

FCRV EXECUTIVE BOARD HOLDS WINTER MEETING

FCRV's winter 2009 Executive board meeting was held March 16th and 17th at Sam's Town hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. A number of members camped at the attached RV park while others flew in and stayed at the hotel. An informal gathering was held Sunday evening at the RV park

Monday's pre-session began with a Regional Directors meeting at 8 a.m. At 9 a.m the Entire group met (Trustees, Regional Directors, State / Provincial Directors, Program Directors). Chaplain Pat Conley began with an invocation. New board members present were introduced including Gerri Dantin, LA State Dir., Della Wilkes, SPC Dir., Steve and Mary Witman, NE State Dir., Pat Conley, Chaplain, Jim and Marilyn Stobbart, Reg.7 Dirs., Lloyd and Kay Humprey, Reg.5 Dirs., Bob and Michelle Dillon, WV State Dirs., and Glen and C.J. Else, Campvention Coordinator.

President, Jack Smye gave the first presentation, FCRV after 60 years. National Director, Shari Weber presented FCRV organizational structure, Sue Fromholzer, FCRV Office Manager presented responsibilities of the office staff, Corresponding Secretary Wilson Forbes presented field and operations manuals, Immediate Past President, Eldon Sellers presented roles and responsibilities of trustees, Dave Ludwig, 2nd Vice President presented national program directors, Comptroller, Jan Cushing presented finances and expense vouchers, and Denny Scott, 1st Vice President presented how the trustees function.

The afternoon was devoted to break out sessions discussing the following questions: What does my membership get me? How do I share this information with the members? How do I promote these ideas? How can we improve participation in national programs? Are there new programs that should be created? Are there programs that should be dropped? Conclusions were presented by each group and the trustees promised that changes are coming. Following this session program directors met with the trustee to whom they report. Free time was scheduled for Monday evening.

The Tuesday meeting was comprised of information and reports. Sue Carlson filled in as Recording Officer as Sandy Kendall was unable to attend due to the death of her mother. Comptroller, Jan Cushing said income for the last 7 months was \$130,900 and expenses were \$115,400 leaving a net balance of \$15,500. Assistant Comptroller, Bill Stirewalt reported that some of the investments are in mutual funds which like the stock market have decreased in value. This has had little effect on the income that FCRV receives from investments. The Scholarship and Wildlife funds are also stable.

Hugh Hicks reported on how the dealer chapters work. One of the two in Ontario has suspended the program, but plans to keep the established chapter going. Adventure RVs still providing an FCRV membership with each unit sold. Seven percent of the dealer program members have renewed their FCRV membership.

Vickie Roop, FCRV Website Editor, presented an online tour of the FCRV website (www.fcrv.org), showing what was located under each of the topics on the main navigation bar. She suggested if you are searching for an item on the website, you can use the "Search" box on the pages to search only the FCRV website.

A skit was presented on how to promote an event featuring Shirley MacKenzie as a radio talk show host and the regional directors as the guests.

Shari Weber presented certificates of appreciation to those leaving the board including Charles and Emma Daniels, LA '89 -'08, Don and Marjory Bates, AL '04 -'08, Byron and Jan Johnston, NE '03 - '08, Nancy and Al Bechner, SPC '93 - '08. Mary and Gordon Morton are now directors for New Brunswick. Four new chapters have been chartered – L.I. Campfires & Sunsets, NY, Northern Lites, MO, Road Runners, GA, Campflies of Long Island, NY.

Items of information: An auto responder is being considered for the web site. Advance music for the Campvention band is available from Craig Weber. FICC's '08 rally was in Korea and '09 is in Ipswich. D.A.T. is being updated and new captains should contact Marilyn Rausch. Wildlife grant applications are due by May 29 and the auction, photo contest, and birdhouse contest will be held at Campvention. There will be NO travel before Campvention so sign up for the tours instead. S.P.C. is getting updated. Historian will have a 60 year display at Campvention. Colorado is still recruiting and Arizona and Nevada have new directors pending approval. Region 3 has new directors for TN – Hardisons, WV – Dillons, LA – Dantin. According to a 1959 NCHA magazine, the Bell City Campers of Racine were WI's first chapter. Youth of the year applications are coming due. The 4 and under coloring page is on the web site. Teen sports at Sedalia will be handled by Seth Chorley. Adult sports will also have games open to anyone. Membership had been holding steady, but dropped by 632 since last year. The Ambassador Club has a new brochure. Paul Parsley was thanked for a good job with commercial memberships. ANPAC insurance was thanked for their participation with FCRV. An amendment concerning candidates was passed. Complete board minutes as well as information on all aspects of FCRV are available on the web site, www.fcrv.org.

Al Jurek sent a report that the '09 Arizona Retiree Rally was a success. Next year's rally is at Ladson, South Carolina.

The 2008 National Campvention in PA turned over a check for \$24,000. Pre-registrations for 2009 in Sedalia are up and a good attendance is expected. This year The sites are full hook-up. Two early days are optional at \$15 a night. Parking is hobo so those planning to park together should come in together. Wi-fi will be available at the office. Tours are a good opportunity to see the area and let someone else do the driving. The parade theme is 60 years of camping with NCHA/FCRV. It will be on grounds. State / Provincial directors have the information and forms for Campvention activities.

The 2010 Campvention is in Berrien Springs, Michigan. It will be FCRV's 50th Campvention and the theme is Golden Reunion of Family Campers.

The meeting concluded Tuesday afternoon and a banquet was held at the hotel Tuesday evening. Entertainment was provided by the barbershop quartet, Broadcast who sang a special song to Miss FCRV and called Jack Smye on stage to join in a number. Miss Texas, Harley Varner was introduced and Miss FCRV 2008, Bradleigh Sherry of PA entertained with a Broadway dance number. New board members were "initiated" with a volleyball game opposite the trustees using blankets and an inflated rubber glove. The next executive board meeting will be in July at Campvention.