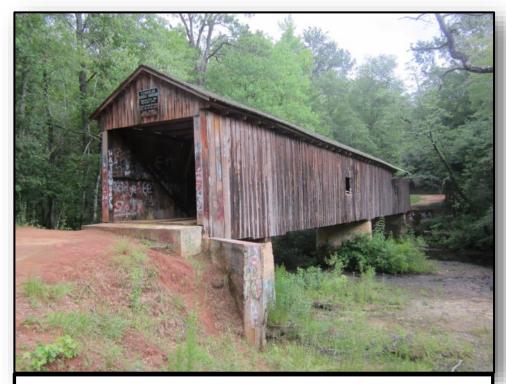
# CAMPING TODAY®



February 2020





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Please forward address changes to FCRV Headquarters, 4804 Transit Rd., Bldg. 2, Depew, NY 14043 — (716)668-6242 FCRV Webpage Address: www.fcrv.org

Office email: fcrvnat@verizon.net

All articles/information for Camping Today should be sent to DeWayne Johnston & Vickie Roop by the first of the month prior to publication.

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VP of Operations: Sue Fromholzer VP of Programs: George Walters VP of Planning & Development

Matt Mantia

Corresponding. & Recording Officer:

Sue Carlson

Comptroller: Jan Cushing Past President: Jack Smye

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PLEASE SEND ARTICLES TO VICKIE, TOO.

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February is the month of the Ground Hog. Did he see his shadow? If so there are 6 more weeks of winter. I hope it was cloudy on February 2<sup>nd</sup>! Hope you have all stayed safe and warm. Some of our members are eagerly awaiting the coming camping season and some have con-

tinued to camp throughout the winter.

Thank you everyone for your prayer support for our family. Heather is improving and working to meet all the requirements to be able to receive a transplant when a new organ becomes available.

#### **Staff Changes**

There have been a few changes on the Executive Board recently. Margaret and Bill Alderman resigned as Virginia State Director after serving in that position for 6 years. Currently a search is underway to find the next Virginia State Director. Harold Braley stepped down from the Ohio State Director position. Harold has been the Ohio State Director since 2017. While a search is made for a new Ohio Director Dave Hennie is the Acting Director. Please let Sue Fromholzer, Vice President Operations if you or anyone you know is interested in either of the positions. Sue is also looking for a person for the Region 5 Regional Director position.

We are still seeking people for several positions to handle the work of FCRV. A Youth Director to manage the national program for youth is needed. George Walters, Vice President Programs is the contact for this position. Additionally, a Marketing & Advertising Director is needed. The qualified person for this position will help FCRV stay front of mind for campers. Matt Mantia, Vice President Planning & Development is who to contact for this position.

#### Election

Please look for the election article in this issue for information on the election process. President, Vice President Programs, and Recording & Corresponding Officer are the positions up for election. Ballots for the election will be sent out in March. Platforms and bios of the candidates will be in March "Camping

Today".

#### **Scholarship**

This is the time to be working on your scholarship application. Contact Carl & Lynda Wood, Scholarship Director (fcrvscholarship2014@gmail.com) for the necessary forms. Carl & Lynda will also be glad to inform you of the deadlines for submissions.

#### **Awards**

It is an annual tradition for us to recognize outstanding volunteers at campvention. Sue Carlsen, Recording/Corresponding Officer is our awards coordinator. She will make a call for nominations soon. Consider nominating someone for recognition. The nominations must come from a member of field staff. If you are not a field staff member and know of someone who should receive recognition, please contact your state/provincial director for assistance. Awards forms and more information are on ferv.org.

#### **Brigden Ontario Campvention Registration**

Campvention is being planned by the Canadian Region in Brigden Ontario from July 13 – 17. Camy Hicks, Lynn Acre, and Lorne Douglas are leading the team making the plans for a great week.

An attempt was made to set up an account to make it possible for our members to register and pay for campvention using a credit card. For the Canadian Camputention this has proved to be impossible. Sorry. Please follow these procedures to register for the Brigden campvention. Even though initially we did not allow you to write a check to pay for campvention due to the exchange, we now have a process to allow us to take your check. Please be sure to include the registration form which can be printed from "Camping Today" or be found on the website fcrv.org then click the campvention tab. The registration fees have been converted to US funds and are as follows: Campvention registration fee is \$255: golf cart registration fee is \$275; and the extra family fee is \$155. All of these are US dollars. PLEASE INCLUDE ALL APPLI-CABLE REGISTRATION FEES IN ONE CHECK.

(Cont-4)

#### **Additional Camping Opportunities**

Within this magazine you will find information about the retiree rally in Dothan AL. Tommy and Gail Nelson and their team are planning a fun week starting on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Be sure to read the articles about the rally elsewhere in this issue.

Regional and state/provincial campout schedules are included on the website fcrv.org. Check for a campout near you. While the southern folks and snow birds are enjoying camping this time of the year, those remaining in the north are dreaming and planning for the start of the camping season. The next campfire awaits us.

Shari

Come Camp With Us!

## FOR CAMPING & OUTDOOR LOVERS

#### **Tasty Clean**

Keeping food sanitary while camping is almost impossible, but now you don't have to worry! Tasty Clean is a great tasting, chemical-free, cleaning spray that's safe to ingest, clinically tested and Dentist approved. Simply spray the contaminated item, there's no need to wipe or rinse, let it air dry, then use. Tasty Clean relies on the power of apple cider vinegar, an ingredient that's been known for centuries to possess natural antibacterial properties.

#### **Beyond the Equator**

For the yummiest on the go snack, use Beyond the Equator's 5 Seed Butter to make energy bites to fuel



your body throughout the day. This spread is manufactured in a facility free from the top 8 allergens and contains absolutely no peanuts, tree nuts, or soy! The ingredients are simple—seeds, brown cane sugar, salt, natural flavors, and natural Vitamin E. Sunflower seeds create a wonderful base butter while

chia, flax, and pumpkin seeds add a nutritious superfood punch and lend to a luscious creamy texture.

#### **Tummy Drops**

Upset tummies are the last thing you want to deal with when camping or outdoors. Tummy Drops are an all-natural, healthy, medication-free way to relieve

tummy troubles. They're made with just four simple plant-based ingredients including ginger and peppermint. What sets this tasty



remedy apart from other "natural" tummy aids is its creator, a Board-Certified Gastrointestinal Physician, making Tummy Drops a trusted source of relief.

#### Ocean & Co. Stainless Steel Straws



Stainless steel drinking straws = camping necessity! Save the Ocean one drink at a time with Ocean & Co. Stainless Steel Drinking Straws! Each pack comes complete with an Ocean & Co Travel Bag, 2 stainless straws and a cleaner brush!

#### **Blisslights**

BlissLights specializes in creating unique indoor and outdoor laser lights that are ideal for your camping trip!



#### **Humu Surf Beanie**

Stay warm and look awesome! The Humu Surf Beanie is the perfect gift for your favorite surfer. Great for checking the surf at local chilly breaks, or put on after you get out of the water. Available in two beautiful colors, navy and SteelBlue.



Camping Today 4 February 2020



## 49TH FCRV INTERNATIONAL RETIREE RALLY

## NATIONAL PEANUT FAIRGROUNDS DOTHAN, ALABAMA



RALLY DAYS: MARCH 24th - 30th



#### CALLING ALL RETIREES

by Ron & Reba Ray, National Retiree Directors

Now is the time to sign up for the 49<sup>th</sup> International Retiree Rally in Dothan, Alabama.

Early days starts on March 20<sup>th</sup>. With these days, you can visit the area. New Place, New Town, so **Come On Down To Alabama**, and have some fun.

They have 2 camper dealerships, RV Connection and Gander RV, who knows, you might be in for a new camper and this is a place to visit. Dothan has all sorts of restaurants and shopping and recreation in the area, from buffets to BBQ to fast foods. We will have information from the visitor center in order for you to find something to do for the early days. There is a golf course nearby and also Fort Rucker is within driving distance for the veterans.

The rally will start on Tuesday March 24. With the rally, you will have catered meals, hospitalities, games, king & queen contest and of course the ice cream social. Tommy & Gayle Nelson will have a busy week for you planned, so again make your reservation so we know how many to plan for.

If you don't make reservations up front, come on in anyway, there will be plenty of room for everyone.

Hope to see everyone in March!





We are looking for many more contestants for International FCRV Retiree King & Queen for the

2020 rally at Dothan, Alabama. It's not too late to get your application in.

All you need is to be selected as Retiree K & Q from your Province or State. There doesn't have to be a separate retiree chapter – it can be just your province or state organization that selects you.

Next, contact us for an application form. Prepare a write-up about yourselves to submit to us and to publish in Camping Today (a picture to DeWayne would be good). Then decide on campaign handouts & plan your hospitality at the Rally.

You get to meet many new people and make new friends. Other friends will help you prepare for your Hospitality (yum yum).

The couple selected as K & Q are expected to represent FCRV for the year and attend the next Retiree Rally to pass on the crowns to the next K & Q.

Call or email Ronald & Jo Hersom, K & Q Coordinators, to get an application form and information about conducting your campaign. This can include a 300-word or less bio to DeWayne Johnston (d\_johnston01@outlook.com) for inclusion into Camping Today. That should be done soon to meet printing deadlines for winter issues.

Enjoy yourselves, have fun and be part of the FCRV Retiree Rally. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Ronald & Jo Hersom, King & Queen Coordinators 641-750-2774 (cell) 400 E 18<sup>th</sup> St Site 9 (until rally time) Weslaco, TX, 78596

Rj50158@aol.com



#### **FOOD BANK & LAP ROBES**

by Ashley & Gloria Taylor, Food Bank Chairs

We are coming to you in asking for aid and support of the local food bank in Dothan, Alabama in March, 2020. It would help them to be able to purchase more food with cash, but we will take all gifts. Our FCRV family has always had an open heart to give to the area where we enjoy your rallies.



We are also asking for lap robes. We've been sharing lap robes with local nursing home/hospitals for several years at the Retiree Rally. We look forward to receiving many this year in Dothan. Your

efforts are so appreciated.

#### FLEA MARKET VENDORS WANTED



March is just around the corner. It's time to consider preparing for the annual Retirees Flea Market. Bring crafts you have created or white elephant items you have on hand. Join us with your items to sell or come look around for some great buys. Vendor spaces are free!

Richard and Frances Jackson, Flea Market Chairs Fred Muckle, Flea Market Co-Chair



#### **CRAFT**

by Judy Elenburg



I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in Dothan, AL in March. I'm going to do a repeat of a craft we did a while back by request. We will be doing a t-shirt weave and/or a t- shirt fringe cutting and knitting. You will need to bring a pair of scissors, ruler and a t-shirt. This usually shortens the t-shirt by 3 inches. See you soon.



#### DOOR PRIZES



by Pat Crow, Retiree Rally Door Prize Chair

It's been fun to rhyme
But now it's time
To pack up the camper
To the rally we'll scamper
But we will be wise
And have our door prize
Hope you will too
See you in Dothan

#### ALTERNATES COMMITTEE



by Mary Burrus, Chair

The Alternates Committee is a group of members that help out at the Retirees Rally wherever needed, i.e. helping with games, crafts, assisting others at the catered meals, etc. Serving on this Committee is an excellent way to meet others and have a good time, also. If you would be interested in adding your name to our list, you may contact Mary Burrus, <a href="member-me

## FCRV RETIREE CHAPLAIN REQUESTS INFO

by Harold Braley

A memorial service is held on Thursday evening at the rally. Members who have passed away since the last year's rally are listed in the bulletin. Please send the names and state or province to me at <a href="https://hbraley@outlook.com">hbraley@outlook.com</a> to be included in the memorial service. In addition to the names being listed, the names are read with a brief silence after each.





#### RETIREE CHOIR

by Kip Cushing, Retiree Rally Choir Director

It is that time again to remind all those interested to sign up for the choir at the Retiree Rally. I hope to make it a joyous and uplifting musical experience. If you are a piano player and would like to get involved, be sure you let me know.

I would also like to take the choir members to a new level and become Minstrels for the talent show. Some of you may be familiar with the "New Christy Minstrels" or the old "Hootenanny Show" where the groups showcased many popular Folk music songs. If we could find us a guitar player or two and maybe a banjo player, not to mention a fiddle player, we could light up that stage with more fun music. Because of the many activities at the rally, I'm not sure when we can practice; so if you are interested in this Folk music type of singing, try to let me know. I have some music and could try and get some to you beforehand.

I'm not sure how many songs George will let us sing, but if we get him involved, maybe we could get the stage longer? Eh? And then if we get the audience to help us sing the chorus, and well, if we get them clapping to keep the beat, who knows what can happen! I think we could stir up some real good feelings and memories.



#### VARIETY NIGHT SHOW TRADITION CONTINUES

by George Walters, Chair

For the last several years it has been the tradition of the Retiree Rally to have a variety show after the very moving Memorial Service. This has allowed us to tran-



sition from a fitting remembrance of FCRV members who have died since the last rally to a relaxing and fun evening that features our own homegrown talent.

The variety night lasts about 90 minutes, and we try to have 12-15 'acts'. Individuals are allowed 5 minutes, and group skits are allowed 10 minutes. We usually have several states and a couple of provinces

represented in this variety night.

Sign-up will be during the first two days of registration, but now is the time to be thinking about something you, your chapter, state/province could perform to entertain us all. If you can sing, do recitations, play an instrument, dance, do monologues – comic or serious-, or have a group skit, we hope you'll sign up.

Think about it, and we'll see you at registration.





By Bill Alderman, Games Chair

"Come On Down and Play with Us!"

Games, both scheduled and "just have fun" are a significant part of the FCRV Rally. Everyone can play, including those new to the game(s). We'll have Sign-Ups at Registration, but you can Just Show UP and you will play.

The First Afternoon, at 2:00 we'll have Frog Races, which is a lot of fun (and noise)

We have indoor games of Card Bingo (where you might win a \$1 gold coin), 3-13 cards, Chicken-Foot Dominos, Skip-Bo Cards



The outdoor games are: Washer Toss, Bean Bag Toss, and Hillbilly (ladder) Golf.

Saturday morning, we have Bean-Bag Baseball with Teams of 9. Anyone who can fling a small bean bag can play. Almost everyone who attends the Rally will be involved: about 85 percent are on teams, others are Umpires and Score Keepers and a few handle Registration. Bean-Bag players are loud ("Trash-Talking" is permitted and encouraged.)

#### **LINE DANCING**



by Marla & Matt Mantia

Line dancing will be a single line dance lesson and then a couples line dancing lesson this year. We would like to try something new and see how it goes. Marla will teach the single and Marla and Matt will teach the couples line dance.

#### **NO Surrender Band**



A high energy new country and older rock band will perform Friday night, March 27, at the FCRV Retiree Rally in Dothan, AL.

The original members have been together for the last ten years playing many venues in the southeast area.

#### **COVERED BRIDGES OF ALABAMA**

by Barb Turner, Retiree Rally Publicity Chair

Do you enjoy going back in time when covered bridges were common? Are you going to the 2020 FCRV International Retiree Rally in Dothan, Alabama in March? You can enjoy both as there are currently eleven historic covered bridges remaining in Alabama, six of which are at their original locations.

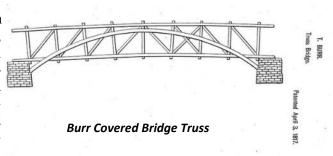


Swann Covered Bridge

Covered bridge 'aficionados' know that there are authentic and non-authentic covered bridges. For the rest of us, we probably need an explanation. According to Wikipedia, an authentic covered bridge is 'a timber-truss bridge with a roof, decking, and siding, which in most covered bridges creates an almost complete enclosure. The purpose of the covering is to protect the wooden structural members from the weather. Uncovered wooden bridges typically have a lifespan of only 20 years because of the effects of rain and sun, but a covered bridge could last 100 years. Covered bridges made with stringers instead of traditional style trusses are considered non-authentic.'

'Typically, covered bridges are structures with longitudinal timber-trusses which form the bridge's backbone. Some were built as railway bridges, using very heavy timbers and doubled up lattice work. Most bridges were built to cross streams, and the majority had just a single span. Virtually all contained a single lane. A few two-lane bridges were built, having a third, central truss.

Several different truss designs were used. Patented in 1817 is one of the most popular designs, the Burr Truss, where an arch bears the load. It was interesting to learn that the early trusses were designed without any understanding of the engineering involved. In 1847 American engineer Squire Whipple published the first correct analysis of the way a load is carried through the truss. He found he that he could build stronger bridges with fewer materials.





Coheelee Creek Bridge

The closest covered bridge to Dothan is Coheelee Creek Covered Bridge which is about 25 miles east of Dothan....in Blakely, Georgia! The bridge was built in 1883 by J.W. Baughman. It has two 54 feet spans and rest on three abutments.

The Retiree Rally is now weeks away. We hope to see you in Dothan, and we hope you might tour some covered bridges of Alabama. The list of bridges can be found at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ List of covered bridges in Alabama.

60<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CAMPVENTION THE TRUE NORTH STRONG AND FREE

Family Campers & Rver's Hosted by Region #7 Eastern Canada Brigden Fairgrounds, 2435 Courtright Line Brigden, ON, NON 1B0

July 13 17<sup>th</sup> 2020 – July





#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

An attempt was made to set up an account to make it possible for our members to register and pay for campvention using a credit card. For the Canadian Campvention this has proved to be impossible. Sorry. Please follow these procedures to register for the Brigden campvention. Even though initially we did not allow you to write a check to pay for campvention due to the exchange, we now have a process to allow us to take your check. Please be sure to include the registration form which can be printed from "Camping Today" or be found on the website ferv.org then click the campvention tab. The registration fees have been converted to US funds and are as follows: Campvention registration fee is \$255: golf cart registration fee is \$275; and the extra family fee is \$155. FEES IN ONE CHECK. Write your check 2020 FCRV Campvention payable to and Marilyn Rosenburger, 1505 Ottawa Street N, Apt #511, Kitchener, ONT N2A 0E8 All of these are US dollars. PLEASE INCLUDE ALL APPLICABLE REGISTRATIONS!

#### SCHEDULE HOSPITALITIES





Any State/Province or other group who wishes to provide a hospitality please contact Connie Skillings to schedule a time. Email her at dcskillings@outlook.com or phone 519-485-4209 or cell 226-456-4209

## FCRV Activities

#### **CHAPTER FOR 55 YEARS**



Sunflower / Buhler Ramblers of Kansas City area has been a chapter for 55 years.

Barbara Mashak Photo

### NORTH CAROLINA CARDINALS CHAPTER

By Bill Stirewalt

The North Carolina Cardinals Chapter recently celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The car and trailer have been used on the cakes for each year anniversary since 1970. (It's now a collector's item).





**Charter Members** 



**Current Members** 

#### FLORIDA SNOWBIRD LUNCH



#### INDIANA SHOW BOOTH



Christopher and Denise Weiss with the FCRV show booth





#### **MARSHALL'S CREATIONS**

**Buy FCRV Merchandise online** 



https://stores.inksoft.com/fc\_rv/ shop/home



#### THE BIG THUMPER

By Joe Boswell, National DASAT Director

Thump, thump, thump...thump, thump...thump that continuous sound which is so important to each and every one of us. It occurs day in and day out, at times it slows down, and at other times is speeds up, yet, it continues thumping away, hour after hours, day after day, week after week, month after month, and of course, year after year. Have you guessed what this thumping is all about? It is your heart beat thumping away. You may not actually hear it but it is working for you all the time.



The month of February is National Heart Month. It was proclaimed on December 30, 1963 by President Johnson. He stated" I urge the people of the United States to give heed to the nation-wide problem of the heart and blood vessels diseases, and to support the programs required to bring about its solution." The first American Heart Month was celebrated in February 1964.

During the month of February, consider making an appointment with your local physician and get a heart check-up. This could be the most important preventive medical appointment you have ever made. Let us explore this topic a bit further. "A heart attack, is call a myocardial infraction, which occurs when a part of the heart muscle does not get enough blood." (2) Once this occurs, and the longer you go without treatment, damage occurs to the heart muscle. "Coronary artery disease (CAD) is the main cause of heart attacks." (2) Other causes, include sever spasms, or a sudden contraction of an artery which can stop the proper flow of blood to the heart.



As described by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, here are the 5 major symptoms of a heart attack.

- o "Chest pain or discomfort. Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the center or left side of the chest that lasts for more than a few minutes or that goes away and comes back. This discomfort can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness, or pain. (As one person described it, like an elephant sitting on your chest.)
- o "Feeling weak, light-headed, or faint. You may also break out in a cold sweat.
- o "Pain or discomfort in the jaw, neck, or back."
- o "Pain or discomfort in one or both arms or shoulders."
- o "Shortness of breath. This often comes along with chest discomfort, but shortness of breath also can happen before chest discomfort."

Additional symptoms of a heart attack can include unusual or unexplained tiredness and nausea or vomiting. These symptoms are more likely to occur in women verses men."(2)

If you have experienced any of the above listed symptoms Call 911, and seek medical help immediately.

Here are some other things to remember, FAST, the signs and symptoms for a stroke. "Use the letters in F.A.S.T" to spot stroke signs and know exactly when to call 911" (3) Thinks about it this way the "F" stand for, Face Dropping, this occurs when one side of the face drops or is it numb. Can that person smile, or is the

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smile uneven or lopsided? The "A" in "FAST" stand for Arm Weakness, is the arm weak or numb? To dig further, ask the person to raise both arms, if one drifts downward, seek medical attention. The "S" in "FAST" stands for speech. Is it slurred, or are you unable to understand what the person is saying. If necessary ask the person to repeat a simple sentence for you. If you are unable to understand what they have said, seek medical attention. Finally, the "T" in "FAST" stand for, time to call 911. The person to who you are attending needs a complete medical evaluation, and fast. (3)

The heart muscle is one of the most valuable muscles in your body. It works even when you do not realize it is working. In order to protect it you need to be aware of how it works and any deficiencies, so let's, let that thumper work, smoothly everybody. The information here is only a brief summary of the symptoms of both a heart attack and symptoms for a stroke. If you find yourself having any of the symptoms as briefly described, seek medical attention at once do not delay, as it could mean the difference between your life and death. Thump, thump, right along we go each and each and every day.



As we celebrate National Heart Month, remember the symbol for February is the Heart, so with that said, Happy Valentine's Day to everyone.

Source:

- 1.Heart Attack and Stroke Symptoms/American Heart Association http://www.heart.org/en.about-us/heart-attach-and-stroke-smptons
- 2.Heart Attach / edc.gov http://www.dec.gov/heartdiseast/heart\_attack.htm
- 3.Stroke Symptoms/American Stroke Association http://www.stroke.org/en/about-stroke/stroke-symptons

#### **ELECTION REPORT**



Dave Ludwig Nominating Committee Chairman

The following people have agreed to put their name in nomination for the open offices.

President, Gerry Pfirsch of Montana and Jan Cushing from Wisconsin; Vice President of Programs, Loren Douglas of Ontario; Recording/Corresponding Officer, Beth Standiford of Missouri.

The Biographies and Platforms of the candidates will appear in the March issue of "Camping Today".

Please make sure the National Office has your CORRECT email address. Send them an email at <a href="mailto:fcrvnat@verizon.net">fcrvnat@verizon.net</a> with your current email. The upcoming elections will be by electronic ballot sent to your email, so accuracy is essential. Thank you!

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#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR PROPOSING TO LIMIT NATIONAL PARKS SENIOR DISCOUNT PROGRAM

### Committee's controversial plan would affect campground discounts and peak visiting times

by Christina Ianzito, AARP, November 7, 2019 (Photo Getty Image)

A new proposal from a Department of the Interior committee suggests eliminating senior discounts for national parks — which include 50 percent off at many campgrounds — during peak visiting times.

The recommendation for "the introduction of new senior fee blackout periods during peak season periods" is part of a group of proposals for modernizing the National Park Service (NPS) from the department's "Made in America" Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee, led by former Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke. The suggestions, sent to current Interior Secretary David Bernhardt, also include removing some environmental reviews on concessions development and allowing more private commerce, such as food truck sales and Amazon deliveries, in the parks.

The national parks — which drew 318 million visitors last year — are extremely popular with older travelers. While the NPS says it doesn't track visitors' ages on a national scale, Yellowstone's 2016 Visitor Use Study, for example, found that 32 percent of its visitors were ages 52 to 70.

AARP has pushed back against the new proposal for limiting senior passes on certain days. "Older adults bought the lifetime pass and were told it was good every day of the year," says Bill Sweeney, senior vice president of government affairs at AARP. "It's unfair to change the terms of that pass after-the-fact."

Such opposition seems to have surprised the committee members: "If we'd known there'd be a big pushback to proposed blackouts on senior discounts, we might have dropped that off the list," said Derrick Crandall, vice chairman of the committee and a counselor with the nonprofit National Park Hospitality Association, according to the *Los Angeles Times*. "All we're saying is that it may not make sense on peak days like July 4 weekend to let seniors compete with a family with kids for a campsite," Crandall reportedly added.

The cost of the lifetime Senior Pass, available to U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and older, was raised from \$10 to \$80 in 2017. The NPS sold 148,000 lifetime passes in the federal fiscal year ending Sept. 30, and 275,000 annual senior passes, which are \$20 each (annual passes are \$80 for younger visitors). You can also buy annual passes for specific parks, though there are no senior discounts for those; the \$20 annual Senior Pass covering all National Parks would be less expensive. (In fact, that annual pass is less expensive than the regular entrance fee you'd pay for a one-day visit at many parks.)

While the vast majority of the NPS sites are already free, 112 of them — including biggies such as Yosemite and Zion — charge an entrance fee, typically between \$5 and \$35 (charges can be per person or per vehicle).

Park lovers without passes should keep in mind the five entrance-fee free days for all visitors in 2020 (Nov. 11, 2019, is also a fee-free day):

Monday, Jan. 20 — Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Saturday, April 18 — First Day of National Park Week/National Junior Ranger Day

Tuesday, Aug. 25 — National Park Service Birthday

Saturday, Sept. 26 — National Public Lands Day

Wednesday, Nov. 11 — Veterans Day



## REPORT: 'NHTSA' ISSUES LATEST LIST OF RECALLS FOR RVS

By: RVBusiness|Published on: Dec 30, 2019

The following is the latest list of RV recalls compiled by the National Highway Traffic Safety Association (NHTSA).

- Forest River Inc. is recalling 941 2018-2020 Dynamax Isata motorhomes. The slim-rack slideout mechanisms may activate unintentionally, extending or retracting the slide room unexpectedly.
- Oliver Travel Trailers Inc. is recalling 352 2017-2019 Elite II travel trailers. The nuts and bolts that secure the brake drum to the axle shaft flange may not have been properly tightened.
- MORryde International Inc. is recalling 219 2020
  Forest River Georgetown and FR3 motorhomes
  that they modified. The trailer hitch bolts may
  have been improperly tightened, which can cause
  the hitch bolts to loosen.
- Forest River is recalling 194 2020 Georgetown and FR3 motorhomes. The trailer hitch bolts may not have been properly tightened, which can allow cause the hitch to detach from the chassis.
- Triple E Recreational Vehicles is recalling six 2020 Unity U24RL trailers. The propane tubing for the water heater may be routed too close to the tire tread possibly resulting in contact between the tire and the tubing.
- Foretravel Inc. is recalling five 2020 Realm and iH45 vehicles built on a Spartan chassis. The brake relay valve may have an air flow restriction, which may result in an extended stopping distance. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 121, "Air Brake Systems."



#### TMC SEQUENCE IS AMONG CURBED'S TOP 9 CAMPER VANS

By: RVBusiness|Published on: Jan 8, 2020

Thor Motor Coach's (TMC) recently launched Class B Sequence was recently recognized as one of nine best camper vans of 2019 by Curbed.

According to a press release, Curbed reported that Class B motorhomes "are in hot demand from coast to coast." As advocates of great ways to live, Curbed follows innovations and trends in RVs, campers and trailers.

The TMC Sequence, named one of the "Top Nine Best Camper Vans of 2019," offers clean design elements, an optional Re(Li)able lithium power system, an increase in storage capacity, and innovative sleeping accommodations.



TMC Class B coach offers contemporary interior

Other features includes full windows to view the landscape, a Froli sleep cooling system and adjustable headrests. An exterior accessory package includes bike and roof racks, and patio awning while the Go Power! 190-watt solar charging system allows for an additional energy source if boondocking. Winegard provides its ConnecT 2.0 4G/Wi-Fi system in the vehicle for anyone looking to get off the grid but need to stay connected.

Two floorplan layouts are available to satisfy all tastes and each contain European-inspired designs. The 20L also features dual twin beds, easily converting to a king bed along with a rear bathroom. The 20K floorplan has the living room up front, with the wet bath and all kitchen amenities in the back. Seat belts on the driver's side sofa allow passengers to ride along.

With its compact size, the Sequence Class B is mobile and maneuverable. In addition, slides and jacks are simple to operate while and ups are quick and easy. The B-van also offers improved gas mileage increases with the fuel-efficient RAM Promaster 3500 window van chassis.

Visit <u>www.thormotorcoach.com/sequence</u> for the latest floorplan and features available. To read <u>the</u> full article, visit Curbed.com

## **Products**

## MEET THE ALL-NEW HERO GRILL



Created by Athens, Georgia-based Fire & Flavor, the HERO Grill is about to change outdoor cooking. This environmentally friendly and highly portable premium grill is a perfect match for your readers.

Why? Well, consider these key HERO features:

- HERO
- Grill is the world's first dishwasher safe grill
- -- yes, the grill grid can go in the dishwasher for quick and easy clean up
- HERO
- Grill weighs just 9 pounds and includes
- the grill, a single use charcoal pod, a multifunction thermometer, a custom designed bamboo spatula, a food safe bamboo cutting board and a rugged, waterproof carry case -- super convenient carrying and storage — all for \$140 retail.
- HERO
- Grill uses a self-contained, all natural charcoal pod
- that is ready in 10 minutes and provides 60 minutes of cooking time -- no more messy bags of charcoal and lighter fluid. Additional pods are available on our site and
- Amazon for \$10



Hikers will find HERO's portability a major bonus when they want an authentic grilled meal. Car campers will enjoy the instant lighting charcoal, easy clean up and convenient carry case. Tailgat-

ers will appreciate the non-stick ceramic coated grilling surface that makes flipping burgers easy.

HERO's user-focused engineering combines the reusable grilling grid with an all natural biodegradable single use charcoal pod made of cardboard, lava stones and pre-stacked charcoal briquettes. When

you're done grilling, pour water over the pod and add it to your compost pile.

HERO defines the new standard in on-the-go grilling.

### MERCEDES-BENZ INTROS 'SMART' CAMPER VAN AT EXPO

By: RVBusiness Published on: Jan 16, 2020

Mercedes-Benz debuted the Marco Polo camper van that can be controlled by a smartphone at the 2020 Caravan, Motor, and Tourism exhibition in Germany.

Business Insider reported that the system — called the Mercedes-Benz Advanced Control (MBAC) interface — can control different parts of the living areas, such as the lighting and heating. It will come standard on the Marco Polo van by spring 2020.



"Connectivity is an important component of our product strategy which we have been intensively pursuing over the course of the past two years in the motor home segment," head of marketing and sales at Mercedes-Benz Vans Klaus Maier said in a statement.

The MBAC is not the only new piece of technology that will be integrated into the van: Marco Polo will also include a touchscreen in the cockpit that has similar functions to the MBAC. And the automaker's signature app — the Mercedes me connect — can also be paired with the Sprinter van for different uses, such as geofencing and GPS viewing.

"With this, we can offer camping fans a completely new level of comfort and live up to our aspiration of being the innovative leader in the segment," Maier continued.

For the full story click <u>here</u>.

https://www.businessinsider.com/mercedes-benzs-marco-polo-a-campervan-controlled-from-an-app-2020-1

## TRUMA LAUNCHES PORTABLE FRIDGE/FREEZER COOLER LINE

RV Business By: Ron Barger Published on: Dec 31, 2019

Elkhart, Ind.-based Truma Corp. has introduced



the "Truma Cooler Portable Fridge/Freezer" line designed for RV, marine and outdoor applications. The AC/DC electric-powered cooler can be used as a refrigerator or freezer and is available in a wide variety of sizes, ranging from a 9 1/2- to 25-gallon capacity, as

well as single- and dual-zone units.

With a total of seven models available across three lines — the Weekender, Traveler and Adventurer — the Truma Cooler is available for retail purchase through the company's website. MSRPs range from \$1,049 to \$1,599.

While Truma is now shipping units to customers, Senior Vice President of Business Development Mark Howlett said the units also will be on display and available for consumer purchase at the Florida RV SuperShow in Tampa next month.

"The product itself is designed for the Australian outback and is a rugged and robust system," Howlett told RVBUSINESS.com. "Our focus at Truma is on comfort for the campers and we believe this was a great addition to help support the camping lifestyle in any type of capacity beyond the RV. We think that this is something to allow people to enjoy the outdoors further — keeping food and drinks in a cold position without having to worry about soggy sandwiches."

Among its many features, the Truma Cooler Portable Fridge/Freezers have smart technology with Bluetooth App control and an intuitive digital display with set-point/actual temperature and fast turbo cooling. In addition, the units feature accessible 12/24V connections on both ends, and an accessible 110V AC connection, and its durable "Truma Blue Compressor" cools down to -8F.

Other features include: USB port for charging devices such as smart phones; three-stage discharge protection for vehicle battery; reinforced corners and stainless steel-hinges; integrated bottle openers on both ends; individually adjustable temperature zones

on dual-zone models; interior LED light; reversible lid on coolers 60 liters and larger; convenient energy saving space for upright bottles; versatile removable basket inserts to adjust contents; efficiency that's ideal for solar operation; Class A++ energy efficiency =<33kWh annually for refrigerating appliances; and an easy-to-clean drain in the bottom.

The Truma Cooler Portable Fridge/Freezers actually made their public debut at the Overland Expo earlier this year, and Howlett said the response was overwhelmingly positive.

"There's a small group of RVs that don't have a fridge and they need something that is a little more portable," said Howlett. "We showed it at the SEMA show in conjunction with TAXA Outdoors, which produces a very small trailer. The small cooler is great for small compact trailers where you don't have a lot of space and you need to keep food refrigerated. We go beyond the small trailers. You can put this into the back of your SUV, your Jeep, or your car.

You can keep food cool when you are traveling short or long distances, if you are tailgating, or if you are at your kid's soccer game."

Howlett expects the sales of the new Truma Cooler Portable Fridge/Freezers to cross over to general outdoor use. The ability to stay outdoors without bags of ice is key.

"Boating, hunting, fishing — any of those lifestyle activities are a target for this product," he said. "You have fish you just caught and your ice is not going to make it throughout the whole day; you can freeze them, which is nice — especially if you are in some hot weather. This will give you the ability to not worry about the ice melting.

"It hooks up to both a 12-volt and 24-volt system on a boat, as well as a 120-volt system when stationary at your house or even inside an RV," he added.

Free shipping is now available in the continental United States and for a limited time every cooler order also comes with a free, custom insulated cover.

https://www.truma.net/truma-coolers



#### TWIST AND SEAL MAXX - HEAVY DUTY EXTENSION CORD PROTECTION

The Maxx is built for the job site and able to withstand the toughest of conditions. It is uniquely designed to protect heavy duty contractor grade extension cord connections up to 10 gauge, while automatically adjusting to protect smaller diameter 16 gauge homeowner electrical cord connections. A patented cord strain relief system prevents the extension cord connection from being pulled apart. It has never been easier to protect your extension cords and crew on the job site.

- Perfect for the job site and heavy-duty use
- Fits 10-16 gauge grounded (three prong) connections
- Available in packs of 2, 3, 4, 5, and 10
- A unique patented sealing system that automatically adjusts to various diameter electrical cords 10 gauge to 16 gauge
- Designed to keep extension cord connections dry in any weather
- Prevents electrical shock and tripped outlets
- Integrated cord strain relief system keeps connections tight and prevents cord damage
- UV resistant material
- Heavy duty commercial grade plastic
- Made in USA with a 5-year warranty

Do not submerge any Twist and Seal product in water

#### Twist and Seal Cord Protect - Outdoor Extension Cord Protection

The Cord Protect offers heavy duty extension cord protection for home and garden use. It is uniquely designed to protect electrical cord connections in wet conditions. It has never been easier to protect your outdoor extension cords from rain, sprinklers, melting snow and poolside splashing. Keep your outdoor extension cord connections dry and your lights on!

- Perfect for light to medium duty outdoor extension cord connections: pool pumps, outdoor lighting, outdoor fans or any light duty tools
- Available in packs of 2, 4, 5, and 10
  Unique design will keep outdoor extension cord connections dry all season
- Prevents electrical shock and tripped outlets
- Available in green, orange, and black

- UV resistant material
- Heavy duty commercial grade plastic
- Made in USA with a 5-year warranty
- See FIT CHART

Twist and Seal Mini



Twist and Seal Cord Protect



**Twist and Seal Maxx** 



**Twist and Seal Cord Dome** 





#### In The Town of Bean Blossom IN.

Bill Monroe's Music Park & Campground 5163 State Road 135 North Morgantown, In 46160 billmonroemusicpark.com

#### **Events:**

Bean Blossom
Bluegrass Festival
June 13, 2020
Bean Blossom Blues Festival
August 27-29, 2020
September 23-26, 2020



Leonard "Lenny" Demuro, 12-25-19, Florida, active in FSA, loved games.

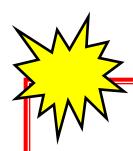
Willard Lasseigne, 81, 1-8-20, Lafayette, Louisiana, longtime member.

**Robert Dains Sr.** 90, 1-9-20, Woodbury, Connecticut.Father of State Director, Glen Dains, Happy Wanderers Chapter.

**Eva (Wayne) Morgart**, 93,1-10-20, Marshall County, Iowa. Marshall County Vagabonds, Iowa State Association. Long Time Member

**Carol Paulsen**, 1-16-20, Long Island New York, 38 year member Long Island Pathfinders. Served as Secretary 17 years and President 4 years.

Jim Gurskey 71, 1-21-20, St. Johns Michigan, Eager Beavers Chapter



#### FCRV MEMBERS SCAM WARNING!!!



Scammers are working off data from the FCRV website using Shari Weber's name and a spoofed version of her email, asking you to buy gift cards for veterans/cancer patients/other charities, etc. The REAL Shari Weber does NOT want/need you to buy gift cards!

Please do not respond to the email message as it could provide the scammer with YOUR information.

Shari states, for everyone in FCRV to know and remember, she will NEVER use her position as President of FCRV to solicit money, donations or contributions in cash, cards or other easily negotiable forms of payment.

#### PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH YOUR FCRV CONTACTS

Like the FCRV office, Shari uses certain features in her electronic correspondence all the time. This will help give you insight into the authenticity of FCRV official correspondence.

Camping Today 18 February 2020





#### **FEBRUARY**

#### February 19, 2020 - Mid-Florida Snowbirds Luncheon

Golden Corral, 5722 Cypress Gardens Blvd. SE, Winter Haven, 2 pm. All FCRVers and guests are invited.

#### **MARCH**

#### March 24-30, 2020 – 49th International Retiree Campout

National Peanut Fairgrounds, Dothan, AL. Early days March 20-23

#### MAY

#### May 1-3, 2020 - Kansas Campers Association Spring Campout,

Kelley Park Burlington, KS. Everyone welcome, to register and for more information contact Vern Failor at vlfailor@gmail.com or call 785 272 6102

#### **JULY**

#### July 13-17, 2020 – 69th International Campvention

Brigden Fairgrounds, 2435 Courtright Line, Brigden, ON N1N 1B0



## Come and Join in with other FCRV members this 2019 Summer and Winter Special.

Bluebonnet
RV Resort
A Division of Wilder Corp.
Mission, Texas. 2019-2020

April through September Daily rate \$28.50. Includes Elect. Weekly rate \$133. 00 includes Elect. Monthly rate 189.00 plus Elect.

2019 –2020 Winter Special. First Month 285.00, Second Month \$189.00. Get Third Month at \$185.00. Bonus all monthly rates are plus elect.

This is an additional 2-5 % off advertised special rates. FCRV members must show special pricing (this ad) offer

at check- in. Phone 956-585-7630.

Web: www.rvresorts.com/blue-bonnet.html

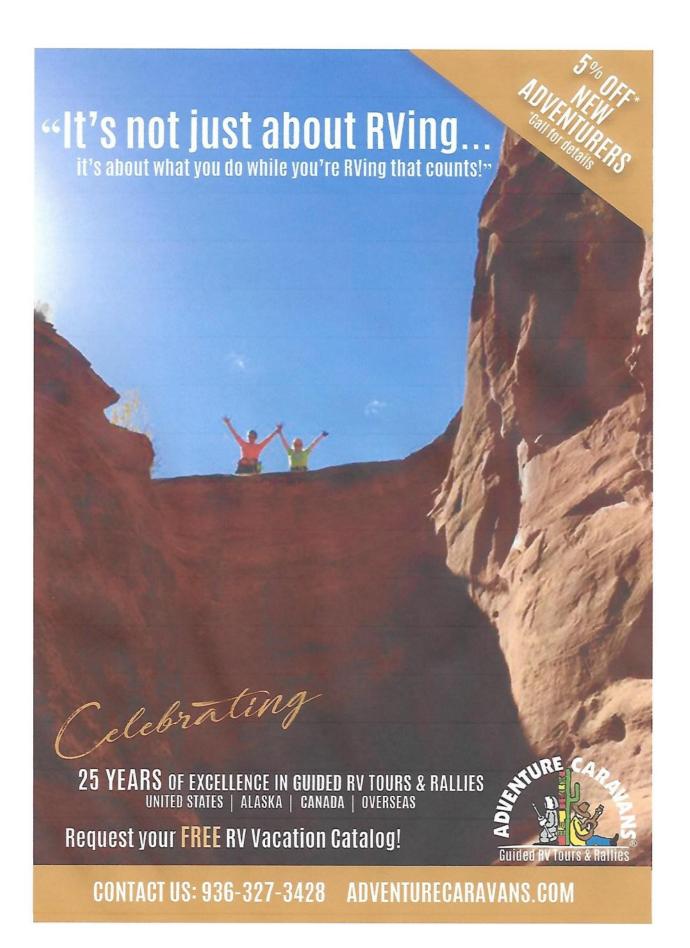


465 Kenric Rd. Lumberton, NC 28360 Reservations: 800-562-0845 Information 910-739-4372 or

910-887-6185

Email: Lumberton@koa.com

LUMBERTON/I-95 KOA



J Wright Concepts rip RV Patent # US D813,658

Attaching your water hose to the RV Park faucet just got easier!

Cable Grip

Do you struggle to connect your coax cable?

8" assembly attaches to your current water hose

**★** Machined nickel-plated fittings

of the Grate

- \* Crimped with hydraulic hose crimper
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Polyurethane "drinking-water-safe" hose

\* Lead-Free

plus \$4.00 shipping

25' Cable with Grips Installed plus \$7.00 shipping

J WRIGHT CONCEPTS

RV DRAWER by ALUMINUM CARTS, CABINETS & DRAWERS



Aluminum Drawers



One drawer or a stack of drawers built to your specifications!

No "Standard" Sizes!







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Order at www.rvcablegrip.com

cablegripguy@gmail.com



# 49<sup>TH</sup> FCRV INTERNATIONAL RETIREE RALLY NATIONAL PEANUT FAIRGROUNDS DOTHAN, ALABAMA



EARLY DAYS: MARCH 20th - 23rd RALLY DAYS: MARCH 24th - 30th

LAST NAME:	FIRST:	SPOUSE/OI	IHER:
ADDRESS:	CITY:	ST/PROVINCE	: ZIP/POSTAL:
OTHER'S ADDRESS IF DIFFERENT:	0	CITY:ST:	ZIP/POSTAL:
PHONE #:	OTHER:		
EMAIL ADDRESS:		CONFIRMATION SENT: pdf: _	word: mailed
CONFIRMATION LETTERS WILL BE SENT OF ADDRESS THAN THE ONE ABOVE, PLEASE S			T BY MAIL TO A DIFFEREN
ADDRESS:	CITY:	ST/PROV	INCE: ZIP:
WHICH ARE YOU REGISTERING FOR? CAMPING	6: CAMP PASS: _	IS THIS YOUR FIRST RETIREE	RALLY? YES: NO:
ARE YOU A VETERAN: YES: NO: NI	JMBER OF VETERANS I	N YOUR UNIT?	
SPECIAL NEEDS PARKING: TO BE PARTHE REGISTRAR AN UP-TO DATE: DOCTOR'S HANDICAP PLACARD. THIS AREA IS RESERVED PROBLEMS:	S CERTIFCATE, STATE ED FOR WHEELCHAIR:	LICENSE REGISTRATION INCLUE S. WALKERS, OR THOSE WITH L	DING HANDICAP PLATE, OR IMITED MOBILITY
GUESTS ARE WELCOME: Guests or			
Have them complete a registration form suggest they enter the camping area at			
RALLY FEES: EARLY BIRD DAYS: (MARCH 20 - 23) FEE \$3	30 PER NIGHT WITH	WATER AND ELECTRIC AND W	ILL BE COLLECT AT DOTHAN
RALLY FEE- MARCH 24 - 30 AND LEAVE OF			vater and electric, Ice Crear
Social, two evening meals, entertainment			
2		(PAID IN ADVANCE FULL)	A Commission of the Commission
Two people in a unit:		50	\$275
Single person in unit: Camp Pass or 3 <sup>rd</sup> person in unit:	1.5	20 .00	\$245
REFUND POLICY: REFUNDS MUST BE	•		OR BUONE CALL TO TH
REGISTRAR. REFUNDS WILL NOT BE PA			
will receive the following: two people			
receive no refunds.	III a uiiit. 9223, Oi	ie person in a unit win rec	eive \$155. Camp rass wi
Make checks or money order ( US Cur	rency) payable to:	FCRV/NCHA RETIREE RA	ALLY 2020. NO CREDI
CARDS. Mail to Bill and Penny F	Ramlow, 8371 N	ight Owl DR, Riverview	v, FL. 33569You can
contact them at: 305-822-6589 or	The second secon		The state of the s
I would like to volunteer for:			



#### **60<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CAMPVENTION**

74E TRUE NORTH STRONG AND FREE
Family Campers & Rver's
Hosted by Region #7 Eastern Canada
Brigden Fairgrounds,

2435 Courtright Line Brigden, ON, NON 1B0 July 13 – July 17<sup>th</sup> 2020,

fee covers July 12-17th (6 nights)

Early Bird Days: July  $10^{th}$  &  $11^{th}$  @ \$ 25/night (pay @ registration- cash)

Registrations are needed by: June 1st, 2020

	Last Name.					
	Last Name: First Name: Spouse/Guest:					
	Address:					
	Address:		Postal Code	City:		
	State/Province: Postal Code/Zip Phone number: e-mail:			:/Zip code		
	Handicapped/ Special Needs	Parking	Ves.	No:		
	Motor Home5 <sup>th</sup> Whee	i arking	Travel traile	r Por	- Lln	Tont
	Number of people in your un	it:	_ rraver traile	rop	ор	rent
	# of Adults:, Teens: _		. Youth 0-12:	Tota	l # of neonle	in unit:
	Please list the names and age	es of all	the Teens and	Youth:	i ii oi people	: III UIIIC
	Name	Age	Name	· oucin		Age
		0	2,53,77,5			Age
the regis		REGISTE n includi	ing second fam	ilies and camp	passes. Sub s except US	mit payment with funds my be in a
			Registration		At Gate	
	One Family in the Unit		\$325 CDN \$25	5 US	\$335 CDN	
E	xtra Family in Unit (pay separate)	9	\$ 200 CDN \$15	5 US	\$210 CDN	
	Week Drive-In pass		\$200 CDN \$15	55 US	\$210 CDN	
	Walk-In Camp Pass (per day)		\$40 CDN		\$40 CND	
Make ch	eques/Money Orders payable to: 2	2020 FC	RV Campventi	on, * CAN	ADIAN CASI	ONLY AT GATE
1 K	Mail to: Marilyn Rosenberger Refund policy: If you are unable to attend, all except \$35 CDN will be refunded Kitchener Ontario N2A 0E8 Contact at: 1-519-501-4331 or rosenberger44@gmail.com					
I Would	like to volunteer for:			?		

### **FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers INTERNATIONAL CAMPVENTION**

Brigden, Ont 2020



## REVISED: Application for CART RENTALS



Please add the price of the cart to your Campvention registration cheque

#### PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

(Print) FIRST NAME:	LASTNAME_		
ADDRESS			
CONTACT PHONE ()			
Golf carts cost including all taxes are scome with headlights. You must be 23 in advance <b>before June 1, 2020</b> . There	1 or older to rent th	e Golf Carts. Golf Carts	s MUST be ordered and paid fo
NUMBER OF 2 SEATER CARTS	_		
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID IN FULL \$	CDN or U	JS FUNDS	
(checks or money orders only)			
Make Checks Payable to: CAMPVENT	ION 2020		
Mail registration form along with Che Apt 511, Kitchener, Ont N2A 0E8	que or money orde	r to: Marilyn Rosenbe	erger, 1505 Ottawa Street N.,
Telephone # 519 501 4331 email: ro	senberger44@gma	nil.com	
NO APPLI	CATIONS ACCEP	TED AFTER JUNE 1,	2020
By signing this order form you ar the golf cart and/or any personal You will not hold FCRV (Family Ca connected with them responsible	I damage to your ampers & RV'ers)	self, your family an ), Complete Turf Equ	d/or any other person(s).
Please Sign		Date	