

Special points of interest:

- Volunteers needed for Vermont
- **NEAR Registration**
- Fall Train Ride
- Feel free to email new ideas for your next news
- puconnie825@aol.com

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Northeast Revs Up For Our 20th Anniversary in Essex Junction VT

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 2012

President's Welcome

Hello everyone,

Those of you who attended last year's Northeast Area Rally in Essex Junction, Vermont, know what a great rally it was. For those of you who missed it, we are offering a new opportunity. We are returning to Champlain Valley Exposition in Essex Junction again this year and have a bigger and better

rally planned.

Your Board has been working hard to offer new and exciting activities at the rally fifth wheels. They can now in addition to the old standbys that everyone wants. Again this year we are opening up the rally to towables. We feel that this could result in more motorhomes attending. Some motorhome

owners like attending these events with their friends who own travel trailers or all come together to join in the fun. Talk to your friends & relatives who own self contained RV's of any type and let's make our 20th Anniversary Rally a great party.

INDUCTION CEREMONY NEAR 2011 - Barbara Smith

NEAR 2011 was dedicated to the late George Snyder (L1852.) On July 23, 2011, George and his widow, Pat, were honored as the first inductees into the NMA Hall of Fame. In addition, Lori Lindfors (F794D) was presented with the George and Pat Snyder Youth Award for continued excellence in service to the youth of NMA. In attendance were Pat Snyder, Lori Snyder (George's daughter,) FMCA Life Members, over 500 FMCA audience members, and 30 youth group attendees.

As the audience walked in, a six-foot-high picture of George appeared on the projection screen. The children marched in with flowers for an raising efforts at the rally. unsuspecting recipient.

After making the appropriate introductions, NMA

President Paul DuBois presented commemorative gifts to the Life Members, the Hall of Fame Award plague to Pat, and the Youth Award plaque to Lori.

In addition, after having kept their secret during the evening, the children presented Lori with their flowers, and Lori thanked her many volunteer helpers, particularly Linda Kolfrat, Carol Wickford and Janet Dixon. It was a great moment full of warmth.

Pat Snyder later commented to Paul, "You are putting the family back in family motor coaching!"

Youth Group participants assisted in two major fund-They supported the Fun and Fitness Walk for Goodwill-Hinckley by selling lemonade







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and commemorative T-shirts. They collected additional funds for the Northeast Area Veterans' Outreach Program.

In attendance at the rally, in support of the Veterans' Program, were Vietnam Army Veteran Tim DuBois and his wife Mary (seen in the photo bottom right, page 1) as well as Iraq Air Force Veteran Tech Sgt. Joe Wilkinson, his wife, and children, two of whom participated in the youth program.

The Northeast Motorhome Association is pleased to have had the opportunity to honor our Life Members, our Award Winners, and our Veterans at NEAR 2011.

Lori Snyder's comments

Lori Snyder has known Lori Lindfors for over 20 years. They reminisced about camping and fun activities in the past like the Stone Ranch outings. Lori always had fun things for the kids to do. The kids really respect her. She can remember waiting up by the campfire until all families arrived, even if It was 2:00 am. Youth Program Activities and Challenges

The youth program had 30 participants this year, open to those ages 7-14. Heard from one of the grandparents in reference to his grandson: "He wakes up at 6:30 am and asks if it is time to go to the youth group yet."

What does it take to put the program together? It starts with a theme selected during the year. Lori collects supplies for the kids to prepare items and crafts throughout the time of the rally. First, the kids work on a banner to create, hold and display during the opening ceremonies. Paint, glitter, decorations, iron-on felt and flags, markers, and games were available. The first day activities and crafts are often two-step crafts that may require design or drying between steps to be completed on other subsequent days. Many years the children have done tie dye shirts to wear in the closing ceremonies parade: these are done early to allow enough drying time. Each time the children march, they are introduced as the Future of FMCA.

Thank You From Tom Z

Hi to all the Chapter Members of the Northeast Area of FMCA!

First let me say thank you for your vote of confidence in me last year to serve the Northeast Motorhome Association as one of your Vice Presidents. At the close of Moonlight in Vermont in July 2011, your President of the Northeast Motorhome Association, Paul DuBois, called for an executive board meeting which lasted most of the day. Many issues were discussed and the movement for Northeast 20th Anniversary Rally in Essex Jct. Vermont began. Having two new Vice Presidents on the board was met with open arms and new ideas. I was pleased to be seated with such a friendly group of people.

Having served four years as President of the Empire Chapter, I understand what a challenge my position will be, but your board, with which I have worked for several years, is willing and capable of providing you with FUN-FAMILY-CAMPING, and a 20th Anniversary you can talk about on your campouts.

A board meeting followed later in the Fall of 2011 in Saratoga, New York with a full board present. Everyone was ready and eager to kick off the plans for the 2012 RV ROUND UP RALLY in Vermont. My wife Connie has participated in similar planning in the Empire Chapter and has been working the Northeast Area Veterans' Outreach Program with Paul DuBois, volunteering for other responsibilities. Remember it's your help, and stepping up and asking what you can do to help out, that makes for a fun and successful event. There are so many things

that need to be done for an event such as ours. Please do not hesitate to volunteer. Just give a Board member your name and cell number if possible so you can be called. Also give your chapter name so proper acknowledgment can be made on your behalf. Introduce yourself to first timers at the rally and make them feel welcomed. I stand behind your President and the rest of your Officers of the Northeast Area of FMCA to make us known as a region of FRIENDLY-FAMILY CAMPERS.

Please send all your suggestions and ideas to one of the board members, to improve our future rallies. Without knowing what you want or areas that need improvement we can not change things. Finally, Northeast is planning a Fall Foliage Train ride out of Saratoga NY to North Creek in October. More information to follow @ NMAFMCA.org



Vendors wanted Essex Jct VT July 19-22 2012 Please contact Paul DuBois

pdubois@fmca.com Home: 518-829-7767

Cell: 518-265-7345

NMA President's Note

Recently when I made one of my frequent calls to the National office in Cincinnati something was different. Our receptionist, Krystal, answered the phone, "Good Morning, Family Motorcoach Association," instead of her usual "Good Morning, FMCA". It set me thinking. We are so used to hearing FMCA that maybe we are forgetting that the first word in our name is Family. So I decided to research the membership of Family Motorcoach, to see who we really are.

I found that 45% of our members are between 55 and 65, 45% of our members are between 65 and 75, with only 5% younger than 55 and 5% older than 75; the average age is 69 years old. I then received our membership figures for the year of 2011. We had a net loss of 7,677 members in 2011 and a net loss in December of 992. This membership loss caused a revenue loss of \$307,000. That would have nearly paid for our medical evacuation insurance. I have watched the motorhome sales figures on a

regular basis. The sales are down 39% from last year. I have spoken with many dealers and I hear the same story from everyone: motorhome sales will remain stagnant for the foreseeable future. I will be attending an emergency meeting of the FMCA Executive Board in early February. The reason for the meeting is that we have to make a 1.3 million dollar cut in our budget. Our revenue is only meeting 65% of our expenses, meaning that we will most likely have to draw upon our reserves in the amount of one hundred thousand dollars a month. It is estimated that if we do this, within 3-4 years those reserves could be used up.

What is the answer? We can and probably will be cutting staff. In addition, member benefits may also need to be reviewed. What are our options? We must find a way to attract the coming generations to join us. How do we do this? We must change our thinking. We must have a product to sell before we can sell it.

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NORTHEAST VETERANS' OUTREACH PROGRAM





The Northeast Veterans' Outreach Program We will shortly be starting plans to build a has been very busy this past year helping to raise funds for Air Force Sergeant Joe Wilkinson's new home. The 32 year old veteran, his wife Lucretia and their three small children live in a very small home that is not handicapped equipped. Sqt Wilkinson is suffering from chemical poisoning due to the use of depleted uranium on US shells in Iraq and Afganistan. He has lost the use of his lower body and is in constant pain. Our group has been working with the Steven Siller Tunnels to Towers Foundation in fund raising. Recently the contract was signed for the property on which to build Joe's house. Gary Sinise, who played LT. Dan in Forest Gump, will be doing a fund raiser for Joe on April 28th in Albany, NY. Look for upcoming information about where it is to be held at http://tunneltotowers.org/.

home for Army Corporal Griffin Fitzgerald who is from Rochester, NY, and who lost his leg to a roadside bomb in Afghanistan. Griffin and his wife Tracy are the proud parents of a new baby. Griffin is currently recuperating at Bethesda Military Hospital in Maryland and hopes soon to be back in Rochester. We continue to work with Blue Water Navy Vets and our friend and FMCA member Susie Belanger whose mission is to get benefits for Agent Orange victims. We now have two new missions that we are or soon will be working with. We are currently working with Tents for Troops, a new organization started by a campground owner in the state of Washington whose goal is to enlist campgrounds to give service men and women two nights of free camping.

Continued on Page 4

Hello From Dick Higgins



(Continued Page 5)

NMA President's Note continued from Page 3



Websites to check out

WWW.fmca.org

www.sncrr.com

http://www.thatscamping.com/

http://cvexpo.org/

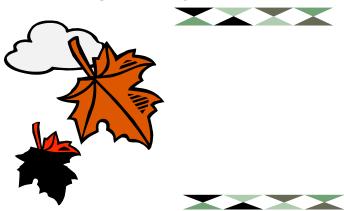
http://tentsfortroops.org/

George Lewis
wants to know
if anyone
would like to
help on the
parking crew
at "NEAR"
if so please
call 518-3997072 or e mail
seekhim888@
aol. com

Northeast Area Fall Foliage Getaway Train Ride



Northeast Area Fall Foliage Getaway Train Ride



Hello from The Hoags:

First, we would like to remember the FMCA members who are no longer with us, and express our sincere sympathy and prayers to their families.

It has been a long few months in our house. Lori underwent thyroid surgery in November and spinal surgery in December. She is making progress every day and will be ready for the Northeast Area Rally in July. We would like to thank all of you for your cards, emails, calls, and prayers.

This year we have been chosen to serve as Rally Masters for the Northeast Area 20th Anniversary RV Roundup in Essex Junction, VT. Along with Rally Hosts, Paul & Diane DuBois and the rest of the Board members and their spouses who serve as Rally Coordinators, we are truly looking forward to a WONDERFUL rally.

The Board has worked harder than ever this year to come up with some new and exciting ideas and programs for this year's rally. We will still be having some of the "old favorites" but are adding several new activities. Watch for the regis-

tration forms and be sure to register early and take advantage of some of the exciting "optional" items, such as the Catered, All U Care to Eat Pig Roast/Grilled Chicken Breast with all the fixings

Lori will again be keeping busy as Volunteer Coordinator and is looking forward to working with all the GREAT Volunteers that come each year and work so hard to make the rally a HUGE success. On that note, if you or your Chapter would like to Volunteer this year be sure to contact us either by email at Hoagsfarm@aol.com, or phone (607) 638-9551 or (607) 621-8988 or (607) 621-8969. There are many volunteer opportunities available to individuals as well as to Chapters. Come be a part of the FUN...

After much thought and discussion with some of the Captains and Co-Captains, it has been decided that we will not be holding a Captain's Meeting this year. We will, however, be contacting the Captains ones. Anyone can Volunteer, just and Co-Captains shortly to verify that you and your chapter are going to Volunteer this year and to give

assignments. Volunteer arrival day will be Wednesday, July 18th unless you are contacted with special instructions.

The Northeast Area is very fortunate to have the leadership of our President, Paul DuBois, who has continuously communicated with the Board and with Chapter National Directors with up to date information that you, as members of FMCA, NEED to know. As officers of the NMA, I can assure you that we will continue to work together to assure that the FUN stays in our organization.

So, mark your calendars for July 19-22 and plan to attend the Northeast Area 20th Anniversary RV Roundup...And don't forget to invite ALL your friends and family who have an RV (Towables Welcome). It will be a great Rally! Remember, move out day isn't until Monday, July 23rd.

We are looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new contact us. You've never had soooo much FUN....



"Were looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones"

Northeast Motorhome Association Annual Meeting, July 24, 2011 continued from page 5

they don't offer all the benefits we have here. With the really hot weather we have air conditioning. We have checked air force bases and we can't get them to commit a couple of years in advance for either an Area Rally or an International Rally. Springfield Mass is too expensive and it is controlled by a union and we can't do much without paying the union workers to do everything for us. There are only five states in the United States where we can have a Rally or an International Rally without any restrictions. Paul stated that in New York he has been trying for three years to get a law passed to allow dealers to come in. Senator Farley agreed to propose a bill but

Page 7 Northeast Motorhome Association Annual Meeting, July 24, 2011 continued from Page 6

Alpin Haus opposed it and he would not fight for it. This is the best place for us. They give us everything we ask for and

work with us all day to make sure everything is running smooth. The Southeast paid \$100,000 for two tents. Last year it cost us \$67,000.00 to use the entire fairgrounds. We get a bargain for what we have here. There was a discussion about us dry camping. It was mentioned that with the extreme heat we need electric and would lose most of our attendees. In addition we were given a big tractor trailer here to use for storage for free. If we didn't have that we would have to cart everything around to different locations every year. In addition if we didn't have electric and the showers for the Class B's they wouldn't come, nor would the towables that we now invite. This year it was so hot we moved the hot dog roast from the parking lot into a nice air conditioned building. This is just a great facility. Paul stated that anyone can call us to help us with the running the rally. We have a database with 1500 vendors. We handed out letters to all the vendors at the Tampa Show, Brooksville, Perry, Springfield, Syracuse and two shows in Saratoga and Amsterdam. Look at the response we got for vendors at this show. It is just a tough time right now. The number of attendees for all the rallies is down. A lot of people are downsizing and we have to get them to attend. This year we had 10 towables. We didn't have time to go to all the dealers to hang up signs. We are losing more members

New Business:

Nominating Committee for the Election of Officers

than getting new ones. At this rally we have 410 units including towables.

Frank Rizzi asked if there were any volunteers for the Nominating Committee. Jan Thomas (F384761), Marilyn Ellis, George Lewis (F14924), Frank Rizzi (F276748) and Barbara Higgins (F203761) volunteered. A motion was made to elect the five volunteers and seconded. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Audit Committee

Paul asked if we had any nominations for the Audit Committee and are there any volunteers. Ed Smith, Barbara Higgins, and Bill Decker volunteered. A motion was made to accept the volunteers and was seconded.

Elections

Frank Rizzi stated that he is going by Roberts Rules of Order to nominate candidates from the floor. The Northeast Area has three Vice President Positions' open; all are for a term of two years. The Treasurer's office is for two years. Frank stated he received two nominations for Vice President: one from Thomas Ziobrowski and one from Michael Archambault. Barbara Smith will be running again for Vice President and Eleanor Rizzi for Treasurer.

He will start with the current officers then cover the new officers. Frank asked three times if there were any other nominations for Vice President other than Barbara Smith. There were no more nominations from the floor. There was a motion to close the nominations and it was seconded. Frank asked the Secretary to cast one vote for Barbara Smith. Secretary cast one vote for Barbara Smith for Vice President for a two year term.

Frank asked three times for any other nominations other than Thomas Ziobrowski for Bob Mills' position as Vice President. There were no other nominations from the floor. There was a motion to close the nominations and it was seconded. Frank asked the Secretary to cast one vote for Thomas Ziobrowski for Vice President for a two year term. Secretary cast one vote for Thomas Ziobrowski for Vice President for a two year term.

Frank asked three times for any other nominations other than Michael Archambault for the new position as Vice President. There were no other nominations from the floor. There was a motion to close the nominations and it was seconded. Frank asked the Secretary to cast one vote for Michael Archambault for Vice President for a two year term. Secretary cast one vote for Michael Archambault for Vice President for a two year term.

Frank asked three times for any other nominations other than Eleanor Rizzi for Treasurer. There were no other nominations from the floor. There was a motion to close the nominations and it was seconded. Frank asked the Secretary to cast one vote for Eleanor Rizzi for Treasurer for a two year term. Secretary cast one vote for Eleanor Rizzi for Treasurer for a two year term

Paul asked if there was any other business. There was none.

Eleanor Rizzi reminded all Chapter Presidents and National Directors who want mail from the Northeast to be emailed, please sign the sheet on the table.

Paul reminded everyone to keep your email address up to date.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 12.33pm.

Paul thanked everyone who helped in the rally; they made it a great rally.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathianne Taylor

NORTHEAST MOTORHOME ASSOCIATION

Paul DuBois President 518-265-7345 dubois@fmca.com

Ed Hoag Sr. Vice President 607-621-8969 hoagsfarm@aol.com

Mike Archambault Vice President 518-821-6946 marchamb@verizon.net

> Dick Higgins, Vice President 603-539-1945 nhrvnuts@msn.com

Barbara Smith, Vice President 978-772-4870 bsmith@hotmail.com

> Tom Ziobrowski Vice President 518-857-2007 z8iggy@aol.com

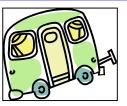
Kathianne Taylor, Secretary 516-318-2895 kathiannetaylor@msn.com

> Eleanor Rizzi, Treasurer 631-419-6092 eleriz15@yahoo.com

FMCA's Northeast Area's 20th Anniversary RV Round-Up







JULY 19TH- 22nd, 2012 (Arrive on Thursday, leave on Monday) Champlain Valley Expo Center, Essex Junction, VT. If you own an RV...Motorhome or Towable... This IS for YOU!

Rally Highlights:

Four Nights of Camping w/ Electric & Water Hook-Ups at all sites (pump-outs available for a fee;) RV Dealer Displays of NEW & USED Motorhomes and Towables; Indoor/Outdoor Vendor Areas; LIVE Entertainment; Daily Kids' Programs; Educational & Entertaining Seminars; Ice Cream Social; Coffee & Donuts Daily; Complimentary Hot Breakfast Sunday; BINGO; Door Prizes; Hobo-Flea Market at your RV; Performances by the Frustrated Maestros/Yankee Doodle Dandies; Coffee, Cake & Game Night; Motorhome and Towable RV Driver Rodeos; Chapter Fair; Sky Divers; Ladies' Motorhome and Towable RV Driving Classes; Golf Cart Pilot/CoPilot Obstacle Course; Pet Parade & Education Center, Everything Canine, Show Me the Biscuit, Vendors & Training, Grooming Etc.; CPR/AED Class, Fire & Life Safety

Program; "Goodie Bags;" Sunday Night: Rivoli Revue Performance (Veterans' Benefit)

Optional Activities: Charter Bus Sight-Seeing Tours; Catered Dinner; Sailing Ship 2

Hour Cruise on Lake Champlain, \$35.00/Person; 3 -4 Hour Hot Air Balloon Ride,

\$265.00/Person; Zip Line and Rock and Ropes Adventure.

In addition, enjoy sight-seeing on your own: Shelburne; Teddy Bear Factory; Ben & Jerry's; University of Vermont Morgan Horse Farm; Champlain Valley Chocolate Tour; Breweries.

Rally early-bird registration fee is \$190.00 (\$200.00 after 7/01/12.) If you are interested in attending, vending, or advertising your business,

contact diplomatman2002@yahoo.com or hoagsfarm@aol.com

Follow Northeast Area Website for further details: www.nmafmca.org





"Special Project Director"

Connie Ziobrowski F173943 23 Main St. Rexford, NY 12148 puconnie825@aol.com

"Special Project Coordinator"

George Lewis F14953 13 Conifer Drive Burnt Hills, NY 12027 seekhim888@aol.com







Cell: (603) 738-3904 • (941) 704-9210

nhrvnuts@msn.com

July 19-22, 2012

Champlain Valley Exposition . Essex Junction, Vermont

Rally Highlights

Evening Entertainment • Hobo Flea Market at Your RV — Sun., Noon to 5 PM • Cash Bingo Cake & Game Night • Morning Coffee & Donuts • Sky Divers • Ice Cream Social Ladles Motorhome & Towarde Classes • Your Activities • Chapter Fair Display Coaches • Vendors • CPR/AED Class • Red Cross Blood Orive • Crafts Technical & Lifestyle Seminars • Golf Cart Pilot/Copilot Obstacle Course • Door Prizes Everything Canine • K9 Demonstration • Show Me The Biscutt • Goodle Bags Fire & Life Safety Program • Pet Parade • Complimentary Hot Breaktast – Sun. Performances By The Frustrated Maestros/ Yankee Doodle Dandles



Parking Hours

BAM - 5 P.M. Depart Hood, Mon.



800 543-4717

Optional Events

Golf Tournament • Bus Sight-Seeing Tours • All You Can Eat Pig Roast • Zip Line/Rope Adventure • 2-Hour Sailing Cruise • Hot Air Balloon Ride • Golf Cart Rental

Northeast Area	a Kally Regis	uat	ion Form	PE	rmanent cha	inges to i	nember	anib mae	esnnor be	e made	from this form.
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		RV	RV with 1 person		\$170.00		\$180.00			s	
72-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12	O Handicapped Parking – includes water		Passport for 2 people (Auto Parking		\$ 79.00		\$	\$ 79.00		s	
and electric hookup. It is reserved for those with qualifying medical needs. You may be asked to provide proof of need. Coach Towable Passport — Only for auto parking. No RV parking onsite. Only general admittance to exhibits, entertainment and seminars. Frustrated Maestros—must be a member of an FMCA Frustrated Maestros chapter		Pas	Passport for 1 person (Auto Parking Only)		\$ 40.00		\$	\$ 40.00		s	
		Eac	Each additional adult guest		\$40/person		\$40/person			s	
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		All	All You Can Eat Pig Roast (Adults)			50	0 N//			s	
		AH	All You Can Eat Pig Roast (12 & Under)		\$ 10.50			N/A		s	
			3-to-4-Hour Hot Air Balloon Ride		\$265/person \$2		\$265	\$265/person		s	
Rally Hosts - Paul & Dia	tally Hosts - Paul & Diane DuBois							0.53,000.55			
National Vice Preside Cell: (518) 265-7345 •		Payment Information S									
Rally Masters - Ed & Lo	ori Hoag	DI.	ones Charmer Charmer		acciva			Make checks payable in			
(607) 638-9551 • ha	agsfarm@aol.com		Please Charge:						U.S. funds to FMC, Inc. Mail to: Northeast Motorhome		
Rally Coordinators		Card Number			Expiration Date			Association			
Mike & Margaret							~	c/o FMCA 8291 Clough Pike			
Dick & Barb Higgins Barbara & Ed Smith Tom & Connie Ziobrowski Kathianne & David Taylor Eleanor & Frank Rizzi			Signature Raily credentials are not transferable. Confirmation credentials must be displayed on your RV windshield to facilitate your entry into raily grounds. Early arrival fees of \$15 per night in holding area or \$25 per night to be parked onsite on Wed., 7/18/12 payable upon arrival. All registrations				inds. be	Cincinnati, OH 45244-2796 Place your credit card registrations Online: www.fmca.com			
Commercial Chairperson	- Dick & Barb Higgins	and the state of t					By Phone: (513) 474-3622 (800) 543-3622				
Cell: (603) 738-3904	Cell: (603) 738-3904 • (941) 704-9210 OH 45244-2796 with ALL Raily Credentials BEFORE 6/25/12. A \$20.00						By Fax: (513) 474-2332				

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