



KEEPING INTOUCH

WWW.FMCA.COM

SUMMER 2020

A CHAPTER SERVICES DEPARTMENT PUBLICATION

MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL SECRETARY



Summer is here! Our daily lives have changed so much since my Spring *Keeping in Touch* newsletter, making it very difficult to schedule future travel plans! COVID-19 has forced the cancellation of many FMCA events, including two national conventions, several area rallies, and many chapter rallies. Please take a look at the future FMCA events shown on the last page of this newsletter and market them on your calendar.

I hope that you are lucky enough to reside in a state or province that allows some travel. Why not “be a tourist in your own area?” Make reservations at a private, state, or provincial campground and tour your local area. Visit places that you only visit when family or friends come into town.

I ask that each one of you go to www.fmca.com to review your chapter profile and update it with any changes that may have occurred recently. Changes can be sent to chapters@fmca.com. Doing this will enable new FMCA members to get current information about your chapter. This is a great recruitment tool.

Please read the information in this newsletter regarding Chapter Certification, the Perry Chapter Fair, and much more. Please also share this information with your fellow chapter officers. Thank you to Chapters & Governance Director Penny Gortemiller and Chapter Services Coordinator Kaitlyn Krol, who have been very busy working from home during this unprecedented time.

Are you receiving the FMCA emails that you would like to receive? If not, follow this link and you can choose the types of emails you would like to receive from FMCA: <https://signup.e2ma.net/signup/1795503/1758239/>

We need to thank all of the first responders, medical workers, grocery store employees, and all others who have helped us get through this unusual time in our history.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at kbalogh@fmca.com; or call 513-319-0198 or 503-530-0166.

Remember, this *isn't forever*, it's a *for now* situation.

Be Kind! Be Calm! And Be Safe!

Kathie Balogh

National Secretary

2020 Chapter Certification Information

We understand that your chapter may not be meeting due to the uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our first recommendation is to explore the possibility of an electronic meeting, if your chapter's Bylaws allow for that. If you do not have provisions in your Bylaws, or your chapter is too large to hold an electronic meeting, please know that we are working on a process to waive the 2020 meeting stipulation so that your chapter can still complete the certification process. When the time comes, we will include instructions with the Certification packet if your chapter was unable to hold a meeting in 2020. There is still plenty of time to plan a meeting for this year, but rest assured, we will not switch your chapter to inactive status if you are unable to. If you have any questions, you are welcome to reach out to the Chapter Services Department at chapters@fmca.com or the National Secretary Kathie Balogh at kbalogh@fmca.com. **Please be sure to share this information with your fellow chapter officers.**

A Few Things To Remember ...

- Since there will not be a Governing Board Meeting this year, please note that you will not be required to submit a Roll Call Sheet.
- Please note that you can submit changes to your Chapter's roster at any time! If you would like to request a current copy of your roster, or make any additions and deletions, please reach out to chapters@fmca.com. The more changes you make throughout the year, the less you will have to make during Certification!
- We want to know what chapter membership means to you. It's been said that chapter membership is one of FMCA's best benefits, and we want to know why you and your chapter members love being part of your chapter! Please encourage your chapter members to send in their testimonials. They can be submitted via email to chapters@fmca.com or by mail to 8291 Clough Pike, Attn: Chapter Services, Cincinnati, OH 45244.
- If your chapter is considering updating its Bylaws, please check FMCA.com, in the Member Forms section, for the most up-to-date version of the Chapter Bylaws Format.

CHAPTER ANNIVERSARIES

FMCA congratulates the following chapters that celebrated special anniversaries in April, May, and June.

10 YEARS

Certificate

Safari R Us (4/10)

15 YEARS

Certificate

First State Travelers (4/9)

Eastern Gourmands (5/1)

Sooner Coaches (5/21)

Roamin' Catholics SEA (6/3)

Oregon/Washington Coaches for
Christ (6/6)

20 YEARS

Certificate

Roving Wolverines (5/20)

Pikes Peak Rollers (6/24)

25 YEARS

Certificate & \$100 Check

Bus 'N' Bikers (5/24)

30 YEARS

Certificate & \$150 Check

California Heartland (5/19)

35 YEARS

Certificate & \$200 Check

Gulf Coasters (6/3)

40 YEARS

Certificate & \$250 Check

Western Bus Nuts (6/23)

55 YEARS

Certificate & \$400 Check

Michigan Knights of the Highway (4/10)

Midwest Coachmen (4/10)

Northeastern (4/10)

California (6/24)

Your Area National Vice President is responsible for coordinating the anniversary materials, so you will need to make arrangements with him or her for presentation.

We need your help!

Please, please, please remind your Chapter contact person to answer the inquiries from FMCA members interested in joining your chapter! The Chapter Services Department has received complaints noting that information requests are not being answered. We also have noticed an increased number of messages that bounce back, because the email does not accept messages from unknown recipients. If your chapter's contact person uses a spam blocker that requires verification before the message is sent, please consider finding someone else to volunteer for that duty so we can ensure that chapter information requests are answered.

Database Switchover

Speaking of emails, as most of you know, FMCA is switching to a new database. Roughly 13% of chapter officers do not have an email address on file, which is the main way that we communicate important information! Over the next few months, we ask that you encourage your officers, and chapter members to check their member profile to ensure that their membership information is correct. We hope to minimize the amount of incorrect information we take over to the new system, and would be extremely grateful for your help with this. Membership information can be updated by visiting your profile on FMCA.com or contacting our Membership Department at membership@fmca.com or 800-543-3622.

**Please note that individual members are responsible for updating their own information with FMCA.*

COVID-19 Waiver

FMCA's attorney has provided a waiver or release from liability that can be used for FMCA rallies with recent health concerns related to COVID-19. Please note that chapters are NOT required to use this form, but it is available should you choose to utilize it. You can find it on the FMCA Rallies Calendar page on FMCA.com or email chapters@fmca.com to have a copy emailed to you.

Chapter Fair—Perry, GA

If you, or any of your chapter members, plan to attend the FMCA International Convention in Perry, GA, please plan to represent your chapter at the Chapter Fair! More information will be provided as we get closer, but we hope that you will include this event in your travel calendar for 2021. *Registrations for the Perry event will begin later than normal to allow for the transition to the new system.*

Miss

Information



How can FMCA help grow my chapter's membership?

If your chapter is looking to grow, contact Kaitlyn Krol in the Chapter Services Department. She'll be happy to send information to non-chapter members about your chapter or upcoming rally, and FMCA will pay up to \$125 in postage. Please email Kaitlyn Krol at kkrol@fmca.com if you have questions!

CHAPTER SERVICES

Penny Gortemiller, Director of Chapters & Governance

Extension 238

pgortemiller@fmca.com

- *Area Newsletters*
- *Governing Board Mailings*
- *National Elections*
- *Bylaws*

Kaitlyn Krol,

Chapter Services Coordinator

Extension 233

kkrol@fmca.com

- *Recruitment Mailings*
- *Chapter Certification*
- *Chapter Directory*
- *Chapter Anniversary Materials*
- *Rally Insurance Certificates*
- *Chapter Formation*
- *Governing Board*

UPCOMING EVENTS

ROCKY MOUNTAIN AREA RALLY

October 21-24, 2020

Pima County Fairgrounds

Tucson, AZ

WESTERN AREA RALLY

January 6-10, 2021

Riverside County Fairgrounds

Indio, CA

FMCA 102ND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & RV EXPO

March 10-13, 2021

*Georgia National Fairgrounds and
Agricenter*

Perry, GA

GREAT LAKES AREA RALLY

June 9-12, 2021

Allegan County Fairgrounds

Allegan, MI

NORTHWEST AREA RALLY

June 24-27, 2021

Cowlitz County Event Center

Longview, WA

FMCA 103RD INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & RV EXPO

July 7-10, 2021

Cam-Plex Multi-Event Facility

Gillette, WY

EASTERN AREA RALLY

September 29-October 2, 2021

State Fairgrounds of West Virginia

Lewisburg, WV

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA RALLY

October 6-9, 2021

Kansas State Fairgrounds

Hutchinson, KS

FMCA 104TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & RV EXPO

March 23-26, 2022

Pima County Fairgrounds

Tucson, AZ

FMCA 105TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & RV EXPO

March 15-18, 2023

*Georgia National Fairgrounds
and Agricenter*

Perry, GA

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS CONTACT CHAPTER SERVICES

513-474-3622

800-543-3622

chapters@fmca.com

VISIT US ONLINE: WWW.FMCA.COM

Please feel free to use any
articles in this newsletter.

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?

Please send letters, comments, and
articles to FMCA Chapter Services,
8291 Clough Pike, Cincinnati, OH 45244;
fax them to 513-474-2332; or email
them to chapters@fmca.com. Please let
us know if we can use articles from your
area's/chapter's publications. Articles
used for publication may be edited for
space and clarity, and they will also
appear on FMCA's website:
www.fmca.com.