

FMCA 96th INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AND RV EXPO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is a Family Motor Coach Association International Convention and RV Expo?

Imagine going to one place where you can meet new friends, renew acquaintances, view new motorhomes, shop, learn technical information regarding your motorhome, and be entertained. Come join us, and find out that it's truly a huge gathering, complete with entertainment, exhibits, and a whole lot of motorhoming fellowship!

Family members and event guests own motorhomes; commercial members manufacture and sell products that members use in their motorhomes. When you put these two groups together . . . ***watch out!*** What you get are four great days to visit hundreds of new state-of-the-art motorhomes that include some of the latest technical and fuel-saving features, as well as many must-have products that help you to enjoy this wonderful lifestyle.

Oh . . . and did we mention all the seminars, craft classes, tours, daytime entertainment, and great nights of evening entertainment that go along with all the shopping? And fun! *FMCA International Conventions are one of the many member benefits that the not-for-profit association arranges for its members and event guests.*

2. Why should I attend?

The reasons why FMCA members and event guests attend are varied. Here is what attendees have told us:

Family – International Conventions are all about celebrating the motorhoming family's lifestyle.

Fellowship – Friends who travel together or who plan opportunities to meet down the road find FMCA International Conventions a great place to gather. FMCA members

welcome the opportunity to include non-member guests to experience the fun of being part of the FMCA family of RV enthusiasts.

Motorhome Purchase – Many of the major manufacturers and dealers bring their best and newest products to display. It's the best place to compare brands and shop for that next motorhome.

Coach Service – Knowledgeable technicians discuss problems with motorhome owners at the conveniently located FMCA Service Center or at their display. Repairs are arranged on-site or at an off-site repair facility.

Entertainment – FMCA showcases entertainment appropriate for all ages, both throughout the day and in the evening.

Supplier and Component Exhibits – One-stop shopping. Everything a motorhomer needs and much more can be found in the exhibit buildings.

Technical Seminars – Plan to arrive early, as most of the technical seminars are very popular and seating may be hard to find. Topics include chassis, engines, transmissions, electrical systems, towing, tires, and communication systems.

Educational Seminars – Safe driving classes, digital photography, microwave-convection cooking, fuel efficiency, as well as full-time RVing are a few of the topics that will be presented.

Make-and-Take Craft Seminars – Learn a new skill and walk away with a keepsake. These fun sessions fill up quickly and do require **pre-registration on Wednesday, July 12, beginning at 7:00 a.m. in the Information Center.**

Fun, Fitness, and Health Seminars – Where does it hurt? There's probably an exercise that can help. Professional instructors guide motorhomers through exercises they can do while traveling.

Tours – Enjoy exploring the locale with a professional tour company guiding the way. Many tours provide a unique opportunity not offered to individuals visiting on their own – and you get to enjoy the tour with your motorhoming friends.

Travel Destination – The city of Indianapolis is loaded with interesting sites to visit and things to do, so take some time before or after the event to explore the area.

Uniqueness – Everything a motorhome owner could ask for in one location; information sources, vendors, education, entertainment, fellowship – and the list goes on and on. Come experience it for yourself!

LEARN MORE IN INDY – RV Basics, a two-day workshop presented by the FMCA Academy, held prior to the International Convention. [Learn more here.](#)

3. What is the location of FMCA's 96th International Convention?

The event will be held at the Indiana State Fairgrounds and Event Center in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 12 through 15, 2017.

4. How do I register?

You have the following choices to register:

a) Online at www.FMCA.com.

b) If you wish, you can print and fill out the registration form located here [link] or complete the form that can be found in the February, March, April, and May 2017 issues of *Family Motor Coaching* magazine. Mail the completed form with a check or a credit

card number to:

FMCA Convention Department

8291 Clough Pike

Cincinnati, OH 45244-2796

(Make checks payable to Family Motor Coaching, Inc., in U.S. funds.)

c) Fax the registration form to (800) 543-4717 or (513) 474-2332.

d) Email the registration form to convention@fmca.com.

e) Phone (800) 543-3622 or (513) 474-3622 and ask for the Events Department.

5. Are there advantages to registering early?

Yes! You will receive a savings of \$30 when you register by 11:59 p.m. on May 12, 2017.

6. Will I be able to register at the event site?

Yes. FMCA provides a registration office in the Information Center so non-registered members or guests can register when they arrive on-site.

P.S. Pre-registration is recommended. However, if you decide after the deadline to attend, you may register at the Registration/Information Center beginning Sunday, July 9, 2017.

7. Are children and grandchildren welcome?

Absolutely! During the “Crossroads To Fun” event, FMCA’s Youth Committee has arranged for a trio of fun-filled off-site outings for kids (ages 6 to 16). More information about this program appears in the May 2017 issue of *Family Motor Coaching* as well as the Indy Youth Program [\[link\]](#) page.

8. I have friends that I would like to introduce to FMCA, but they don't own a motorhome. Can they come to our International Convention?

Absolutely! There are several ways your friends may attend and be introduced to this great association:

Join the fun by purchasing a **Full Registration**, which entitles you to all activities and a parking spot on the grounds. Non-members are also welcome, and an FMCA membership will be included in their registration fee.

Passports are available if your friends choose not to camp on the grounds. This category gives the attendee all the privileges of families staying on the grounds, including the exhibits, seminars, social events, and entertainment. You can purchase a Daily Passport or a Full Event Passport.

A **Day Pass** entitling the guest to just visit the exhibits is available for \$10 per day per person.

Friends who may not own a motorhome but have a towable RV can stay on grounds by registering the following ways — online at www.fmca.com; mail the registration form located in the **Family Motor Coaching magazine**; fax the form to (800) 543-4717; email the form to convention@fmca.com or call (800) 543-3622. They will register as a non-member.

9. Is my pet welcome?

Yes. Pets must be kept in the family parking areas unless they are providing service assistance. Pets are to be kept on a leash when outside your motorhome. *Please be considerate of others and clean up after your pets.* We also ask the pet owners to complete the pet registry located on the back of the locator card.

10. When will I receive my confirmation packet?

Confirmation packets will be mailed as early as May 19, 2017. Your parking credentials must be mailed to you or held at will call for you to pick up. Will call will be located in the Holding Area.

11. What happens if I have to cancel?

You will receive a refund if your request is received in writing by June 9, 2017. Your confirmation packet, including credentials for parking and badges, must be returned before a refund will be processed.

Electric cancelled on or before May 12, 2017, will receive a full refund. Electric cancelled after May 12, 2017, and on or before June 9, 2017, will be refunded 50%. **Absolutely no refunds will be issued for electric cancelled after June 9, 2017. All cancellations are subject to a \$20 handling fee to cover the cost of credit card fees, printing, and postage of materials.**

12. Are the exhibits open to the public?

Absolutely! FMCA members AND guests who choose not to camp on the grounds are welcome to attend.

There are two options:

Daily Public Gate fee of \$10 or \$25/family (available onsite only) give attendees access to all exhibits.

Passports [[link to registration page](#)] give you access to all exhibits, seminars, and entertainment. Perfect for people who choose not to camp on grounds but want to experience all of the fun and entertainment. Passports are available for one day (\$50 per person) or for the full event (\$175 per couple; \$155 for individual).

Public parking will be available at the Indiana State Fairgrounds and Event Center just off E. 38th Street across from the Gate 3 entrance to the facility. The public gate ticket booth will be open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

13. What are the hours of the exhibits?

All displays – motorhome and supplier, component, and outdoor supplier demonstration area – will open on Wednesday, July 12, at 1:00 p.m. and close at 5:00 p.m. Exhibits will be open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

14. What products will be displayed at the RV Expo?

Everything from A to Z will be on display at Indianapolis – the latest motorhome models (Types A, B, C as well as bus conversions) to components and accessories. There will be hundreds of new motorhomes on display for your viewing pleasure, and many manufacturers and dealers have demo vehicles for test drives. We also have hundreds of component/supplier companies displaying a wide range of components and accessories.

15. How can I exhibit?

For exhibit registration information, contact FMCA's Sales Department at (800) 543-3622, ext. 214 or 254. Or, send an e-mail to conventionexhibitor@fmca.com. Register online or download the [Exhibitor Brochure](#).

16. Tell me about the seminars.

Whether you are an experienced motorhome owner or new to the lifestyle, you'll find that FMCA's *seminars* cover all of the bases. The seminar schedule will be listed in the program, which you will receive in your Welcome Bag. There will be more than 100 seminars encompassing a wide variety of topics, including several technical classes on different aspects of motorhome maintenance, fuel efficiency, health, fitness, healthy

cooking, travel, and many make-and-take craft classes. Take advantage of the opportunity to absorb the knowledge from accomplished professionals in the motorhome industry.

The seminars begin on Wednesday, July 12, and continue Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, July 13, 14, and 15. Seminars are not open to the general public.

17. Do I have to sign up for seminars?

Those who purchased Full Registration or a Passport are entitled to attend all seminars. Seating is limited in some of the seminar areas and may fill up early. Be sure to wear your event badge.

The RV Driving Safety Program will be held the mornings of Wednesday and Thursday, July 12 and 13, and there will be no on-site registration at this convention. Pre-registration for this class can be made while registering for the convention or by calling (800) 543-3622 (if you've already registered for the convention). You must be a registered attendee to sign up for this class. The cost is \$20 per person for this six-hour class.

A fee for materials will be charged for make-and-take craft classes. Registration for these sessions begins on Wednesday, July 12, at 7:00 a.m. in the Information Center. Classes fill up quickly, so it is recommended that you arrive early at the Information Center on Wednesday to register for crafts.

You also can register at the Information Center on Wednesday, July 12, from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to have your coach weighed by the RV Safety & Education Foundation or register during exhibit hours in the supplier exhibits at the RV Safety & Education Foundation booth.

18. What is the scheduled entertainment?

Evening entertainment is open only to registered attendees (Full Registration and Passports). The lineup will include Pamela G. & Jackie B. on Thursday; William Florian on Friday, and a yet-to-be-determined act on Saturday. Check back for more information.

Daytime entertainment is open to all attendees, including public gate patrons.

19. What tours will be offered?

A great selection of local tours will be announced soon.

20. Is motorhome service available?

Yes. Several companies will be providing service during the event. Some companies will be taking pre-event appointments. Additional information about these companies will be sent to registered attendees prior to the event. There also will be a service center open in the Information Center on Wednesday, July 12, to sign up for service. After that date, service appointments can be arranged at company booths when the exhibits halls are open. After signing up for an appointment, the service van will meet you at your coach in your parking area. Please do not bring your motorhome to the Service Center. Service is *limited*, and some firms may direct you to service facilities outside the grounds. Firms not participating at the Service Center should be contacted at their exhibit booth.

Motorhome service is reserved for attendees registered for the event and residing on the event grounds.

21. What is a Will Call?

This is a service provided by FMCA where pre-registered attendees can choose to pick up their admittance credentials on-site at the Holding Area. Many attendees ask that their confirmation packets be held for them so they can pick them up when they arrive at the convention site.

22. What is the Holding Area?

This is a place where FMCA families and event guests meet friends so they can park together, and where attendees who arrive prior to assigned parking days can wait for their assigned time to enter the grounds.

23. Where will everyone be parked?

All parking will be at the Indiana State Fairgrounds and Event Center and at the adjacent Indiana School for the Deaf.

24. What is the surface of the parking lots?

The parking lots are mostly asphalt and grass.

25. Will electric service be available?

30-amp electric service is available, but limited, for an additional cost of \$175. Limited 50-amp electric is available for an additional cost of \$295. If you desire to have electric service, do so when you register. Electrical service will be provided by generators and fairgrounds electric. An additional 10-gauge electric cord may be necessary if your motorhome cord does not reach the provided 30-amp or 50-amp receptacle. FMCA also encourages members to have surge protectors on power cords leading to the electrical panel.

If you need to cancel your request for electric, you must do so *in writing* on or before May 12, 2017, for a full refund. From May 12 through June 9, electric fees will be refunded at 50%. **Due to contract obligations with the electrical provider, absolutely no refunds will be issued for electric cancelled after June 9, 2017.**

Electric service for all family members ends at 9:00 a.m. Sunday, July 16.

26. Is there a dump station and fresh water available?

If you desire to empty your own holding tanks during the convention, there will be an on-site dump station with potable water. FMCA has arranged pump-out roving services that may be purchased in the Information Center, Wednesday through Saturday. Fresh water is also available on-site or may be purchased and delivered. Please arrive with empty holding tanks and a full water tank. While fresh water and a dump station will be available, we ask that you do not attempt to drive to these facilities while motorhome parking is taking place.

27. Will I be able to stay on property after the event?

All families must leave the grounds by 12 p.m. on Sunday, July 16. If you would like to stay longer, further instructions will be available in the event program and at the Information Center.

28. What is a Welcome Bag (aka Goody Bag)?

Welcome Bags contain your program, daily schedule of events and map, and the “Today” newsletter. Members of the Welcome Crew, as well as other volunteers, will be at distribution stations in the parking lots to give you a Welcome Bag and collect your locator card. Locator cards also can be exchanged for a Welcome Bag at the FMCA Office, and beginning on Sunday, July 9, 2017, in the Information Center from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Welcome Bag is also known as a Goody Bag.

29. What is the on-site address so I can have my mail sent to me?

The mailing address for letters and packages will be announced soon.

30. May I bring my golf cart, scooter, bike, moped, or Segway?

Segways, scooters, and similar motorized devices are permitted on grounds; however, they may not be used inside any exhibit hall, evening entertainment area, or any other indoor area due to large crowds.

Licensed vehicles are not permitted inside the exhibit areas and should not be parked in areas that block fire evacuation.

Due to the number of people visiting indoor displays, only wheelchairs and personal mobility carts are permitted in these areas. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

By registering for this event, you understand that you must carry valid insurance on your personal mobility cart and or personal golf cart during the event.

31. Will golf cart rentals be available?

Golf carts will be available for rent in Indianapolis. More information on rental rates and procedures will be included in your confirmation packet.

32. How is the weather?

Expect temperatures in the mid-80s during the days, dropping into the 60s at night. This region of the country can be very humid and susceptible to pop-up afternoon thunderstorms.

33. Where can I find information about the Indianapolis area?

Information will be posted on FMCA.com's [Indianapolis 2017 site](#) as it becomes available.

For things to do in the metro Indianapolis area, visit the Indianapolis CVB web site www.visitindy.com. For information about interesting places to visit while in the Hoosier State, check out www.visitindiana.com.

34. What if I have a question that isn't answered here?

Give FMCA's Staff a call: (800) 543-3622 or e-mail them at convention@fmca.com

The event program will contain lots of information about on-site services.

Have fun! Meet some of the most interesting people you'll find anywhere.