CAMPING TODAY®



May 2020





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Because of the necessary cancellation of the Retiree Rally, Debbie and I have had time to reminisce about events that have occurred during our 43 years of marriage. Do you remember where you were or what you were doing when you heard the news of these major life-

changing events? No fair using Google!

- The Assassination of President John F. Kennedy-November 22, 1963 (high school student)
- Martin Luther King Assassination-April 4, 1968 (high school student)
- The Assassination of Robert Kennedy-June 6, 1968 (high school)
- The Beatles appearance (twice) on the Ed Sullivan Show-July 9&16, 1964 (elementary student)
- Elvis first on Television (1956) (elementary student)
- President Richard Nixon's Resignation-August 9, 1974 (elementary music teacher)
- Challenger rocket explosion-July 28,1986 (middle school band director)
- Attack on New York Twin Towers-September 11, 2001 (middle school band director)
- Confirmation of Coronavirus in the U.S.-January 21, 2020 (preparing camper for R. Rally)

Your first group camping experience (see below for Debbie & my experience)

Although major events are often remembered because they were tragic, we should also remember the happy times. Many of our fun times occurred while we were camping with our local chapters, traveling to Campvention, the Retiree Rally or traveling with our Travalong, always enjoying the outdoors with friends. Many of your friendships were probably made through FCRV as ours were.

When I became VP-Programs, I thought it was important to bring my experience of running, teaching and organizing large (100+member) school bands

to FCRV. To this end, I have volunteered to be entertainment chairperson for numerous FCRV rallies and events. I have been the MC of our Retiree Variety Show, substituting for Jack Smye, as well as a member of numerous FCRV Bands at Campventions. In Hutchinson, Kansas, I was the Campvention MC. I am now concluding my eighth year as your V. P. of Programs. I feel a sense of pride for all that the FCRV programs have accomplished.

Debbie and I learned of FCRV from one of my band students. She suggested I might like to go camping with her parents (William and Penny Ramlow). We did and have been members ever since. Interaction with fellow FCRV members is one of the best recruiting tools we have. We intend to remain active in FCRV in the years to come. I will never forget the places we have visited nor the friendships we have made through FCRV. We will remember the places we have visited as the Retiree Rallies, Campventions, and Travalongs move around the country. We have been to many areas we might have missed if it were not for this wonderful organization.

is important to remember the good times as FCRV struggles (as many organization do) going forward. Please take advantage of our many programs, visit areas that you may have never been to, participate with your local chapters & State Associations and never forget the wonders of our beautiful country. Our organization exists because of its members! They volunteer to work, without pay, for FCRV events to happen. Can you help us? Whether you feel you have much to give to FCRV or not, please read the following poem and keep it in mind when asked to help:

"Use what talents
You possess;
The woods would be very quiet
If only those birds (who) sang there
Were those that sang best"-Henry Van Dyke

May God Bless You! George Walters FCRV VP Programs

Campvention 2020 Cancelled Cancelled

At a meeting held April 29th, the trustees made the decision to cancel face to face campvention in Brigden. This decision was made with a unanimous recommendation to cancel by the 2020 Campvention Team lead by Camy Hicks, Lynn Acre, and Lorne Douglas.

We are going to try to find a way to have a socially distanced campvention experience for everyone to enjoy. This is new territory for us, but we going to give the good ol' college try. We ask for patience and flexibility as we embark on this new adventure. Information will be placed on our website and provided in "Camping Today" as it becomes available.

All campvention registrations will be refunded. Canadian members will receive a full refund. USA members will receive a full refund converted to USD on the day the refunds are generated. Bank processing fees will not be covered by FCRV. Remember currency values fluctuate daily. Registration checks received from USA members from February 14, 2020 to date have not been processed and therefore will not be processed. The checks will be simply destroyed rather than returned in order to save on postage expense.



Be safe and we'll look forward to seeing you down the road camping!



NOTE FROM RETIREE RALLY CHAIRPERSONS

Gayle and Tommy Nelson would like to thank everyone who volunteered for committees and helped plan the 2020 Retiree Rally in Dothan, Alabama. Also thank you to the 108 who pre-registered. Cancellations were coming in even before the Advisory Board determined that the Coronavirus emergency was a threat and it would be better to be safe than sorry.

Everyone who pre-registered will receive a full refund to the address listed on the registration form. If you want it sent to a different address, email Linda Hennie, Retiree Treasurer at RPalace1170@aol.com or call her at 937-750-3322.

Rally PR person, Barb Turner said, "As much as we were looking forward to 'Goobering-down in Alabama' with our FCRV family, the Coronavirus has made it necessary to place health and safety first."

Cancellations of future events will be on the FCRV web page (<u>www.fcrv.org</u>) and Camping Today dates column.

SPRING OPA CANCELLED

OPA Voting Delegates Meeting cancelled. In an effort to protect the health & safety of our FCRV members, our Spring OPA campout and voting delegates meeting are cancelled. Anyone who has already submitted their registration money will have it returned or transferred to Fall OPA registration if requested.

Fall OPA to be hosted by Tri-County Travellers & Oxford Rovers and held at Tavistock Fairground. The deposit for Spring OPA has been transferred to the Labour Day weekend and the organizers of Spring OPA have graciously agreed to transfer their plans as well.

In these uncertain times we encourage everyone to stay home and stay safe and we look forward to seeing you around the campfire soon.

Lorne & Mabel, Lynn & Lew, Camy



CONSERVATION ESSAYS

Mary Lehnerd—National Conservation
Director

May I please have a minute of your time? This is a difficult time in all our lives. It is hard to decide what is important and what is not. I hope all of you reading this are healthy and safe. If we can stop this terrible virus, the other problems can appear small.

I can use your help. Maybe this will take your mind in a different direction. Our Conservation Programs are taking a huge hit. As our FCRV membership numbers are less, our projects have also enjoyed less participation. All of our membership age groups are not the same. There is no getting around the fact that we need young people to carry on. This Essay Contest addresses our younger members. They are preparing to take the reins in all aspects of life. FCRV has meant so much to so many of us. Conservation must <u>always</u> be important. It ensures that all living creatures and vegetation on this planet can continue to exist.

Our Conservation Essay Contest brings that awareness to our young people when they write an Essay and also to the rest of us that read the Essays.

Here is where all of you can help. Parents and Grandparents alike: can encourage the children from Fifth Grade through Twelfth Grade to enter our Contest. Our children need to know that their thoughts on Conservation are important to us and to the rest of the planet.

With that said, here is what we have to offer: We have two divisions in our contest. Fifth thru eighth grade and the ninth thru twelfth grade. Each division offers three prizes. First Place, \$50, Second Place, \$35 and Third Place \$25. The rules in detail can be found on our website ferv.org

Just express you thoughts on any aspect of Conservation. Not less than 250 words or more than 500. Do it on the computer and send it to my email elehnerd@juno.com. I will accept any entry until May 15, 2020. Please take a minute to add some resources that you used to re-enforce your points of importance.

Without participation, the Essay Contest will fade away. It will not be there for the children who may want to have such a contest in the future. Let us also not forget the upcoming Poster Contest.

Call me if I can be of help. 724-352-2377 Please leave a message, if I do not answer. I will return your call



POSTER CONTEST DEADLINE AND PROCEDURE CHANGES

With the uncertainty of travel to Campvention, Mary Lehnard, our National Conservation Program Director has decided that some adjustments to the rules, procedures and deadlines are necessary.

- The deadline for submission of poster PHOTOS is extended to May 15, 2020
- Submissions will be **by photo entry** (of your poster)

This is a change in procedure and deadline for the 2020 Campvention only.

Procedure:

- 1. Put together a great poster showcasing any area of conservation: park clean-up, planting trees, picking up trash, recycling or anything that showcases an important area of conservation
- 2. Take a photo of your finished poster. Take as many photos as you like, but submit only one
- 3. Submit your ONE BEST photo of your poster via email to: Mary Lehnerd at: elehnerd@juno.com
- 4. There can be more than one submission per state or chapter
- 5. Be sure to include your name, address, date of birth and email address visibly on the completed photo entry
- 6. Winners will be notified via email

Since all submissions will be via email, take your photo as soon as you are ready. Do not wait. Take your photo and email it asap! Let's hope we get a great deal of entries. Good Luck!



WILDLIFE GRANTS 2020

Joanie Stone, National Wildlife Director

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I am tentatively postponing the due date for the Wildlife Grants from May 30th to August 15, 2020. This could change again depending upon how things are this summer.

No one is actively thinking writing grants right now and I felt that we should give our members more time; hopefully, our interest on our account will increase again. The earned interest is what we use for funding the Wildlife Grants. By changing the due date, I am hopeful it gives members more time.

A reminder on how to apply for grants. You must be a member of FCRV to apply for a Wildlife Grant to benefit an organization which is seeking to enhance wildlife habitats and conservation. Please use the form on the website and send supporting documentation about the non-profit organization and explanation of the specific project for which you are seeking funding on the organization's letterhead. If you have any questions, please call me.

Hope this finds you and your family safe and well.

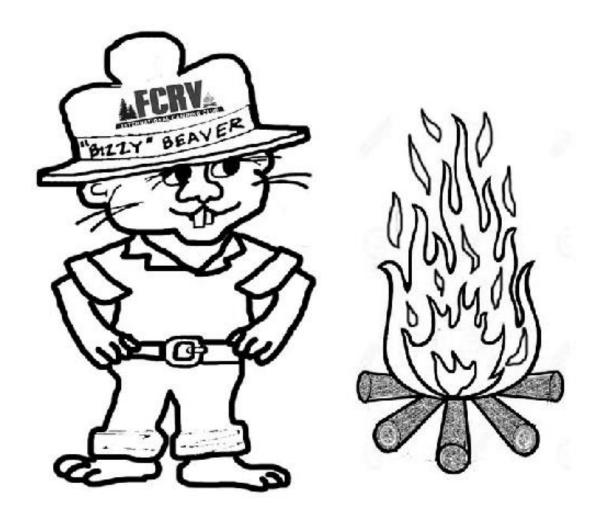
NATIONAL OFFICE

The governor of the state of New York mandated 100% stay at home on March 20th. This means the national office is closed indefinitely. Procedures have been put in place to keep the office running as much as possible. There are some things that can be done remotely, but some things simply cannot. Be patient during this very trying time.





CAMPING IS...



CAMPFIRES



Since many spring Campouts are being canceled, if we have the Campvention this year, all Camping Is entries from all states and provinces will come to Nationals to be judged. In addition, materials will be provided to create an entry at Campvention. There can be multiple entries in an age category from each state/province.

If Campvention itself is canceled we will run a contest using a photo of the poster or coloring page. Create your poster (ages 5-12) or color your page (ages up to 4) Take a picture of the entry and email the picture to kssnod-grass@earthlink.net. Deadline would be June 15th. Entries should indicate the child's name, state/province, birth date and age.

We will still do ribbons or certificates to category winners.

ELECTION RESULTS

Thank you to all who participated in our most recent election. Also thank you to the nominating

committee for working hard to identify candidates to run for the offices President, Vice President Programs and Recording/Corresponding Officer. Dave Ludwig, Chairperson, Lew Acre, Sue Carlsen, Glen Dains, and Dale Huston did a great job.

For **President** we had Jan Cushing and Gerald Pfirsch running with Gerald being elected

For **Vice President Programs** we had Lorne Douglas running and he was elected.

For **Recording/Corresponding Officer** we had Beth Standiford running and she was elected.

These people will be installed at our annual meeting in July. Congratulations to all three of you.

Shari

FCRV News



ELLIS & FRANKIE ITTEL

After 53 years of camping, Ellis and Frankie Ittel of Hamilton, Ohio are "hanging up the keys" to the motorhome. Frankie was an FCRV Field Director and Ohio Some Signals Editor for 22 years. They belong to the Fort Hamilton Pioneers and Full Timers Chapter. Inductees in Ohio FCRV Hall of Fame

Frankie says, "We loved the camping life and practically raised our kids on the road. So many campouts- Nationals, Statewides. How can you count the many friends we made along the way? We travelled 53 years, some of it weekends and when we retired, five months out West or down South. We enjoyed it all, especially the many Caravans with Don and Wilma Plummer and Eleanor Potts where we went all over the States, Canada, and Mexico. We'll never forget the caravan down through Mexico's Copper Canyon on the train. We enjoyed other Travalongs with other leaders also. Our NCHA/FCRV life was so wonderful and we are grateful that we got to enjoy all that."

You may contact the Ittels at ittelgofar@hotmail.com or 322 Crowthers Drive, Hamilton, OH 45013

INTERNATIONAL FCRV TEEN QUEEN





Hi from Miss FCRV, Misty Stuckwisch. I hope everyone had a happy Easter and that you are staying home and staying safe.

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW EVERYTHING!

- If you are an average American, in your whole life, you will spend an average of 6 months waiting at red lights.
- The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.

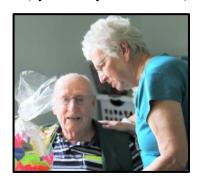
MISS FCRV 2013



Hanna Robb is now 2020 Kentucky Derby Festival Princess. Unfortunately this year's Festival was cancelled

ANNAPOLIS VALLEY NOVA SCOTIA LOSES OLDEST CHARTER MEMBER

(by Art & Sylvia Hamilton)



High Tide Drifters chapter of FCRV in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia lost its oldest charter member on Sunday, April 5, 2020 when honorary member Sam Milne passed away at the age of 91.

Although his given name was Stanley A. Milne, he was known as "Sam", well known and loved by NCHA/FCRV members and volunteer fire departments in Nova Scotia and in days past was Dealer Principal of the Mercury Ford dealership in New Minas. His connections with NCHA began back in 1967 and following is an excerpt from the High Tide Drifters history which details the history of NCHA in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia:

"High Tide Drifters had its beginning when in 1967 Ross & Gertrude MacKenzie became interested

in and responded to an advertisement in a publication placed there by Frank & Muriel Peveril, President of Seabreeze, soliciting participation in a caravan traveling to Expo 67 in Montreal under the name of NCHA. That response resulted in Ross and Gertrude and Sam & Ruby Milne joining that caravan.

Their experience was impressive, so much so that Ross & Gertrude joined Seabreeze, and they as members, and the Milnes as guests, participated in the meetings and campouts of that chapter. The Peveril's kept encouraging these two couples to try to establish a chapter in this area. The subject was discussed with a considerable number of families with similar interests and early in 1969 Ross and Sam decided that they would invite these people to a meeting to see what real interest prevailed. The results were beyond anyone's expectation with the maximum number of 35 families suggested for a chapter, had been reached by the time of the first minuted meeting dated April 23, 1969.

High Tide Drifters was the eighth chapter to be formed in Nova Scotia. At the October 1969 meeting the chapter was presented with its charter, the presentation having been made by Provincial Directors Frank & Muriel Peveril."

Sam and Ruby were great supporters of NCHA and served as Field Director in the Annapolis Valley for 22 years. He organized and presented many DAT (Disaster Awareness Training) programs including fire prevention for home and RV, first aid, and many others. His influence continues to many, especially so to one of his daughters, Faye and her husband Terry Swanburg, who are the Ontario Provincial DASAT directors.

He helped organize hiking trips to Cape Split. For many years Milnes Garage opened their showroom for the club's monthly meetings and also invited members to camp at the family cottage at Aylesford Lake. Sam was the auctioneer for numerous charity fund raisers.

Sam liked to laugh and you could bet when he was around there were lots of smiles and tall tales. If any of you NCHA members recall the "Turtle Club" (humorous secret charitable organization) Sam was the one who did the initiation ceremony, and you never forgot the correct answer when you were asked "are you a turtle?" Sam never forgot—he was an honored guest at the High Tide Drifters 50th anniversary gathering last summer and still gave the right

answer. Sam was a hugger, in fact he had a badge on his camping vest saying that he liked hugs. In recognition of his many years of service to High Tide Drifters, he was presented with a bouquet of colorful hearts signed by each member and planted in a bucket of candy Hugs.

Sam leaves behind his daughters, Judith Milne, Marilyn (Marty) Dodge, Faye (Terry) Swanburg, and son Doug (Sharon) Milne, 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

It is unfortunate that in this Covid-19 crisis we are unable to celebrate Sam's life appropriately but rest assured, when this pandemic is over, there will be a BIG celebration and lots and lots of hugs!

Condolences may be left at whitefamilyfuneralhome.com



PROTECTING AGAINST COVID-19 ON THE ROAD



Courtesy of RV Trader

In order to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, people across the nation have been advised to stay at home and to practice social distancing, with some states putting the force of law behind those orders. However, there are rare times when people need to be on the road. Some will hop into their RV or onto their motorcycle to travel to provide critical care for family members. Others are truckers performing essential work as they provide hospitals with medical supplies and keep grocery stores stocked with food and other necessities.

Grappling with the coronavirus pandemic can be stressful enough when at home, but what if you start to experience coronavirus symptoms while on the road? To protect yourself, those who may be on the road with you, and those you may come into contact with during and after a trip, it is vitally important that you are familiar with proper precautions to take while on the road, how to identify symptoms of COVID-19, and what to do if you get sick away from home.

COVID-19 Precautions While On the Road

There are a number of steps that we can all take to protect against coronavirus, as well as specific steps those on the road should plan and implement. Generally, the CDC recommends:

- To avoid contact with the virus
- o Maintain six feet of social distance from other people
- o Avoid touching your face
- To kill the virus:
- o Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- o If soap and water is unavailable, clean your hands with alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- To protect others
- o Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing
- o Stay at home/self-isolate if you feel you feel unwell

Those federal recommendations are a solid foundation for reducing the spread of COVID-19 in our communities and in our country, but if you are going to be on the road during this pandemic, there are additional actions you can take to defend against the coronavirus. **First, plan out your trip in detail** -- before departing -- so that you are prepared for any circumstances you may encounter.

Begin by mapping out the roads and highways you'll be traveling, taking note of the states and localities the route will take you through. Then, be sure to check those areas for any relevant travel advisories and/or temporary changes to policies like toll collection and food sales. So far the federal government has left these decisions to state and local governments, which means you'll need to give yourself time to do the research into each region.

Food services is one area to look for in particular, as many states have suspended dine-in services and have limited restaurants to drive-though, delivery, and take-out options only. You'll therefore need a plan for meals, whether it's taking along all of your own food or looking up which spots along your route are still open and serving to-go food.

Perhaps most importantly, you need to plan now for the chance that you get sick while on the road, including planning for both mild and severe symptoms, and planning for being close to or far away from home. If your symptoms are mild enough that you can still safely operate your vehicle, what is the maximum distance where you could still turn around and return home without interacting with and endangering others? If you are far from home, where will you be able to shelter in place and quarantine yourself? If your symptoms are severe, do you have contact information for the local hospital or health department so that you can receive the best medical direction and care?

Again, you need to know the answers to these questions *before* you depart. For truckers, you'll need to work with your fleet manager to settle these issues, as well as come up with a potential plan for your stranded load if you get sick.

Specifically, it will be important to research in advance what the COVID-19 outbreak is like in the region through which you will be traveling, as well as the status of the medical services in the area. If the healthcare system in that location is already being pushed close to or beyond capacity, it could be difficult to receive adequate and timely care -- certainly something you'll want to know beforehand.

Hotel openings are also something to research before leaving on your trip in case you need to find a place to quarantine with mild symptoms while away from home. This is important even for RVers and truckers who often have sleeping accommodations in their vehicle, as those set-ups may not be sufficient if you become more seriously sick. Many major chain hotels along highways not only remain open, but have additionally loosened their cancellation policies, while other hotels are actually offering reduced-rate 14-day quarantine packages

Planning out your trip is an essential step in taking precautions against coronavirus. **Second, take along supplies** that you may need during the pandemic. To travel during COVID-19, you should make sure that you have a working thermometer in order to regularly check your temperature, as well as sufficient cleaning supplies to keep your vehicle sanitized. These provisions may include disposable gloves, disinfectant wipes, and sealable disposable bags. For your own health, you should also pack hand sanitizer, tissues, and extra medication.

It's additionally a good idea to bring along your own food in order to compensate for restaurant closings and limitations, further decrease your interpersonal contact, and be prepared in case you contract coronavirus and need to self-isolate away from home. Some RVs and semi-trucks are equipped with cooking equipment, while other drivers will have to pre-make food.

Once you have planned your trip and stocked up on supplies, you're ready to hit the road. **Third, take pre-cautionary actions while on the road**. Once in your vehicle, use those cleaning supplies to <u>regularly sanitize</u> your door handles and controls, keys or start button, steering wheel, gear shift, seats, dash buttons and knobs, sun visor, anything touchscreen, the console, and cup-holders.

When stopping at a gas station, pay with a credit or debit card as much as possible, which can then be cleaned after use. It is recommended that you wear gloves when touching the touchpad and pump, and then immediately dispose of them. If gloves are not available, use paper towels to guard your hand. You can also use paper towels to avoid touching the faucet or door handles in rest-stop bathrooms, as directly touching those commonly-touched, dirty surfaces defeats the purpose of washing your hands. No matter what you do at the

gas station, it is critically important that you sanitize your hands after you are done and before you get back into your vehicle.

If you do have to stay in a hotel for whatever reason, you need to be especially vigilant about cleaning and/ or avoiding any and all surfaces commonly touched by other guests or hotel staff, including the toilet, bathroom sink, TV remotes, telephones, bedside lamp switches, bedspreads, and pillows

Finally, one of the best steps you can take to defend yourself against coronavirus is to keep yourself healthy while traveling. Support <u>your immune system</u> with sufficient sleep, healthy eating, staying hydrated, regular exercise, and stress management.

Following these precautionary guidelines can help you avoid COVID-19 while traveling. However, despite your best efforts, there is still a chance you contract the coronavirus. If you get sick while on the road, you need to be able to recognize the symptoms of COVID-19 and know how to respond.





SAFETY TIPS FOR VIRUS-FREE STOPS DURING COVID-19

By Chelsea Gonzales Living, Quick Tips

Keeping things virus-free while you travel during COVID-19 can be tricky. Use these tips to stay safe and healthy as you get from point A to point B in your RV.

We all know that in order to keep everything as <u>virus-free</u> as possible, travel isn't recommended during this time. That said, some RVers will find themselves in situations that require it. Whether you need to head back to family or find a more comfortable place to park your rig for a bit, you could very well find yourself on the road before this pandemic has ended.

If that's the case, you will not only need to deal with all the usual travel-day challenges, but the COVID-19 emergency has presented new challenges as well. In particular, you will need to find ways to stick to your own space and avoid public spaces and interaction with other people as much as possible. This is easy enough when you're in your vehicle, but becomes much more difficult when making stops along the way. Below are our top tips for virus-free stops while traveling during the pandemic.

- Use your own restroom
- Cook your own meals
- Wipe everything clean & use gloves
- Pay at the pump

- Pay for parks online and ask questions on the phone
- Plan your route wisely during COVID-19

Click this link to see complete article.

https://www.doitvourselfrv.com/covid-19-stops/

BALL STATE ANALYST: LOOK FOR COMPLETE RECOVERY IN 2021

By: Rick Kessler Published on: Apr 14, 2020

Although there's a "good reason to view a rapid recovery as being a possibility," Dr. Michael Hicks, director of the Center for Business and Economic Re-



search at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind., said he believes "a very difficult 2020" will result in a concrete upswing by 2021 for the RV industry for several reasons:

- People are still earning an income and have greatly reduced their expenses.
- There's a likelihood of an uptick in land-based domestic tourism as people will be leery of traveling on cruise ships or outside the country, which suggests an increased demand for RVs.
- Consumers who already own RV's are chomping at the bit to go camping.
- RV's, at their core, are tailor-made for "recreation with social distancing."

"I think the RV industry is perfectly positioned for that," Hicks said. "If I had young kids and we were looking at a summer where we're having to stay at home like this, I would very much consider an RV. Actually, I do have an RV. My kids are older now, so they don't want to be in an RV with me. But I do think it's far more likely that you'll see some demand for RVs."

Just how long the economic recovery takes, he maintained, is largely dependent on finding an effective treatment and vaccine for Covid-19. Only then, he said, would governments tend to loosen restrictions so that businesses can re-open, people return to work and consumers feel safe to venture out again. The longer the pandemic crisis persists, he argued, the longer the recovery.

"But right now, it would seem that there are fairly reasonable expectations of a fast recovery," said Hicks, noting that one shouldn't overlook the resiliency of the RV industry.

Despite several major downturns – the 1970's oil embargoes, 9/11 and the 2008-09 recession among them – the RV industry has experienced steady growth over the years, he said. And despite the current short-term decline, he posited, there's nothing to suggest that growth won't continue over the long term. In fact, a major factor for his optimism is how Millennials appear to have embraced RVing as much as the Baby Boomer segment before them.

"There's certainly bad things going on in the industry right now, but economists look at the way households spend money over the long run and those (preferences for RV purchases) are very deep-seated tastes and preferences. The recovery in the last decade of the RV industry (following the 2008-09 downturn) would argue that Americans are as enthusiastic about owning RVs as they had been in the last 20 to 30 years."

Hicks, for his part, said the closest comparison he can make to the current economic condition was the rationing in World War II. Government restrictions on consumer purchases on things like groceries and gasoline – plus the fact that the hotels, restaurants and bars were experiencing their own recession – is "very much like what we're experiencing now," he said. One key difference between then and now, he said, is that excess labor and capital were absorbed by the war effort back then, whereas the government today is stimulating the economy.

"We didn't stimulate the economy in 1942," Hicks noted. "That was not the goal; the goal was to beat the Nazis and the Japanese. But it had the same effect as a stimulus would have now."

America didn't enjoy boom times immediately after the war ended, he pointed out. The adjustment period – soldiers returning home, factories converting back to pre-war goods, other businesses re-opening – took a year or so before things returned to normal.

"The economy really boomed, and it boomed for a long time," he told RVBUSINESS.com. Once we get past the social distancing and once there's really a fix to the disease, there's every reason to believe that there will be a fairly robust return to demand."

Again, however, Hicks has a pretty conservative forecast for how long the pandemic may last, and what the "new normal" might be like after the U.S. emerges from the crisis.

"I think at some point over the next several weeks, if projections are right, all of us will know somebody who died of this," he said. "When that happens, that's going to change Americans' behaviors in ways that governments can't change. The president can't say, 'All right, everybody, it's safe to go back to work.' People aren't going to go to restaurants and bars tomorrow. It won't be a policy decision to shut us down, but, as the disease really clobbers us, it's going to be a household decision to open us back up."



A POSITIVE NOTE...



By Marilyn Rausch

No one expected 2020 to be the way it is. It is extremely hard to go into mourning of all we are not able to do while we try to follow the rules to overcome this Pandemic. On a smaller scale, all of life's plans are subject to interruptions. We plan a campout and it rains. Changes in work schedules, family illness, vehicle breakdowns...lots of thing can change our plans. But this time it is a whopper! How can we make the best of a situation over which we have little control? Here are a few suggestions:

- * Minimize exposure to bad news by turning off the TV! Especially if children are present, the repetition of disturbing news causes fear and anxiety.
- * Make sure you're getting enough sleep (this is essential for maintaining a positive outlook).
- * Stay connected socially, even if only on the phone or computer.
- * Recognize your limitations—keep life simple and lower your expectations of what you "must" or :should" do, without feeling guilty.

 * Keep your sense of humor! A cheerful heart is good medicine, as the ancient proverb promises.
- * Don't be afraid to take time to play and even be silly! Dance, even if you don't know how. Play games with your family. Tell stories.
- * Pause several times daily to take a few deep breaths and think of something for which you are thankful.
- * Take some time to learn something new. If you have access to YouTube, there are lots of videos to expose you to everything from crafts to music to sewing to any hobby that you ever thought you might be attracted to. Read a book.
- * Continue connecting with your spiritual self. There is online access to many churches who are responding to the quarantine requirements by continuing their services on Facebook or YouTube. If you have a personal prayer routine, keep it up.
- * If possible, reach out to others who are also feeling the effects of isolation and stress. A kind word, help with groceries, even just a prayer can have a positive effect.

We have been through crises before. Sometimes they seemed to be insurmountable. But we look back now with the satisfaction of knowing we overcame what we never knew we could.

Certainly, we are aware of those who have been severely affected by the Coronavirus. We mourn those who have lost their lives, offer our compassion to those who have lost family members, and honor all those who have continued to serve in so many capacities to meet the needs of all of us.

At the same time, with the right attitude, we can remain positive and find the inner strength to make it through whatever disruptions life may endure. And we will all be better for it.

DOMETIC DONATES MASK STRAPS TO LOCAL HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Engineers at Dometic have taken the initiative to create mask straps on 3D printers and donate them to local hospitals, nursing homes, and schools.

During this unprescedented time of COVID-19, many companies have been an aid in gathering materials and making masks for heath care professionals to use; Dometic is doing their part as well.

Two engineers specifically at Dometic, have been using this time to create mask straps on 3D printers. The

idea came from a student who sent a request for help creating these mask straps that help relieve pressure from behind the ears when wearing them all day.

Clayton Meyers, an Engineer at Dometic's Elkhart Verdant office has been able to produce about 300 mask straps so far. A portion of the masks have gone to a local school system as they have been providing free lunches to students. The rest of the masks are intended for local hospitals and nursing homes.

Bill Rimel, an engineer located at one of Dometic's manufacturing sites in Big Prairie, Ohio, has also been making mask straps, which have also gone to area hospitals and nursing homes.

"We want to do as much as we can to support our healthcare and essential workers during this unprecedented period," says Scott Nelson, President of Dometic Americas. "Our Engineers have been dedicating their time and talent for producing these mask straps. They have been able to utilize the resources that Dometic has available and provide relief from the current shortage of masks."

COMMERCIAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT – MAY 2020

Commercial Campground Members:

Name	Location	Phone
Name Bill Monroe's Music Park & Campground Bluebonnet RV Park Boone KOA Campground Fort Collins Lakeside KOA Galesburg East Campground Geneseo Campground Grandpa's Farm RV Park Lumberton/I-95 KOA River View RV Park Ross Hill Park Campground	Location Morgantown, IN Mission, TX Boone, NC Fort Collins, CO Knoxville, IL Geneseo, IL Richmond, IN Lumberton, NC Vidalia, LA Lisbon, CT	Phone 812-988-6422 956-585-7630 828-264-7250 970-484-9880 309-289-2267 309-944-6465 765-962-7907 910-739-4372 318-336-1400 860-376-9606
Spring Lake Resort Wood Guest Ranch	Halstead, KS Boswell, OK	316-835-3443 508-566-1300
	·	

Commercial Products & Services:

Adventure Caravans Inc	Livingston, TX	936-327-3428
J Wright Concepts	Sacramento, CA	916-955-0048
Karen's Embroidery	Albion, IA	641-751-9807
Marshall Creations	Gambrills, MD	301-912-3132
Rick's RV Center	Joliet, IL	815-725-4061
RV Station Ltd.	Donna, TX	956-464-0378
Terry's RV Center	Frankfort, IL	815-464-7510
The Sign Man	Oviedo, FL	407-365-3722
Wayne's RV Service	Shipshewana, IN	260-463-6549

Please use our Commercial Members whenever possible for camping and services. These members pay substantial dues to be part of our organization which helps keep your dues lower. As with all businesses they will not pay if there is no benefit. Your business and support are their benefit.

I also encourage each one of you to recruit new Commercial Members. If you buy a new RV or have repairs done have the dealership contact us through fcrv.org or through my e-mail address listed below. When you stay in a Campground ask them to join by going to fcrv.org or through my e-mail address. We will soon be rolling out a new program for you to easily recruit new Campgrounds and earn rewards. Watch for this special offer in the June 'Camping Today'.

Craig Weber, FCRV Commercial Director fcrvcd@gmail.com





JENNY WILEY STATE PARK -- KENTUCKY

By Kip Cushing

Tucked back in the hills behind Prestonsburg, KY is this nice little campground we discovered. We traveled here in mid-September just a bit too early for the trees to be in color. If we had waited and come the first weeks in October it would have been very pretty, coming and going. The park has two entrances one on the north end and one on south end of town, we passed the north and took the south, 10 miles back north we arrived at the campground. Had we known better, it is closer to the campground taking the north entrance off US 23/460. So we took the scenic route back north inside the valley that makes up Dewey Lake. The road was blacktop but quite winding along the edge of the lake, a 20' drop down from the roadway. Those inside corners with the 5th wheel were taken slow to keep the tires on the pavement.

We took two days to get there stopping at one of our favorite Ottawa County Parks just north of Lima, Ohio on Hwy 81 the first night. Then we cut down through Columbus and straight south on US23 to Prestonsburg and Jenny Wiley State Park pulling in late afternoon. What a nice drive, it was the scenery that made it great. The campground has 3 loop's like a 3 leaf clover, with the office being at the top of the stem. We did reservations on the internet and it showed the sites clearly, we took the A loop 1-31 and settled on A025. It was in the shape of a smile, paved, with 30A electric and water, with plenty of room for the truck in front of the trailer. While I was setting up and getting hooked up and jacks down, a loud yell erupted from the trailer, NO TV reception! I quietly said "YES". Oh and then NO internet was discovered. If you are not able to live without either this parks campground may not be for you. I loved it we were a mere 100' from the boat launch down to the lake. We were pretty much by ourselves till the weekend so it was nice and quiet.

We did not take many hikes on the trails, seeing there was a warning sign by the office not to leave coolers or food outside due to black bears in the park. We played cards and games and read when we were at the trailer. But, since we were there for 5 nights, sightseeing was a daily event. The evenings were spent at the Lodge for a" May" family reunion. (there was internet at the Lodge and better cell service) I met a whole bunch of relatives I didn't realize I had and some were campers. The Lodge had a nice meeting room, a large restaurant, and a beautiful view of Lake Dewey. There is a large Marina below the Lodge where boats and pontoons are able to be rented for day or half day. I even seen some nice sized house boats tied up at the pier.



During the Days we did some site seeing. We were close to Butcher Holler where Loretta Lynns Homeplace still stands, so we went searching. We got back on US23 the Country Music Singers highway and watched for signs. It is miles way back off the road, where the two lane goes to one and then the blacktop ends and gravel begins. Not quite wide enough for two I backed up a ways till I could get into a driveway to

to let a van get pass. Don't even think about going there with your trailer in tow, a big class C or A would have a pinch getting there. Lucky for those big units, you can make it to the General Store and ride the Van back for the tour of the house and grounds.







Next we went south on US23 to Prestonsburg and the Visitor Center & Mountain Arts museum where we met the mayor of Prestonsburg and got the full story of the area. We visited their museum and a home of one of the founding fathers of the community. (Who happened to be Samuel May) He suggested we head to Pikesville and take in the magnitude of the road building and river re-routing that surpasses the Panama Canal in ground moved. This accomplishment took many years to complete and it finished in 1988. And yes you can see the layers that were removed and valleys that were filled. We went on to the Public Museum in Pikesville where there are pictures showing the start and progress of that road building feat of modern day engineering. He also told us about one of the larger Civil War Re-Enactments to take place in Kentucky coming up the following weekend.





We hit the road home on Monday and made it just north of Dayton, Ohio to Poor Farmers Campground near Fletcher, Ohio off US 75. My truck was fading fast the alternator gave up the ship and I was running on the battery. It made it into the CG and got me parked but, as I unhooked the fuel pump stopped and that was it. I got it pulled away from the trailer for the night. Their mechanic (there is a Full service RV dealer at the campground) said the truck was part of our RV so he got it up to the shop and figured out the problem, fixed it and we were ready to head home the next day. So till we travel up those roads again after the Virus, stay safe, keep your distance, and think positive we will get though and rise again. Below is the gravel road back to Butcher Holler and Loretta's Home where she and Crystal Gayle were raised.

Hope our travels will return in time to travel west, with safety, and in good health.

REPORT: NHTSA ISSUES LATEST LIST OF RECALLS FOR RVS

By: **RVBusiness**

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

- Keystone RV Company (Keystone) is recalling 94
 2018-2020 CrossRoads Hampton 371FKL recreational trailers. The Federal identification Tag may incorrectly indicate the tire pressure as 6 PSI when the correct tire pressure is actually 80 PSI. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 567, "Certification."
- Forest River Inc. is recalling 83 2016 Rockwood Lite RLT2604WS and Flagstaff Lite FLT26RLWS recreational trailers. Due to insufficient clearance between the front tire and slide out actuator, the tire may contact the slide out bracket and become damaged.

WINNEBAGO EXTENDING PRODUCT WARRANTY COVERAGE

By: RVBusiness Published on: Apr 2, 2020

Forest City, Iowa-based Winnebago Industries Inc. announced it will provide goodwill repairs and replacement parts for 60 days beyond the expiration of the company's current new vehicle limited warrant for those owners whose warranty expires during the months of April and May 2020.

According to a press release, this applies to the brand's lineup of motorhome and towable products. The goodwill repairs and replacement parts will cover the same items that would have been covered under the Winnebago new vehicle limited warranty.

"This is part of our efforts to mitigate any repairs that were impacted as a result of the COVID-19 crisis," said Brian Hazelton, vice president and general manager, Winnebago motorhome business.

Winnebago continues to provide parts and technical support to dealers and customers as operations are adjusted based on local, regional and national developments regarding COVID-19. Because of the rapidly changing situation, the company is strongly rec-

ommending to Winnebago owners that they call prior to all dealer visits.

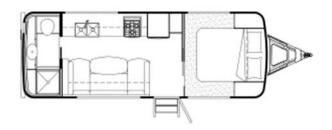
NORTHERN LITE DEBUTS 'BOREAL' FIBERGLASS TRAVEL TRAILER

By: RVBusiness Published on: Apr 17, 2020

Northern Lite Mfg Ltd, the primarily known for its two-piece fiberglass truck campers manufactured in its Kelowna, British Columbia-based production facility, has introduced a new one-piece, seamless, leak -proof, four-season fiberglass travel trailer called the "Boreal 23FB." Company officials said the Boreal is designed to "keep your family dry in a torrential downpour on the Oregon Coast, cool during the heat of an Arizona summer and cozy warm on a midwinter ski trip to the Canadian Rockies."

While the coach itself measures 23 feet long, the Boreal's overall exterior length is 27 feet, 6 inches. It's 8 feet, 4 inches wide and features a 6-foot, 8-inch interior height. Its base weight, including batteries, is between 4,600 and 5,00 pounds and its GVWR is 7,000 pounds. Tank capacities are 55 gallons (fresh), 40 gallons (gray) and 30 gallons (black).

Officials said the Boreal offers a spacious bathroom with a full-sized shower, modern interior design, hand-crafted high-end cabinetry throughout and storage for every item you will need on the road. The floorplan itself is a rear bath design with a 60-by-80 walk-around queen bed up front. In between, a convertible U-shaped dinette looks out over the campsite, while the galley and its 8-cubic-foot refrigerator is opposite. The unit sleeps four, and also features a 13,500 Btu air conditioner with heat pump, 30,000 Btu ducted furnace, and 200-watt solar panel.



The Boreal 23FB shell has been designed to be leak proof, company officials pointed out. When the upper

and lower halves of the trailer are brought together, they are joined and sealed to create a seamless one-piece hull. There are no other true 4-season travel trailers on the market with this level of leak proof hull construction.

"One of the things that we really focused on when designing the Boreal 23FB was maximizing the living space," the company stated. "When talking to dealers and consumers, there was strong interest around having a travel trailer with a large bathroom. No one wants to have to be a contortionist when using the facilities. The Boreal 23FB features a spacious bathroom with an impressively sized shower. The living area includes a large convertible U-shaped dinette and a kitchen with ample counter space. Enter the bright and spacious bedroom and you will find a full sized queen bed, with room to walk around, and ample closet and storage space for all of your clothes and other items."

The Boreal 23FB will be available for purchase through the company's North American dealers in the second half of 2020. An MSRP was not available.





HEADSPIN Outdoors

A new convertible lighting system, is simplifying your dad's early mornings in the woods and extending his evenings on the water with a versatile and rechargeable light that compliments his lifestyle, enabling him to work (or play) more, and carry less.

The single magnetic light is equipped with multiple lighting modes and adjustable intensity control to ensure visibility no matter the conditions. HEAD-SPIN also provides three different mounts including a headlamp mount, rail mount and flashlight mount.

You can also easily attach it to a car, boat or any magnetic surface via the magnet on the back of the light. Whichever way you chose, this light functions as a system that works the way dad does.

From early morning preparations to celebrating a day well-lived, HEADSPIN is the light that fits your outdoor lifestyle. No more searching for the flash-light in the cluttered gear closet in the morning. No more worrying about whether or not you have the right batteries. HEADSPIN flows with you in the early morning hours seamlessly moving between mounts as you prepare for the days adventure. And it relaxes with you after the sun goes down as you prepare dinner over the campfire and share a cold one with your buddies. HEADSPIN is the ultimate outdoor lifestyle light...period.

KEEPZIT KOOLER

Is a premium insulated beverage holder. It's perfect for keeping your beverage KOOLER. Whether you are fishing, lounging, boating, floating down a river or when it's time, going to a concert, Keepzit Kooler will keep your drink cooler



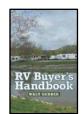
for up to two hours. With its extra thick insulation the environmentally friendly Koozie will hold a 12-16.9 Oz. can or bottle. Comes in many popular designs: Pink-Mossy Oak Break up, US Navy Angels F18, Mossy Oak Break Up Country Camo, Mossy Oak NRA Camo and a variety of trout and bass fishholders-visit the website for www.keepzitkooler.comKeepzit Koolers are recyclable and BPA safe! Unlike the neoprene Koozies that are not bio-degradable and stay in the land fills for a long long time! PRICE (Varies): Solo-Premium w/ marker: \$9.97; 2-Pack w/marker \$22.97; 4-Pack Premium w/marker; \$39.97 Available: Amazon and

MARSHALL'S CREATIONS



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VETERAN RV INSPECTOR AUTHORS 'RV BUYER'S HANDBOOK'

"RV Buyer's Handbook" is available for purchase online at: https://www.amazon.com/Rv-Buyers-Handbook-Walt-Gerber/dp/1480882917.

By: RVBusiness|Published on: Apr 15, 2020

Walt Gerber offers both detailed information and advice on selecting and buying an RV in his new guide "RV Buyer's Handbook", according to a release. Published by Archway Publishing, it also includes maintenance tips, preparing for a trip and issues of an RV on-the-road lifestyle.

Based on his years of experience camping and working as an RV inspector, Gerber presents suggestions that may prevent readers from getting a "lemon" or a "money pit." Although not a comprehensive guide, "RV Buyer's Handbook" covers many of the RVs a readers may encounter. From the first outing, to set up and tear down, to troubleshooting and more, Gerber presents a single-source guide to help readers navigate the process of choosing, equipping and enjoying an RV.

"More and more Millennials are buying RVs and need a guide to help in the process," Gerber said, adding that his book presents an unbiased treatise on the subject.



In The Town of Bean Blossom IN.

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910-887-6185

Email: <u>Lumberton@koa.com</u>



LUMBERTON/I-95 KOA

Camping Today 21 May 2020



Marylin Franks, 89, 2-26-20, Manhatton, Kansas, Lifetime Member.

Stanley 'Sam' Milne,91, 4-5-20, New Minas, Nova Scotia, Charter Member of High Tide Drifters Chapter, joined in 1967

Blake Willock, 93, 4-13-20. Corunna & Sarnia, Ontario, 4T's Trailers Chaspter, Long time Boy Scout leader. Awarded Silver Acorn, married to Betty Jean 70 years

Tom Lytle, 4-21-20, Danbury, Connecticut, Crackpot Chapter.

Robert Fanning, 4-2020, Suffolk ,New York, 18 year member Long Island Drifters Chapter

Jacqueline L. Bruner, 87, 4-23-20, Delta, Ohio, longtime active member

JACQUES ANDERSON, FORMER ONTARIO PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR



Jacques Anderson, 86 of Mt. Elgin, Ontario, Canada passed away April 3rd 2010. He and his wife, Carol served as Ontario Provincial Directors for several years. They are also Charter Members of the Tri-County Travellers and 50 year members of NCHA/FCRV.

Jacques was retired after serving 29 years as postal clerk at the Tillensburg Post Office. He was an avid fisherman hunter, and camper. He loved softball and played with the Mt. Elgin Mounties and also umpired for several years.

Jacques Anderson is survived by his wife of 53 years, Carol and was a special uncle to his many nieces and nephews. Remembrances may be sent to www.ostranderfuneralhome.com

PAT SMITH, WIFE OF PAST NCHA/FCRV NATIONAL COMPTROLLER



Patricia Jean 'Pat' Smith, 85 of Strongsville, Ohio passed away Sunday, April 26th after a year long battle with ALS.

She grew up in Owosso, Michigan and attended college in Eastern Michigan University. She pursued her education in physical Therapy at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio where she met her husband Richard. They made their home in Garfield Heights, OH, where they lived and raised their family. Patricia spent her career as a physical therapist specializing in hand rehabilitation at Marymount Hospital, ultimately retiring as Director of Physical Therapy.

The Smiths were avid campers which gave them the opportunity to see 49 of the 50 United States as well as many U.S. National Parks. Their association with NCHA/FCRV began with the FunCHAsers Chapter. As Dick's wife, Pat helped him with various positions of responsibility in the organization. They went on to become Field Directors, Ohio State Directors, and Great Lakes Regional Directors. They served as able chairmen for the 1983 Campvention with 1,500 families at Buck Creek Park, OH which became a State Park in 1987. Dick and Pat represented NCHA at the park's opening ceremony. Dick served on the NCHA Board of Trustees as Treasurer from the late 1980's through 1996. Dick and Pat Smith were inducted into the Ohio NCHA Hall of Fame.

Barb Turner shared these memories. "Dick and Pat were fixtures in Ohio in our early days with NCHA. They were our mentors when they asked us to succeed them as State Directors. We were shocked and said we couldn't possibly do it with our teaching jobs and such. But we asked ourselves 'why not' instead of 'cant' and decided to give it a try. They told us not to be another Dick and Pat, but to be Jim and Barb. At times we did things differently, but in the receiving line at the Field Staff reception for us when it came time to resign. They gave us a big hug and Dick said "It's been a good run, thank you." We appreciated that so much. I also appreciated Pat's advice when I twisted my back. The hospital doctor told me to put heat on it but it wasn't helping the pain. When Pat saw me she said that heat was a no-no and to jus ice after which I finally got some relief. Pat's experience was a God-send."

Faith and family were very important to Pat. She and Dick were members of Hathaway United Methodist Church in Garfield Hts. for over 50 years and now Hope United Methodist Church in Bedford, OH. She was an excellent cook and an avid seamstress, making most of her own clothes and home décor as well as holiday outfits fir her grandchildren. She was also part of the lap quilt ministry at Strongsville Methodist Church.

Patricia Jean Smith is survived by her husband of 61 years, Richard Lee Smith, a sister, Marlene Fick, and daughters, Lisa Smith and Melanie (Keith) Williams, and grandchildren, Marissa Smith, Emily Williams, and Matt (Maggie) Williams. Lisa Smith said, "Mom was the ultimate care giver until the end, giving instructions to make sure we were taken care of. I hope she is enjoying sitting by the campfire with her friends from camping days gone by. Condolences may be sent to Dick Smith at 15534 Grosse Pointe Oval, Strongsville, OH 44136 or email at cbreez3314@att.net. A memorial service will be held at a future date. The family is grateful for the care and support Patricia received from Hospice Services of Southwest General and the Northern Ohio Chapter of the ALS Association.





MAY

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

May 1-3, 2020 – Blue Water Mini Mixer – CANCELLED

May 15 - 18, 2020 Spring OPA Campout – CANCELLED

JUNE

June 8 - 12, 45th FCRV Ontario Retirees Spring Rally

Norwich Community Centre, 53 Stover St S, Norwich, ON, Registration Form and additional details: https://opa-fcrv.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Retirees-2020-final.pdf

June 19-20, 2020 – South Central West Regional Campout

Coachlight RV Park, Carthage, Missouri. 417-358-3666. You will need to make your own reservations with the RV park, just tell them you are with the FCRV Regional in June and the dates you will arrive and depart. The price will be \$29.00 for full hookups

JULY

July 13 - 17, 2020 - Campvention 2020 - CANCELLED

AUGUST

August 5 – 9, 2020 -2020 Great Lakes Regional Campout

Shipshewana Campground North, Shipshewana, Indiana for more information, please contact dencin5356@embarqmail.com or angleshaneyfelt@hotmail.com You will need to contact the campground and make your own reservation let them know you are with FCRV. Shipshewana North Park Amish Log Cabin Lodging & Campground, 5970 North State Road 5, Shipshewana IN, 46565, Ph: (260) 768-7770. Once you have your site number please email it to: comecampwithus@hotmail.com

AUGUST 21-23, Ross Hill Campground, Lisbon, Connecticut.

Details later.

SEPTEMBER

September 25-27, 2020 – Blue Water District Mixer

Eastern Michigan Fairgrounds (2 blocks north of I-69) Imlay City MI 48444

Pre-registration (nonrefundable) \$10.00, Camping fee \$35.00. Fri & Sat registration and camping fee \$45.00 Make checks payable to: Blue Water District Mixer. Registration Deadline September 12, 2020 Mail payment with registration form to: Rocky Lumley, 603 3rd St, St Clair MI 48079donrocky64@hotmail.com Registration form on FCRV website

OCTOBER

Oct 16-18 - Spooky Wooky Campout

Tavistock Fairgrounds, 1 Adam Street, Tavistock, ON

Registration Form and additional details:

https://opa-fcrv.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Spooky-Wooky-PDF.pdf





We wish all of you a good day in these times we have now. Know you are all loved!



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



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