth at the show.



ANPAC agents with Marti Price on the far right

Conservation

By
Mary Lehnard

Can you believe another year has gone by? Where did it go and did we learn something? Did we make a difference in something through our deeds?

I am sure we can all answer those questions with a "Yes". CONSERVATION has come to mean so much more to me than just a word or a program that I have been working with. We associate it with the environment and the conservation of the natural resources that sustain us. However, we can conserve our health with common sense and good nutrition. We can conserve fuel in our homes and our vehicles through good maintenance. The lists goes on and on. They are

all important and many things we do just keeping on track with daily living. Those are the things we just don't give a thought to. So I guess that proves it isn't all that difficult.

More and more we notice that folks are so busy with the fast track of life, that attention to detail seems lost. How about courtesy and kindness? Those things are a habit or a way of life also. Do we conserve the little things like good manners, respect for others property and feelings? Do you notice that places of employment are more concerned with the immediate bottom line than the employees safety and well being? When you hear of an employer or employees that circle around one of theirs that is having a lot of serious problems, aren't you impressed? That is conserving the morale of all involve. We all need support from others at one time or another.

We are now looking forward to conserving the new memberships that we are getting through the Cadet Membership Program. Will it just happen? No, we have to grasp the opportunities it presents. Have we reaped as many renewal from the Dealership Program as we had hoped? It is retention of these members that tells the tale. Have we as individuals made the effort to make these new members feel welcome? If it is because of our lack of attention to these details that they do not feel welcome, or doesn't know what FCRV has to offer, then shame on us. Paint Conservation with a broader brush and see where it takes us.

GETTING TO KNOW WILDLIFE

Al & Joanie Stone, National Wildlife Directors

Why do the Creatures of the Night seem to scare individuals? Owls, bats, and spiders seem to scare most people. Here are a few interesting concepts about these creatures.

Owls have nocturnal habits. The Barn Owl, which most people know the most about, has a

ghostly appearance and a blood-curdling shriek. Did you know that most individual considered them to be a bad omen throughout the world? However, the Snowy Owl is considered to be a good omen. The difference being that the Snowy Owl is a daytime creature. Where the Barn Owl is a night creature and throughout the world is considered to be associated with death.

Spiders are not all nocturnal. Many spiders hunt at night. They hide in cupboards and clothing. Most spiders are harmless to humans; however, there are some species that are poisonous. Spiders are not considered to be evil like other creatures of the night. The spider webs are known in Europe as "money spiders" because they believe that if you encounter with one means a person will soon receive some cash.

Then there are bats! Did you know that there really is a bat called "Vampire bats"? They live in Central and South America. They do feed on blood (scary) which is usually animal blood. They make a quick slice with their sharp teeth and lap up a spoonful or two. Vampire bats have actually helped people. Their saliva contains chemicals – called anticoagulants. Through research on Vampire bats, scientists have developed a medicine to help heart patients called Draculin.

Did you know that there are many Myths about bats?

NATIONAL WILDLIFE GRANTS

Al & Joanie Stone

Do you enjoy birds and other types of wildlife? Do you enjoy wonders of the nature that we can and have experienced!

There are many organizations that need your help to continue their work with helping wildlife whether it is for educational purposes, healing injured animals and fowls, building proper cages etc. for those that are being helped to survive.

It is that time of the year, that we are encour-

aging our members in Family Campers and RV'ers to be thinking about submitting Wildlife grant applications. Our form is on our FCRV web-site under Wildlife. If you need help on whether your specific organization would be the right one to write about for a grant – give us a call. If you don't know of a specific organization that needs assistance, contact your Game and Parks or DNR. There are many non-profit organizations that need help. The more back –up material that you can send the better. Be sure to have the organization write a letter on their behalf for the need of the grant.

All grants must be submitted to us by no later than May 30, 2011. We are looking forward to receiving several grant applications for 2011.

ATTENTION YOUTH & TEENS WILDLIFE ESSAY

Write an essay on the topic “How can we, as an individual, protect endangered species.” This is the second year for Wildlife to have an essay competition. We are looking forward to more essays submitted this year. Here are the rules:

1. The essay should be computer generated or hand printed.
2. There are three age groups: 6 – 8 years; 9 – 12 years; and 13-19 years.
3. The first place winner in each of the three groups will be awarded money.
4. The essay should be no more than 600 words.

The essay must be into the National Wildlife Directors, Al & Joanie Stone, 2601 South 49th Ave., Omaha, Nebraska 68106 by no later than May 30, 2010. The winners will be judged at National.

Commercial

By
Pat & Paul Parsley

Glorious spring has arrived and on the east coast, many RVs are traveling north as their home climate is warming up and many RVs are traveling south for golf and vacation time. As you travel this camping season, check out the FCRV Commercial Member Campgrounds. They are listed on the FCRV website and elsewhere in this issue. When you use these facilities, you help ensure that the campground will continue to support FCRV, you receive a 10% discount and you provide FCRV publicity. When chapters routinely camp at a particular campground, someone should approach the owners about becoming a Commercial Member. All forms are on the website. You can drop us an e-mail and we'll contact the campground directly if you would prefer to go that route. Either way, you help to promote the program and FCRV.

For members attending the Retiree Rally in Canton, one of our Commercial Members, **Wayne's RV Service**, will be on grounds all week and also at the National Campvention in Ladson.

Need to update that manual vent? **Fantastic Vent** has been a member for 11 years now and generally has an ad in Camping Today. And, as we all know, it's nice to support a family run business. Think about a great piece of equipment to enhance your camping experience and one from a great family run business.

Want to go back in time to the “old west”? Visit **Rutlader Outpost Campground** as it enters its 7th year as a Commercial Member. The complex is located on the border of Missouri and Kansas and features live country music shows, Kansas Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum, catered meals, cowboy reenactments and an Antique & Trading Co. More information is available at their website www.rutladeroutpost.com

Galesburg East Best Campground enters its 6th year as a Commercial Member. The campground is set in a beautiful rural area 3 miles out of Knoxville, IL. It is modern friendly, has all the amenities to make your stay pleasant and lots of local festivities. Visit the website at www.galesburgeastrvpark.com

Also celebrating six years with FCRV is **Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park** in Emporia, VA. If you're traveling I-95, it's close to the NC/VA border and a good location. They are open all year with numerous amenities, including free WI-FI. Children of all ages love Yogi Bear Parks! Check out their website at www.campingbear.com



Members with the Chapter of the Year plaques they have received over the years.

Explorer Chapter Good Samaritan Project

By Al & Joanie Stone

Explorer Chapter Celebrates 45 years

By
Al & Joanie Stone



The Explorer Chapter in Omaha, Nebraska celebrated forty-five years of being a chapter in Family Campers and RV at a special gathering in November. The chapter invited previous members to join in the festivities. The chapter members put on a Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. Tables were all decorated with pumpkins and Thanksgiving items. There was a special decorated cake to signify the chapter's 45 years. With all the food no one should have left hungry! We had over forty plus individuals attend.

It was great to see so many of our previous members from several years in the past. We enjoyed looking through memory books reminiscing and visiting with each other. It was a great evening.

The Explorer's Chapter of Omaha, Nebraska has been very active in the Ronald McDonald House since it was built in September, 1994. Since December, 1994 and every December since, the chapter puts on a dinner for all of the families in the house. Besides the dinner, two of the chapter members dress up as Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus and visit with the children in the house which includes the siblings of the children that are ill. The chapter purchases a gift for each child.



This year the chapter gave gifts to 22 children between those at the house and at the University Medical Center.

Santa for several years has gone to the Med. Center after the dinner and visited the children at the hospital as well.

The chapter members also collect pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House through-out the year.

This Good Samaritan project is just one of many that the chapter enjoys doing through-out the year.



Retiree Rally

'Boot Scoot' to Texas

By Barb Turner, Publicity Chair

'Boot Scoot' to Texas to Canton, Texas later this month for the 40th International FCRV Retiree Rally at the Civic Center. The rally officially starts on March 22, 2011. Early arrivals are welcome. The gates will open for Early Bird parking on Friday, March 18th at 12 noon. The early bird price is \$17 a night for water and electric. Everyone must depart the park on Monday, March 28th by noon. Those wishing to stay for the First Monday Trade Days will make arrangements with the Civic Center upon arrival at the Retiree Rally.

Fees for the rally: The pre-registration fee is \$175 if two people in a unit and \$145 if a single person in a unit. Camp Pass fees: two people or second couple in a unit is \$140; one person or extra person in a unit is \$110. At the gate: two people in a unit is \$190; single person in a unit is \$165; Camp Pass – two people or second couple in a unit is \$160; Camp Pass – one person or extra person in a unit is \$130.

Remember guests are welcome. What a better opportunity than the Retiree Rally to introduce your camping buddies to FCRV. They are **WELCOME**, and they **DO NOT** have to be FCRV members to come as your guest. If they aren't pre-registered, invite them to arrive with you. Share your FCRV family with them. Perhaps they'll decide to become members. Better yet, be their mentor and give them a Cadet Membership.

Even if you aren't pre-registered, join us for a wonderful rally. You'll have a fantastic time. Fun & fellowship with your FCRV family. Rally coordinators Dick & Kathy Buresh and all

the chairs & co-chairs are looking forward to welcoming you to a fun-filled week. See you in Canton!

Reminder from FCRV Retiree Director Al Jurek

Hi, Everyone. Well, the time is drawing near for another great rally. We have an opportunity to meet old friends and make some new ones. Don't miss it. All the preparations are in place for a good time. The price is right, the location is great, and the people are wonderful. We all will be disappointed if we don't meet you there.

Retiree Rally Golf



Wednesday, March 23, 2011

\$30 – 18 holes with a cart

1st tee time – 9 AM

No rental clubs

Golfers who plan to play, please contact golf chair Jim Turner at

turnerfcrv@yahoo.com or 813-713-5727.

When you register at the rally, please check the golf info for when the meeting will be held.

See you in Canton!

FCRV Commercial Directors' Info Paul & Pat Parsley

We'll have a certified RV Service and Repairs on grounds at all times—Wayne's RV Service.

Important Rally Info

The mailing address during the rally is (Your Name), FCRV Retiree Rally, c/o Canton Civic Center/First Monday Trade Days Park, 290 Tyler Street, Canton, TX 75103-1414.

Emergency number: FCRV Security –
716-510-6686

Lap Robes & Food Pantry

Chairs Ashley & Gloria Taylor want to remind attendees about the importance of contributing to the Food Bank, with non-perishable goods or money. Monetary donations are actually better as more goods can be purchased by the local food bank than what we can purchase with the same amount of money. (\$1.00 purchases 14 pounds of food!)

The Taylors also want to remind attendees about donating lap robes. Have you been working on lap robes since the last rally? Perhaps you've purchased some. A local nursing home will benefit from your efforts. The largest number donated at a rally was 225 in Rayne. Let's top that in Canton!

Red Hat Luncheon

Hey Ladies! Don't forget to sign up for the Red Hat luncheon. Any lady can sign whether you are a Red Hatter or not. We want all of you to come to our luncheon on Friday 11:30. We will have a table located close to registration to sign up for the Red Hat luncheon when you come to registration. We'll see you there. Barb & Judy



Retiree Rally SPC Info

Waltraud 'Willi' Walker - SPC chair

All the walks will be at 8:30 AM starting March 23, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and ending March 26, Saturday.

Retiree Rally Door Prizes

Door Prize Chairs Marjory & Don Bates want to remind attendees that donated door prizes will be greatly appreciated.

For more information on the Retiree Rally visit this page of our FCRV website

[www.fcrv.org/
ret_rally/2011/2011rally.php](http://www.fcrv.org/ret_rally/2011/2011rally.php)



Don't Miss the Fun!! Join us in Canton at the Retiree Rally March 22-27

Registration Form
FAMILY CAMPERS AND RVERS
 40TH National Retiree Rally
 Canton Civic Center/Monday Trade Days Park
 March 22, 2011 – March 27, 2011

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST _____ SPOUSE/GUEST _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE/PROVINCE _____ POSTAL OR ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL ADDRESS (if applicable) _____

Which are you registering for? Camping _____ or Camp Pass _____

Is this your first National Retiree Rally? Yes _____ No _____

Do you require to be parked in the Special Needs (Handicap) Area? YES _____ NO _____ (Reserved for wheelchairs, walkers or those with limited mobility that **MUST** be close to the campground facilities.)

Do you require to be parked in the Special Needs Area (non Handicap Area)? Yes _____ NO _____ (This area is for those who have special needs but no mobility problem.)

NOTE: To be assigned a place in the Special Needs Area, you must present one of the following: a Doctor's Certificate, a photocopy of FCRV/NCHA Card, State License Registration indicating Handicap plate, or Handicap card that you place in your windshield. Copy both sides if different.

*******GUEST ARE WELCOME*******

Guests/Non-FCRV members are welcome. They may be in their own rig or be in yours. Have them complete a registration form and on it indicate they are your guest. We strongly suggest that they enter the camping area at the same time you do.

We are **NOT** FCRV members and are guests of _____

******REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 9, 2011******

*****You will be receiving a letter of confirmation with directions******

******WE MUST HAVE THE NAMES & ADDRESSES OF ALL REGISTRANTS (INCLUDING GUESTS)******

FEES	Pre-registration(Paid in Advance in Full) US FUNDS ONLY	At the Gate
Two people in a unit	\$175.00	\$190.00
Single person in a unit	\$145.00	\$165.00
Camp Pass (2 people or second couple in a unit)	\$140.00	\$160.00
Camp Pass(1 person or extra person in a unit)	\$110.00	\$130.00

Registration Fee covers parking, 2 evening meals, Ice Cream Social, and all activities connected to the Rally. Parking is with water and electric.

Make checks or Money Order(**US CURRENCY ONLY**) payable to: FCRV/NCHA RETIREE RALLY **NO CREDIT CARDS ACCEPT**

Mail registration to: Bill and Penny Ramlow, 6131 East 1 Avenue, Hialeah, FL, 33013. You can contact them at (305) 822-6589 or (813) 545-6083 or email them at Pramlow@aol.com Please put memo: Retiree Rally 2011

******CAMP PASS INFORMATION******

FCRV members who wish to park their unit off-grounds or who wish to stay in a motel/hotel and commute to the Rally Site may pay the CAMP PASS FEE. This will allow them to participate in all the activities of the Rally **EXCEPT CAMPING**. Parking will be provided for their vehicle at the Rally until 11:00PM. Families or individuals attending the Rally in someone else's unit must have a separate Registration and pay the appropriate Camp Pass Fee. You must indicate the name of the owner of unit where you are staying.

Charleston, SC

By
Tom Reed

You couldn't pick a better year to visit Charleston. This charming South Carolina city, still basking in the glow of top ratings from a number of national travel magazines, is observing an especially historic anniversary in 2011. This was where the Civil War began, 150 years ago. A visit to Fort Sumter is a "must" for tourists, especially in this sesquicentennial year.



Fort Sumter as it looks today!



The bombardment of Fort Sumter as seen in a Currier and Ives lithograph

Trouble had been brewing for months before the Confederates fired upon the Union garrison on April 12, 1861, igniting America's bloodiest conflict. South Carolina had seceded from the Union more than three months earlier, in December of 1860. On the day after Christmas of that year, the commander of the federal post at Fort Moultrie moved his troops to Fort Sumter because he figured it was easier to defend. The South demanded that the fort be vacated; the North refused, and the result was all-but-inevitable.

Fort Sumter doesn't look much like it did in those days. The multi-level installation was reduced to rubble in the war. The interior is now dominated by Battery Huger, a massive concrete structure built during the Spanish American war. But you can still get a feeling for what it must have been like to be surrounded by hostile fire from Confederate shore positions. When you arrive, you'll have an opportunity to listen to a brief talk by a National Park Service ranger before exploring on your own. Take advantage of it unless you're already well versed in the history of the event, but bear in mind that you'll have only an hour or so to tour the fort.



Inside Fort Sumter

To look at it from the Confederate perspective, drive out to Fort Moultrie on Sullivan's Island, stand behind one of the gun positions aimed at Fort Sumter, across the water a mile away, and you'll see why the South had the upper hand. Moultrie's history dates back to the Revolutionary War, when its guns repulsed an attack by the British fleet. The fort was named in honor of its commander, William Moultrie.

Fort Moultrie is easily accessible by car, but the only way to reach Fort Sumter is by boat. Tour boats leave from Liberty Square in downtown Charleston, and from Patriots Point in Mount Pleasant. Fares are \$16 for adults, \$14.50 for seniors, \$10 for children 6-11, free for kids 5 and under.

Charleston's history dates back to Colonial times, and as you tour the old part of town, you'll find reminders of the Revolutionary War and the early days of the Republic. Fortunately for visitors and residents alike, the city makes preservation a high priority.

The Old Exchange Building, considered one of the three most historically significant buildings of colonial America, is one of only three sites of the ratification of the Constitution that are still standing today. George Washington was entertained here on his 1791 visit to Charleston. The building is located at the foot of Broad Street, and is open daily for tours.

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, completed in 1761, is the oldest church edifice in Charleston. If you go inside, you can see the pew where Washington worshipped when he came to town.



St. Michael's Episcopal Church

St. Philip's Episcopal Church, established in 1670, originally stood on the site where St. Michael's stands today, but was later moved, then burned down, and was rebuilt in the 1830s. These landmarks are instantly recognizable and have become icons of what has been called the Holy City because there are so many churches here and because their spires stand out against the city's low-rise skyline.



St. Philip's Episcopal Church

To really explore the historic city, you'll probably want to take a tour. But where to start? There are motorized tours, carriage tours, boat tours, even aerial tours, not to mention African Ameri-

can tours, ghost tours, plantation tours, and tours catering to various special interests, such as culinary and photography.

All of these have their advantages, but consider one of the carriage or walking tours to fully enjoy the flavor of the historic district at a slow pace. Then go out on your own and explore the old city at your leisure, and revisit the places that most interest you.

The Battery, at the tip of the peninsula that forms Charleston, is a good place to begin. From the White Point Gardens Park, you can see the Ashley River to the west and the Cooper River to the east, and also Fort Sumter to the south. Many of Charleston's mansions are located along South Battery, East Bay Street, and connecting streets.



One of the Mansions on South Battery Street

Stroll north on East Bay and you'll come to Rainbow Row, a row of houses painted in pastel colors. After the Civil War, the area deteriorated to near slum conditions. But in the early 1900s, people began buying the homes and turning them into the upscale mansions that they are today.

If you're so inclined and have the time, you can cover most of Charleston's historic district on foot. If you drive, remember that area is congested and parking spaces can be difficult, but not impossible, to find.

The Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum is a relatively new addition to the historic city's tourist scene. The aircraft carrier USS Yorktown is the centerpiece of the museum, which opened in 1976. The Yorktown served from World War II through the Vietnam War, before being decommissioned in 1970. You can tour the carrier, the submarine USS Clamagore, and other exhibits daily from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The museum is just across the river from Charleston in Mount Pleasant. To get there, you'll cross the Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge over the Cooper River, which opened in 2005. The 1,546-foot cable-stayed bridge, supported by two distinctive diamond towers, has become one of the city's newest landmarks.



Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge



**The USS Yorktown
(photo courtesy Patriots Point)**

The South Carolina Aquarium claims to be Charleston's most visited attraction. It is located at Aquarium Wharf on the Cooper River, near the dock where you'll board the ferry to Fort Sumter. Combine it with your Sumter visit and you'll have to pay only one parking fee.



South Carolina Aquarium

The FCRV Wildlife Fund awarded \$500 to the Sea turtle Hospital located in the basement of the Aquarium in Charleston several years ago which was submitted by the SC State Organization.

Charleston is a diner's delight, with a variety of locally owned restaurants. The writer makes no claim to be a culinary expert or restaurant critic, but here are some of the restaurants I enjoyed: for seafood, Hank's Seafood Restaurant at 10 Hayne Street, and Hyman's Seafood at 215 Meeting Street; for southern cuisine, Magnolias Uptown/Down South at 185 East Bay Street. These are just three examples. For a comprehensive list, check out one of the many available visitor's guides.

If you're looking for an unusual gift or souvenir from Charleston, consider a sweetgrass basket. You'll find these coiled baskets for sale in the historic City Market downtown and at roadside stands along Highway 17, among other places. The craft was brought to this country by African slaves, and passed down from generation to generation. The baskets, originally used for winnowing rice, are now made for a variety of purposes.



A sweetgrass basket maker displays her wares at the historic City Market

From downtown Charleston, it's only a short trip to several beaches. Folly Beach is a barrier island only 15 minutes from downtown. The Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission maintains beachfront parks here, and also at the Isle of Palms and Kiawah. Beaches in the Charleston area are family-oriented, and a far cry from the commercialized atmosphere in Myrtle Beach, a couple of hours to the north.

The Charleston area is riding on a wave of favorable publicity from several national publications. The *Condé Nast Traveler* magazine named the city as the Number 2 American destination (San Francisco was Number 1). And readers of *Travel + Leisure* gave it high ratings in a number of categories.

The Charleston Visitor Center at 375 Meeting Street, open daily except for three major holidays, is a good place to begin your sightseeing. For more information, visit the Charleston CVB's website www.explorecharleston.com.

Campvention 2011

Entertainment 2011

July 8, 2011 (Friday) – The Jamie Pelfrey Band

They are the #1 Nationally Ranked Country Music Cover band on Gigmasters!



July 9, 2011 (Saturday) - Right Turn Clyde

We have a great time everywhere we go and are very "kid-friendly" for those family shows.



July 10, 2011 (Sunday) – Quinton Mills

Quinton has been traveling, singing and preaching for over 35 years and shared the stage with almost every major gospel artist and with so many of the late legends.



July 11, 2011 (Monday) – Drivetrain

Drivetrain uses mostly acoustic instruments, blending styles such as bluegrass, jazz, rock, pop, blues, country and more to create a style hard to place in any one music genre.



July 13, 2011 (Wednesday) – FCRV Entertainment

July 14, 2011 (Thursday) – Haywire

Haywire is a fun-loving band with a show that's relevant for all ages and settings and plays a variety of favorites that are sure to satisfy a wide variety of guests.



For complete description on the entertainment see the March issue of Camping Today or the Campvention section of the FCRV website.

Crafts for 2011

Set of 4 coasters using material and recycled bottle caps. Will have at least 50 kits prepared. Basic sewing and gluing to make this craft. Cost will be \$2.00 or less.

Snowman or penguin ornament from recycled light bulbs. Will have choice of which ornament to make. Painting and basic sewing involved in this craft. Again will have at least 50 kits prepared. Cost will be \$2.00.

Sign up & purchase kits at Central Registration

If time and or space will allow, we have more events planned such as Marble Race, People Exchange, Water Balloon Volleyball, Team Writer, Poor Man's Golf, Bean Bag Baseball, Some IQ Tests, and the list goes on. We are prepared to have a lot of fun and fellowship, so I hope you plan to spend some of your time with us.

REQUEST: Anyone attending Campvention who have Corn Hole Boards....Will you please bring them? We will need them for the Corn Hole Tournament. Thank you in advance!

DOOR PRIZES

Adult Activity Center Activities

Doug & Connie Black, Chairs

Join in the fun: Birthday Bingo, Pegs & Jokers Tournament, Ice Cream Social, 'Minute to Win It', Hand & Foot, Poker Walk, Human Tic Tac Toe, Mexican Train Dominos, Euchre Tournament, Chicken Scratch, Banana Shuffle, Movie Night, Spoons Game

The Ice Cream Social on Sunday will be with Home Made Ice Cream (Regular & Sugar Free).

Door prizes are needed for the Campvention. Can you help?

Campvention is great fun. You can help make it even MORE fun by bringing a door prize or two to the Campvention and giving it to the Door Prize Committee. The committee will give out door prizes each day as long as they last. The more door prizes donated, the more winners there will be.

Simply solicit from those people that you do business with already: RV Repair Facilities, Campgrounds, Accessory Stores, Auto Parts

Stores, anyone that knows you & knows that you do business with them regularly.

If you have any questions, please contact George & Debbie Walters at Georgew793@aol.com

Teen Queen Pageant

Emma Moore & Beth Coniglio, Pageant Chairs

Creating Dixieland Dreams and crowning our next queen are just around the corner. It may seem like a long time now, but, trust us, it will be here before you know it. Packets will be going out to State/Province Directors soon, then forwarded to each queen. We will need them back to us by May 15, 2011 in order to get information about pageant activities out to each of you.

As we get closer to our Dixieland Dreams and the pageant date, we would just like to remind each contestant to get their picture and profile into Camping Today. We would also like to remind any Teen Kings who would like to participate by sharing their talent to contact us as soon as possible. Princesses and anyone else who would like to showcase their talents that night should also get in touch with us soon.

We look forward to working with all of you during our 2011 Campvention in Ladson, SC.

Youth Chair Needs

We are looking for a few good men (and women) to volunteer some time at the youth center. Please contact Robert and Karen Snodgrass at kssnodgrass@earthlink.net and let us know what day you would like to work. Only a two-hour shift and you will help make a child's Campvention an adventure.

Also, we are in need of youth door prize donations and goody bag items. Door prizes should be new or so gently used they still look new. Goody bags item should be approx. 75 of the same thing (pencils, notepads, advertising for kid

friendly entertainment in the Ladson area, etc.) All donations would be greatly appreciated.

We are in urgent need of a Stage Manager for the 2011 Campvention

Duties include:

1. Background Stage Decoration with the Campvention theme. Also add any stage decorations as needed.
2. Working with the Entertainment Chairman for needed equipment to be on stage.
3. Work with Teen Queen Pageant Committee to schedule rehearsals and the Tuesday night pageant.
4. All award presentations will be so organized that all recipients will be behind the stage area. Must work with the National Officers and Committee Chairmen to accomplish this. It is also your responsibility to determine the order of the presentation of awards to get the recipients on and off the stage in a timely manner.
5. You will need several men to help set up and make changes as necessary for the stage.

Please contact Gerry Dantin, gerry47@bellsouth.net or Mary Burrus, mfburrus@ptmc.net for more information.

Commercial Information

Paul & Pat Parsley, Chairmen

We'll have a certified RV Service and Repairs on grounds at all times —Wayne's RV Service.

Anyone wishing to cater any kind of meals for events, contact Crazy Dutchman Catering. Their address is 1114 Sam Rittenberg Blvd., Charleston, SC 29407 (843 478-2199, www.crazydutchmancatering.com). We used this catering service in the past when we had the Retiree Rally in Ladson. The food was good, and the prices were excellent.

2011 CAMPING IS CONTEST

It is time once again to start thinking about creating a poster or coloring the official entry page for the 2011 Camping Is contest.

“**CAMPING IS**” is a contest to give the youth of Family Campers and RVers an opportunity to express what camping means to them. The contest is divided into six age groups; 0-2 years, 3-4 years, 5-6 years, 7-8 years, 9-10 years, and 11-12 years. Ages 0-4 will have a coloring contest with an official coloring page required. Ages 5-12 will have a poster contest.

The Camping Is poster and coloring contest is typically held during a spring state/province camp-out. Please check with your State/Provincial Director or Youth Director for information on your contest. First place winners at the state/province level will then be entered in the National Contest in Ladson, South Carolina.

Rules

1. Contestant or contestant's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) must be FCRV members.
2. For Coloring Contest (ages 0-4) an official coloring page is required. The coloring page will be available from the State/Provincial Youth Director or from the State/Provincial Director. It is also available for download from the youth page of the FCRV website (www.fcrv.org). The 2011 coloring page is a new picture that features Bizzy Beaver with his some animal friends “Seeing Wildlife”.
3. For Poster Contest (ages 5-12) posters must be a standard size of 22”x 28”. Standard sized poster board or heavy paper of the determined sized may be used.
4. All work, coloring, drawing, lettering, etc., must be the youth's own work. [*This is to say, no adult help in creating the poster, children may use any materials/crafting tools they want to make their poster.*] Coloring contest may be in any non-electronic media (cannot be colored in a computer program). Posters may be any media.
5. Each State/Province may enter **ONLY ONE ENTRY PER AGE GROUP** at the National Contest level. Entries will be registered during the Campvention, please check the program for time and place.
6. The youth's name, address (complete) and birth date, along with Field Director's or State/Provincial Director's certification of FCRV membership must appear in the lower left hand corner on the back of the poster/official coloring sheet.
7. Age will be determined as of July 1 of the year of the contest.
8. Each 1st prizewinner becomes the property of FCRV for promotional uses. All others may be claimed at the end of Campvention.
9. Entries brought to the National Campvention must comply with the stated rules or they will be disqualified.

Camping Is Awards

1. Ribbons will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. Honorable mentions to be awarded at the judges' discretion.
 2. First place winners will receive an additional award (medallion or trophy) to be determined by National Contest Officials.
- All entries will receive a certificate of participation.

For those who will be bringing their state or province winning entries to Ladson, SC, please check the program for location and times for poster/coloring page registration.

Please contact Karen and Robert Snodgrass via email at kssnodgrass@earthlink.net with any questions about the Camping Is contest, or to request the coloring page be sent via email.

Good luck to all our artists. We look forward to seeing many great posters and coloring pages in South Carolina.

2011 YOUTH OF THE YEAR

Attention parents and grandparents. Is your child or grandchild active in FCRV? Do they attend lots of campouts and chapter meetings? Have they created Camping Is or Conservation posters? Do they get involved in chapter/state or province activities? If you answered yes to any of these questions, please nominate that child for the Youth of the Year award.

The Youth of the Year award is a national contest based upon a child's participation in both FCRV and non-FCRV related activities during the previous year (May 1 - April 30).

Along with the entry form, please include a written resume of activities and any other pertinent information; include Photostats and photos as needed. The award will be judged on the all-around participation of the youth. You may send us the information via email, including digital pictures. Emailed entries may be sent to kssnodgrass@earthlink.net.

For those who want to mail an entry, please send them to Karen and Robert Snodgrass, 8759 Forest View Drive, Olmsted Falls, OH 44138.

Rules for Youth of the Year

1. The child's parents (or legal guardians) must be FCRV members.
2. Youth will be up to and including age 12 years. Age as of July 1st 2011.
3. Official entry blank must be used. An adult FCRV member must submit the application. The official entry form is available at www.fcrv.org and is also in the Field Manual.
4. All entries must be sent to the National Youth Directors, postmarked (or computer date stamped) no later than **May 1, 2011**, and in national possession no later than **May 10, 2011**.
5. All entries become the property of the National Youth Director, and may be used to promote FCRV youth and its programs.
6. Awards will be presented to the winners at the same time other awards are given at the National Campvention.
7. Judges will be chosen by the National Youth Directors, and will follow the judge's marking scale to determine winners. Judging will be complete prior to the National Campvention. **ALL JUDGE'S DECISIONS ARE FINAL.**

Due to the need to get entries sent to judges, it is very important that the deadlines listed above be followed. Feel free to email us entries; we can handle many word processing formats as well as PDF files and most of the various picture files.

We hope to see many entries in Youth of the Year; we know there are many FCRV children doing outstanding work for our organization. Please contact us at kssnodgrass@earthlink.net with any questions. We look forward to presenting the award to a deserving youth in Ladson in 2011.

YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARD ENTRY FORM

Use additional sheets for all information; be specific, use format below.

A. FCRV activities for the past 12 months (May 1 – April 30). List all activity in each month even if repeated. 1-75

January	July
February	August
March	September
April	October
May	November
June	December

B. Previous FCRV activities, awards, participation. 1-5

C. Scholastic achievements and all school related activities for the past 12 months. 1-5

D. Other organizations involved with for the past 12 months. 1-5

E. Lessons participated in for all of part of the past 12 months. 1-5

Include a written resume of activities information; include Photostats and photos as needed. The award will be judged on the all-around participation of the youth.

1. The child's parents must be FCRV members.
2. Youth will be up to and including 12 years. Age as of July 1st of the contest.
3. Official entry blank must be used. Application must be submitted by adult FCRV member.
4. All entries must be sent to the Nation Youth Directors, postmarked no later than May 1, and in national possession no later than May 10th before Campvention.
5. All entries become the property of the National Youth Director, and may be used to promote FCRV youth and its programs.
6. Awards will be presented to the winners at the same time other awards are given at the National Campvention.
7. Judges will be chosen by the National Youth Directors, and will follow the judge's marking scale to determine winners. Judging will be complete prior to the National Campvention. **ALL JUDGE'S DECISIONS ARE FINAL.**

Entry Name _____

Phone _____ Birth date _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Parent Name _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Entry Submitted by _____

Complete Address _____

CERTIFICATION:

This child's parents are members in good standing of FCRV.

Date _____

Field/State/Provincial _____
Director Stamp/Signature

Return by May 1st to
National Youth Director.

HANK NATHAN 20TH REUNION

By Elva & Anthony Forte

It is the time of year to remind you of the 20th Hank Nathan Reunion which will be coming up soon in 2011 to be held at Villa Roma. We had thought it would be nice to try another resort but we were not very happy with our findings. The one that was almost what we knew you might like was so expensive that we could not think of offering it to you. The other places did not offer much for the price they charged. So we thought it best to stay with Villa Roma as it has always had the best to offer.

You have a choice of spending 5 days & 4 nights, arriving on Monday 'til Friday, or 4 days & 3 nights, arriving on Tuesday until Friday. This way we will not miss their famous Caesar's Night - on Thursday night with the banquet fit for an Emperor. The week we will be there is "Italian Week" and every evening there is something for us; on Tuesday we have the Bellini Cocktail Hour, on Wednesday there will be Wine & Cheese served, then 'on Thursday Caesar's night. Of course the day we arrive, Monday, we will have coffee, tea and danishes served in our meeting room.

The Villa Roma is well known for their great meals. Those of you who have attended other Hank Nathan Reunions will remember that they have added a light lunch so that we get three meals. We will get breakfast, lunch and dinner plus the cocktail hour, the wine and cheese and of course the splendid feast on Thursday. Some of you were given lovely rooms last year we cannot promise that we will get them again. We have asked them that if it is possible we would appreciate it and they have told us that if they are available they will do their best to accommodate us.

RATES: (April 12 -15) 4 days, 3 nights
\$328 per person double occupancy
\$307 per person triple occupancy
\$418 per person single occupancy

(April 11-15) 5 days, 4 nights
\$417 per person double occupancy
\$382 per person triple occupancy
\$550 per person single occupancy

PRICES INCLUDE GRATUITIES

We are asking you to pay the full amount in advance. If you have to cancel your money will be refunded less \$5.00 each

Note for our Canadian friends, please make sure your checks or money orders come from banks that are connected to the US. We cannot accept checks or money orders that cannot be cashed in the US because they will cost you and us a fee for cashing.

It will be nice to see you again, please reserve early so we could get good rooms. When you make your reservation please tell us who you want to be near etc. Any special events please put on the application. We are asking you to pay the full amount in advance. If you have to cancel your money will be refunded less \$5.99/each. The deadline is March 15, 2011. Please reserve early as we do not have too many rooms.

Do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you need any information. Elva & Anthony Forte, emperry@aol.com or 516-483-0416 (please leave message) cell: 917-929-4847 (after 9 PM or Saturday and Sunday).

Make checks payable to Nassau City of NCHA
Mail application with check to: Forte, 950 Smith Street, Uniondale, NY 11553

Twentieth HANK NATHAN REUNION
April 11th or 12th to April 15th, 2011
Villa Roma, Callicon, New York

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE/PROV: _____

ZIP: _____ PHONE: _____ CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____ CHAPTER(If applicable) _____

Indicate any requests: _____

FCRV Newsletter Contest Information will be in March issue of Camping Today or found on the FCRV website on the Campvention 2011 page.

FAREWELLS

Albert William Duck, 12-1-10, Henderson Survey, Ontario. Brantford Sundowners, Past OPA Conservation Scholarship Chairman

Charles Porter, 12-4-10, Michigan, Yars chapter.

Gene Snook, 12-5-10, Garrett, Indiana, W.E. Campers chapter

John Horsnell, 12-13-10, Aylesford, Nova Scotia, longtime member of High Tide Drifters

Ray LaRocque, 95, 12-16-10, Wolfeboro, New Hampshire. Reporter and freelance writer who promoted NCHA/FCRV in his articles. Former columnist for Camping Today. Member of Camping Hall of Fame, Bearbrook, NH. Longtime member.

Marion Bauer, 12-21-10, Bradford, Illinois, Kentucky Colonels Chapter.

Elaine Wilson, 12-25-10, Waterbury, Connecticut. Happy Wanderers, Golden Nuggets, longtime member

Bernie Weaver, 12-29-10 Truro, Nova Scotia, 39 year Member of Hub Campers and former PANS Photographer

Clair Bowen, 91, 1-2-11, Marlborough, MA, Colonial Wanderers, Nahoba Apple Core.

Gerald Brooks, 94, Canton, Ohio. Charter member Buckeye Bacon Burners

Klaus J. Bachman, 1-25-11, Kentville, Nova Scotia. Hight Tide Drifters, FCRV Citation award.

Upcoming Events

April 25-29, 2011 – Louisiana Pelican Spring Retiree Rally. Kemper Williams Campground, Patterson, LA. Hwy. 90, 264 Cotton Rd. 4.5 mi. west of Morgan City, LA. Phone 985-395-2298

May 6 - 8, 2011 – Oklahoma 2011 Spring Fling. Cherokee area of Sequoyah State Park, Hulbert Oklahoma, One of Oklahoma's more beautiful State Parks and good Oklahoma Hospitality. Camping at \$14 per night and early arrivals welcome. Minimal activity fee may be charged as planning progresses. For further information contact Janell or Gary O'Neal at okiedaisy@gmail.com

May 6 – 8, 2011 – Kansas Campers Spring State Campout, hosted by Area IV at Harvey Co. East Park, Newton, KS. Call Marty Mashak at 620-459-6737 for more details.

May 20-22, 2011 - Michigan State Association's 2011 State Spring Campout theme "Springtime in the Country" will be held at the Travel Trailer Clubs of the Midwest (TTCM) Campground in Bellevue, Michigan. A youth pageant, tent city for the teens, teen hot dog sale, ice cream social, breakfast for a donation, Saturday evening program/entertainment are just part of the planned activities offered during the weekend. Some of the area attractions include: Turkeyville, golf course, Fire Keepers Casino, Old Town Marshall, restaurants in Bellevue and Olivette. Early arrivals are welcome beginning Wednesday, May 18, 2011. The pre-registration (activity fee) of \$25 is due May 13, 2011. The camping fee for the first night is \$15 and all additional nights are \$10 per night. For more information please contact, Sharon Westerhouse: 517.285.4111, Tom Westerhouse: 517.490.5358 or email them at tandsfourfun@hotmail.com .

May 20, 21, 22, - Ohio Spring Statewide Campout will be held at the Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster, OH. Pre-registration fee is \$42. There will be games, an Incredible Edible Food Auction, Youth and teen activities, door prizes, entertainment - Magic by David, and more. Come and help Ohio celebrate it's 50th anniversary in FCRV/NCHA. For further information and a registration form, contact Dick & Pat Smith, 216-663-2681 or e-mail them cbreez33@juno.com.

Coming In March Camping Today

- See more of what's new in RV trends from RVIA's Louisville RV show. Sales are expected to be good in 2011.
- Charleston is where the Civil War began 150 years ago. A visit to Fort Sumter is a must for tourists.
- What's camping without a campfire? Ralph Yates tells some memorable campfire tales.
- A list of FCRV Discount Campgrounds and Commercial Members will be printed.
- Check the updates for Retiree Rally and Campvention.

51st Annual Family Campers and RVers Campvention
 Hosted by Southeast Region #6
 Friday, July 8 – Friday July 15, 2011 – Ladson, SC



'DIXIELAND DREAMS'

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Spouse/Guest First Name _____

Member FCRV? Yes _____ No _____

Address _____ City _____ St/Prov _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____ Is this your first Campvention? Yes _____ No _____

of Adults _____ Teens _____ Youth 9-12 _____ Youth 5-8 _____ Youth 0-4 _____ Attending (TOTAL# OF PEOPLE IN UNIT) _____

Camping Unit Type: Tent _____ Fold Down Trailer _____ Trailer _____ 5th Wheel _____ Motorhome _____ #Slides _____ Unit Length _____

Please list the names and ages of all teens and youth on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to this form.

CAMPVENTION PARKING

Parking will be hobo by State/Province. If you wish to park together, you **MUST** All be pre-registered and come in together. Sites have electric and water, but you may need an extra cord and water hose. Campers who do not pre-register will be parked wherever spaces are available.

TWO OR MORE FAMILIES ATTENDING CAMPVENTION IN ONE UNIT

Each family in the same unit must complete a separate Registration Form. The additional family must purchase a camp pass. Please indicate the unit owners name: _____

HANDICAPPED INFORMATION:

TYPE OF HANDICAPPED SITE REQUESTED: Non-mobile person: _____ Mobile person: _____ There will be no handicapped sites available at the gate. **TO BE GUARANTEED A HANDICAPPED SITE YOU MUST PREREGISTER!**

VIP PARKING:

National Officers and those designated to camp in Headquarters, please check here: _____

CAMP PASS INFORMATION: Families staying off grounds must purchase a Camp Pass and complete a registration form.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION JUNE 15, 2011			
REGISTRATION FEE			
<u>Pre-registration fee:</u>		<u>At the Gate:</u>	
Member:	\$225	Camping – Member:	\$255
Non-member:	\$255	Non-member:	\$285
<u>Camp Pass:</u>		<u>Camp Pass:</u>	
Member:	\$135	Member:	\$155
Non-member:	\$155	Non-Member:	\$175
Daily Program Pass:	\$30 per family		
<u>Make checks or money orders payable to: FCRV Campvention 2011. ALL FUNDS MUST BE US CURRENCY.</u>			
<u>MAIL TO:</u> Bill and Penny Ramlow, 341 Holly Cove Road #8, Whittier, NC 28789			
<u>NOTE!</u> Oct 15, 2010 until April 15, 2011 Ramlow's address changes to: 6131 East 1 st Ave., Hialeah, FL 33013			
Questions? Call 813-545-6083 or E-mail pramlow@aol.com .			
FOR GENERAL CAMPVENTION INFORMATION CALL: Walter or Marilyn Shealy at 803-781-0150.			
Note: If you register and are unable to attend for any reason, we will automatically mail you a refund of any prepaid fees less \$25.00.			

WE WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE FOLLOWING JOBS: _____