



The



Lantern

PUBLISHED BY THE MARYLAND/DC STATE ASSOCIATION OF FCRV

Fall

2011

GREETINGS FROM YOUR MD/DC ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Ending of yet another Wonderful Camping Season

As we begin to wind down another wonderful camping season, I will reflect on what I have done with it. For some of us the camping season will not end. These folks are known as Snowbirds, and they just winterize their homes and head to warmer climates. Some go to Florida, some to Texas and yet some go to the desert regions, such as Arizona, New Mexico and some ever go as far as into Mexico.

Tom and I hope to go to Mexico this year but NO, we will not be going alone. We will be going with a group of RVers. It is still not safe to go into Mexico alone. They have many rules that you may not be familiar with, for example in Mexico you are guilty until proven innocent which is opposite of what we in the US are familiar with. So if your travels take you into Mexico this winter, go with friends.

Anyway, I hope your summer was just what you had planned for. So when you winterize those rigs keep your good times in your memory. Maybe that is how you will get through the winter months here in the MD, DC region.

We were unable to attend the National Campvention this year in Ladson, SC due to scheduling conflicts. I hope that those who were able to attend had a fabulous time. We need to support FCRV whenever we can. Hopefully you might have invited some friends to accompany you through the Cadet Program.

This being my last article as your President, I would like to say good luck to Cheri (assuming that she will be elected) as she takes the reigns at the State Campout in LaPlata scheduled for next month. I will be having my second knee surgery on Sept. 27th so I may just be down for the day, we will have to wait and see how I am doing. Steps and knee replacements don't always go along too well and you must go up some mighty narrow steps to get into motor homes. So with that I will say,

“Happy Trails to you until we meet again!”

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the LaPlata State Campout.

Debbie Abernethy
MD/DC State Assn. President



GREETINGS FROM YOUR MD/DC STATE DIRECTOR

Eight Maryland/DC families attended the National Campvention in South Carolina. Seventeen members walked in the parade - we took first place again - in the State/Provincial walking unit category. One Marylander participated in the International Band. Check the picture on page 24 of the September issue of "Camping Today".

Also, a Wildlife grant of \$750.00 was awarded to the Phoenix Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Phoenix, Maryland.

227 pounds of soda can tabs were turned in by the Maryland/DC State Association, to be sold, with the proceeds going to the Ronald McDonald house. Keep up the good work.

Next years Campvention will be held in Blyth, Ontario, Canada. If you were there before, in 2006, you know what a great place it is. I hope we will have a good representation from the MD/DC Association next July. You now need a passport to re-enter the US from Canada. If you do not now have an active passport, and you need one, check page 30 of the September "Camping Today" for information.

In 2014 the Campvention will be in the northeast part of the US, possibly Vermont. Mark your calendars.

The 2012 Northeast Regional will be held in August, most likely in New Jersey. We will give you more details on this when we receive them. You can also check the Dates to Remember in "Camping Today".

If you have signed up a Cadet Member (and please take advantage of this opportunity to increase your chapter membership) they should receive their packet and you should receive another certificate to sign up another Cadet, in about two weeks. If they have not received their packet, please let us or the national office know.

For insurance purposes, we need information about your winter meetings (if held in a hall or meeting room somewhere) as well as your summer camping schedule. If the facility needs proof of insurance, please let us know. See you in LaPlata.

Joe and Peggy Lins
Home # 410-592-6839
Cell # 410-371-2910 Email: jlins1@juno.com

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DASAT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

From the song "The earth shook from under my feet" wow...who would have ever thought an earthquake would strike Maryland. But believe you me that is exactly what happened on Tuesday, August 23. The building shook, houses shook, cars shook, wherever you were everything shook. The question now has to be ask, were you prepared? Most likely, you were not! Hey remember that old-fashioned thing with the holes in the dial, the old fashion landline called the telephone, it worked. Cell phones did not as they were jammed with everyone calling to find out what happened. Here is a case where modern technology failed. Consider for a moment that some of the older communication devices still are more dependable in an on going emergency than the more modern cell phone. Believe it or not new is not necessarily better-old faithful is better.

Then once again within the same week another major disastrous event occurred. This was hurricane Irene passing through the area.

Her vengeance appeared on Saturday and Sunday, August 27 & 28. The repeated question has to be asked: Were you prepared? During the course of Saturday afternoon following into the next day the winds blew, the rain came, some flooding and of course the power went bye-bye. To those who lost power-remember some individuals did not have power for several days. Did you have the means to sustain some normalcy in your life during this time period? For those of you who have attended some of the previous DASAT programs in the past you have received the skills to survive. Remember those simple little handy Emergency guides-they could have become your saving graces. During all kinds of disasters, simple things like having water on hand, flashlights, a working radio, canned food, can opener, checking on neighbors and other sundry items will be worth their weight in gold when you need them the most. Even having a working generator can be a valuable piece of equipment.

Now is the time to begin reviewing your own household emergency plans. Make a list of things you need, purchase them and put them in a safe secure place, which is easily accessible. Put all these items together so that you can readily find them when needed. Remember to always check your "emergency items" to make sure batteries are working, and first aid supplies have not passed their usefulness. Following the disaster-reevaluate what you could have done differently. What did you need and did not have? What could you have done better, were you safe, ask yourself as many questions as possible to make better preparation for the next emergency. Consider this: You never know when or where the emergency may happen. The best possibility is to ask, are you properly prepared? For this year, hurricane season is not over until early November. Tornados, earthquakes, and other natural disaster can and will happen. Plan early, prepare, and be safe.

Joe Boswell,
DASAT Chair

National Convention Report

Hot, hotter, and even scorching were the days of summer at the Family Campers and RVers National Convention in Ladson, South Carolina in July. The weather did not keep those from Maryland/D.C from having a good time at this wonderful National Campvention. It was interesting to realize that most of the Maryland/D.C. individuals for the most part all arrived at the same time. Funny how that all worked out because through the comparison of notes we all left at different times and days, yet made it to the correct destination together. We were all camped close together and were able to have lots of electric to run our A/C. Water was available, sewer hook-up, and even a few steps away were the restrooms. This gave everyone the comforts of home away from home.

Those in attendance included the following families: The Morgans, Burrells, Boswells, the Mitchells, George, along with his two sons Mathew and Michael and all their wonderful children, the Lins with their granddaughter, and the Schindlers, who were parked in the handicapped areas-closer to the building and activities. Please forgive me if I have left someone out, my sincere apology to you.

The week was filled with lots of activities throughout the day. You had to pick and choose what you wanted to do-or did you decide to take a tour of some of the historical places in the Charlestown area. Fort Sumter was just a short drive away as were various Southern Plantations. There was much to see and do. For instance Shirley Morgan took advantage of several of the Craft Seminars. Joe and Peggy Lins provided around the clock security for everyone on the grounds. The Mitchell families were additional helping hands in the "Youth" Center throughout the week. The children in attendance participated in various "Youth" activities throughout the week. It's interesting to note that this was one of the cooler buildings on the Fairgrounds. How lucky they were. Many others attended various seminars throughout the week, for Conservation, Amateur Radio, Wildlife, Red Hatters, and many others. Entertainment was in the larger building, along with the silent auction, vendors, local information table, tab recycling, and the morning, afternoon or evening hospitalities. One of our most exciting evening events was the round up of our "sidewalk noise makers" the children from our state who were ready and willing to make a joyful reply as the various "noise parades" passed by our camping area.

Continued on next page

By the way Maryland/D.C was able to recycle 227 pounds of pop-tops. The Scott Key Campers, Falcons, D.C Ramblers, and Campfire Cut-Ups made the largest contributions to our efforts. Keep collecting those tabs, as all proceeds from our recycling efforts go to Ronald McDonald House.

The week of activities concluded Thursday morning with the traditional parade. Our walking unit, as depicted in the last issue of "Camping Today" (p 24 top corner) won first place for a "walking unit". Friday morning found everyone packing up for the return trip home full of memories of a wonderful Campvention. By and large everyone had a wonderful time. Hope to see you at our State Campout in October and maybe at the next Campvention in Canada next year.

Joe Boswell, Reporting

[Book Give Away on Again](#)

The book give away has been very popular in the past, so we thought we'd do it again at LaPlata. Bring all of your books that you've read and would like to give away and we'll place them on a table for all to enjoy.

Dates to Remember

2012

April- MD/DC Exec Comm. meeting
May 18-20, MD/DC campout
Walkersville
July National Campvention
August- MD/DC Exec. Comm. Meeting
October- MD/DC campout, LaPlata

THE LANTERN IS AVAILABLE ON LINE AT: FCRV.ORG. CLICK ON "NEWSLETTERS", THEN CLICK ON "M"

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

If you have anything you would like placed in the Lantern, please let me know and I will gladly accommodate you. Contact me at 301-579-6666, or nodsille@gmail.com

Thanks

Don Ellis, Editor

FOOD BANK

Please bring your non-perishable food items and place them on the table in the main building. They will be given to the needy.

CHAPTER 2011 CAMPING SCHEDULES

FALCONS

Oct. 14-16, MD/DC State Campout, LaPlata, MD

Joe Boswell, 301-934-9382

Nov. 11-13, White Oak Campground,

Don & Marie Halter, 301-932-7653

Dec. 3 or 10, Christmas Party

SCOTT KEY CAMPERS

Oct. 14-16, MD/DC State Campout, LaPlata, MD

Kapitol Campers - Not Available

DC Ramblers - Not Available

Campfire Cutups - Not Available

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Campfire Cut-Ups
George Mitchell
602 Truxton Rd. Rt. 5
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-757-4500

D. C. Ramblers
Lois Fletcher
1208 Savannah St. S. E.
Washington, DC 20032
202-561-0609
lbifletch@aol.com

Falcons
Don Ellis
16200 Brandywine Rd
Brandywine, MD 20613
301-579-6666
nodsille@gmail.com

Scott Key Campers
Ken Morgan
5 Wood Street
Woodsboro, MD 21798
301-845-8696
sjmor301@comcast.net

MARYLAND/D.C. STATE ASSOCIATION

Officers 2010-2011

President

Debbie Abernethy
P. O. Box 201
Accokeek, MD 20607
301-292-6263
ka3vnf@hotmail.com

First Vice President

Donald Ellis
16200 Brandywine Road
Brandywine, MD 20613-3302
301-579-6666
301-503-0477 ©
nodsille@gmail.com

Second Vice President

Cheri Fox
4310 13th St. N. E.
Washington, DC 20017
202-526-3193 © 202-503-8155
drfox623@aol.com

Treasurer

Betty Ann Ellis
16200 Brandywine Road
Brandywine, MD 20613-3302
301-579-6666
taxlady@hotmail.com

Secretary

Don Zable
1422 S. Pleasant Valley Rd.
Westminster, MD 21158
410-861-7191 ©
zabeldon@gmail.com

State Director

Peggy Lins
3833 Dance Mill Road
Phoenix, MD 21131-2117
410-592-6839
jlins1@juno.com

Regional Director

Lloyd & Kay Humphrey
31 Deerfield Road
Boiceville, NY 12412
lhumphrey@localnet.com

Past President

Joe Lynn Boswell
P. O. Box 542
LaPlata, MD 20646-0453
301-934-9382
jboswell@ccboe.com

COMMITTEES FOR THE FALL CAMPOUT

Registration: Falcons
Hospitality: Scott Keys
Restroom: Campfire Cutups
50/50: DC Ramblers
Project Sales: DC Ramblers
Dinner: Falcons
Schedule: Executive Committee

Parking/Layout: Falcons
Bingo: Falcons
Security: Campfire Cutups
Children's Games: Campfire Cutups
Adult Games: Scott Keys
Entertainment: Falcons
Church: Scott Keys/Don Zabel

Future State Campout Dates:
October 14, 15, 16, 2011
May 18, 19, 20, 2012

Locations:
Charles County Fairgrounds, LaPlata, MD
Walkersville FD Carnival Grounds
Walkersville, MD

Cut along this line

BALLOT **ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2012-2013**

Please cast your vote by placing an X beside your choice or write in a name:

PRESIDENT:

CHERI FOX_____

Write in_____

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:

PAM GRABOWSKI_____

Write in_____

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT:

KRISTY SHRIVER_____

Write in_____

SECRETARY:

DON ZABEL_____

Write in_____

TREASURER:

GEORGE GRABOWSKI_____

Write in_____

Please bring your ballot to the Fall Campout, and place it in the Ballot Box.

If you are unable to attend the Fall Campout, please send your ballot to:

Joe Lins, Nomination Committee

3833 Dance Mill Road, Phoenix, MD 21131-2117

Come join us with the Scott Key Campers for Breakfast

SATURDAY MORNING

8:30 AM to 9:15 AM

- Pancakes
- Sausage links
- Juice
- Coffee and Tea

Adults \$3.50, Children 4-12 \$1.75, Under 4 Free

-----Cut and Mail-----

Reservation Form for Breakfast
Reservation Deadline is Oct 10th

Name: _____

Make checks payable to

Scott Key Campers

Name: _____

Mail to: Shirley Morgan

5 Wood Street

Woodsboro, MD 21798

Adults _____ Children _____ Under 4 _____

Total _____

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING DOOR PRIZES FOR THE GENERAL MEETING

Free Camping

If you have a potential member that is interested in camping with us, you can offer them a free weekend of camping at LaPlata. The only thing we ask is that they pay the registration fee of \$8.00, which covers them for insurance purposes. This is for campers who do not belong to a FCRV chapter.

PLEASE NOTE

WE ARE TRYING TO MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR DINNER WITH "MISS MOTELYS CAFÉ" IN BEL ALTON. THEY CAN ACCOMMADATE EVERYONE AND THEIR MEALS START AT \$7.00 FOR A FISH DINNER OR \$10.00 FOR A CHICKEN DINNER. IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DINE THERE, MANY OTHER OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU IN THE LAPLATA AREA. LEAVE THE CAMPGROUND AT 5:15 BY CAR POOL AND ARRIVE FOR DINNER AT 5:30 PM.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEKEND

Thursday

12:00 Noon Gates Open
3:00 PM Games
5:30 PM Covered Dish Dinner

Friday

12:00 Noon Gates Open
7:00 PM Card Bingo
8:30 PM Hospitality

Saturday

8:00 AM CAM Exercise
8:30 AM to 9:15 AM Breakfast
9:45 AM Opening ceremonies and General meeting
10:45AM Project Sales (Midway)
2:00 PM Adult Games and Children Games
3:00 PM Craft Project (Suzi Zabel)
4:00 PM DASAT Training Seminar
5:30 PM Dinner off site at "Miss Motley's Café"
7:30 PM Entertainment

Sunday

8:00 AM CAM Exercise
9:30 AM Church
10:30 AM Executive Comm. Meeting
12:00 Noon Check Out

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REGISTRATION FORM FOR CAMPING
MD/DC State Association of FCRV, Inc
Fall Campout, Oct. 14-16, 2011
LaPlata, MD

Registration Deadline Oct. 10, 2011

Make check payable to:
FCRV MD/DC

Registration fee: **\$8.00 per unit** - non refundable
Camping fee: **\$18.00 per night**

**2 nights plus registration
is a total of \$44.00**

Please print your name and address:

First Middle Last

MAIL TO:

Betty Ellis
16200 Brandywine Road
Brandywine, MD 20613
301-579-6666

Street Address

City State Zip

Amount enclosed:\$_____

Chapter Name or "Non Chapter Member"

Number of Campers
Adults _____
children _____

Is this your first time camping with FCRV? Yes ___ No ___

I will be coming on Thursday_____ Additional \$18.00.

If you would like the Lantern e-mailed to you please provide your email address below:

Email address: _____

DIRECTIONS TO THE CHARLES COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS

FROM THE WEST: Interstate 70 East to Interstate 270 South, to Interstate 495, to Branch Ave. (Route 5 South). Route 5 runs into Route 301 South, proceed through Waldorf and stay on Route 301 south to LaPlata. Go 4 miles south of LaPlata to the Fair Grounds on your left. Follow signs into the Fair Ground.

ALTERNATE WEST ROUTE: (to avoid interstate 495) Route 70 south to Route 32 south, to Route 3 & 301 south and then continue with the directions above to the Fair Grounds. This way is a little longer but not as congested.

FROM THE NORTH: Interstate 95 south to interstate 695, to interstate 97 south, which runs into Route 3 & 301 south to Waldorf. Go south on 301 to LaPlata. Go 4 miles south of LaPlata to the Fair Grounds on your left. Follow signs into Fair Grounds.

FROM THE SOUTH: (from Virginia) Follow Route 301 north across the Potomac River Bridge. Go about 8 miles. Watch for the signs. Fair Grounds will be on your right.

***ALTERNATE TO BYPASS WALDORF:** Coming south on Rts 301 & 5, after you pass the intersection with Brandywine Rd. (Rt 381), get in the left lane. After you go through the light at Cedarville Rd. (there's a 7-11 on the left and a WAWA on the right), take south Rt 5 left around Waldorf. After about 3 miles, stay in the center lanes and cross over Rt 5 onto St. Charles Parkway. St. Charles Parkway becomes Rosewick Ave. Stay on Rosewick Ave until it dead-ends at Rt 301. Go left on Rt 301 and proceed to the fairgrounds on the left.*

Family Campers and Rvers
Don Ellis
16200 Brandywine Road
Brandywine, MD 20613

