



KEEPING

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WINTER 2017

INTOUCH

A CHAPTER SERVICES DEPARTMENT PUBLICATION

NOTE FROM THE NATIONAL SECRETARY



Hi!

2016 was a fantastic year with great conventions in Perry, Georgia, and West Springfield, Massachusetts; growth in the membership (first since 2004); updating our Articles of Incorporation; and jumping on board with RVillage. I have now attended all national area rallies except one, plus many chapter rallies along the way, having a great time wherever I have roamed! Undoubtedly, we have the friendliest folks in FMCA! I thank you secretaries for your warm hospitality, for your attendance and participation during the Secretaries' Roundtable and for accepting the responsibility of our "Very Important Person" in our chapters and areas.

Certification has been accomplished and I am sure you all have sent in your reports. Thank you for your attentiveness in these important matters. Anytime I can help you or Christy Budai can assist, don't hesitate to contact us. Christy was my main contact at FMCA when I was a chapter secretary/treasurer in 2004-06 and again when I was Eastern Area Secretary.

"Advertising" your chapter can come in many forms. Utilize the New Member Report by creating a welcome letter and emailing or mailing it to new FMCA members. Each chapter has \$125 per year to use for chapter recruitment. Email a request to Christy and she will assist you. Do you have a chapter anniversary, special event, or provide a special community benefit? Take pictures, write an article, and email them to Robbin Gould at FMCA.

Did you know we are having a chapter competition at Chandler? Monday, March 6th at 5:30, have your chapter horse trot up to the "gate" on Main Street in Rawhide Western Town. Trophies will be presented to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners, plus Most Creative horse. These trophies really show your chapter spirit when displayed on your Chapter Fair tables. Don't forget about RVillage...your chapter is listed! Need help? Attend Curtis Coleman's seminar during Chandler.

2017 is going to be another fantastic year! Jump aboard this winning train and hold on tight as you will experience a soaring ride!

I look forward to having fun with each of you soon!!

Maye Young

National Secretary
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919.632.2369



CHAPTER

ANNIVERSARIES

FMCA congratulates the following chapters that are celebrating special anniversaries in February, March, and April.

10 YEARS

Certificate

Bernie & Red—4/17
Covered Wagons—2/24

15 YEARS

Certificate

California Coaches for Christ—4/6
Happy Tennessee Travelers—4/13
Let's Roll—4/13

20 YEARS

Certificate

ANASAZI—2/1
Foothills Snowbirds—2/26
Frustrated Maestros
Midwest Noteables—3/22
GM Bus Owners of New England—4/12
Hudson Islanders—4/26
Rexasaurus'—4/5

25 YEARS

Certificate and \$100 Check

Frustrated Maestros
Rocky Mountain Rockers—2/15
Mid-Week Flamingos—4/16
Peach State Travelers—4/18

30 YEARS

Certificate and \$150 Check

The Ambassadors—2/21
Florida Ramblers—4/11
Frustrated Maestros SEA Sharps—2/18
Western G.M. Coach—4/15

35 YEARS

Certificate and \$200 Check

Vogue/Vantare Country Club—3/31

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

SECRETARIES DUTIES

Regardless of whether you are a brand-new chapter secretary or a veteran of the office, the following is a reminder of some of your responsibilities for the coming year.

CHAPTER OFFICER LISTING

If your chapter has had an election then you may be asking yourself, how and when do I notify FMCA of our newly elected officers? The results of your election will need to be submitted to the FMCA national office in writing within **30 days** of the election. The officer form can be found online at FMCA.com under the Membership tab in the Documents section or you can fill out the online form. Another option is to e-mail the pertinent information directly to Dianna Mitts at dmitts@fmca.com. If you find computers challenging, you can use the officer form included with your certification confirmation or we can mail you a copy. Please note, if you would like your chapter's *contact information* to be correct in the January Chapter Directory of *Family Motor Coaching* magazine, it must be submitted no later than **October 15** each year. The deadline for changes to the August Chapter Directory is May 15.

CHAPTER ROSTER UPDATES

Membership of a chapter can change frequently, and the secretary, or the person elected to handle the chapter's membership records, will need to notify FMCA as these changes occur. Chapter roster updates are required by the FMCA National Bylaws only one time per year during certification. However, we prefer chapters keep us updated throughout the year when these changes occur, to assure our records are up-to-date. To ensure accuracy when updating your chapter's roster, be sure to include a membership number for each member. If your chapter has an update, it can be submitted on FMCA.com under the Membership tab in the Documents, Forms section. It can also be submitted in writing to the national office via postal mail, fax (513-474-2332 or 800-543-4717), or e-mail (cbudai@fmca.com). *If you find a member's information is in error, please encourage them to contact Membership Services to update their membership record.*

ROLL CALL SHEET

In April, you will receive the Roll Call Sheet Information. This is for the Governing Board Meeting that will take place on July 12, 2017, in Indianapolis, Indiana. We ask you to verify that we have the correct people listed as your National Director and Alternate National Director. There is also a space for providing a Temporary Delegate if you elect one to represent your chapter. We include an addressed, postage-paid envelope for you to return the sheet. This is important to our planning for the Governing Board Meeting, so be sure to return it as soon as possible.

The Guidelines for Chapter Secretaries can be found in the Officers Handbook on FMCA.com in the Members tab under Documents, Forms.



BYLAWS, BYLAWS, BYLAWS

You may not be the person who updates your chapter bylaws, but we're pretty confident you know who does and who might need this information.

Please pass it along!

If your chapter bylaws have not been updated in several years, you should review them and see if they are in compliance with FMCA's Bylaws. Depending upon the date they were last updated, there may have been several changes in the National Bylaws. Also, if you changed your chapter status to an Associate Chapter, or changed from an Associate to a chapter, you will need to update your bylaws.

If your chapter is considering updating or revising the chapter bylaws, here is a tip; FMCA strongly encourages using the Chapter Bylaws Format. This is basically a "fill-in-the blank" form that makes updating easier for you and for the Chapter Bylaws Committee, who will review your bylaws.

This form was revised in 2016. Be sure you are using the current form. It can be found by going to FMCA.com – Members/Documents, Forms/Chapter Documents/ChapterBylawsFormat and is available in a PDF or DOC format. Or you can call Dianna at 513-474-3622 or 800-543-3622 and she will email you a copy or answer any questions you may have.

Now, get back to having fun!



"Miss Information" is taking a break in this newsletter so we can give you some much-needed information about a company that has been contacting chapters with a **SCAM**. Recently, we received a complaint from a chapter that a membership marketing company had contacted them with lots of promises and no follow through. It goes without saying, before you spend your chapter's hard-earned money, be sure to do your homework. Not all companies are created equal.

If your chapter is looking to grow, contact Christy in the Chapter Services Department. We can help your chapter grow and FMCA Pays up to \$125 in postage on behalf of your chapter. Most chapters are eligible and the work is minimal.

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1 Person
\$250

2 People
\$400



UPCOMING EVENTS

FMCA'S 95th INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

March 7-10, 2017

***Rawhide Western Town and Event Center
Chandler, Arizona***

INTO—INTERNATIONAL AREA RALLY

May 1-5, 2017

***Treasure Lake Resort
Branson, Missouri***

NORTHWEST AREA RALLY

June 22-25, 2017

***Cowlitz County Conference Center and Fairgrounds
Longview, Washington***

FMCA'S 96th INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

July 12-15, 2017

***Indiana State Fairgrounds
Indianapolis, Indiana***

NORTHEAST AREA RALLY

August 3-6, 2017

***New York State Fairgrounds
Syracuse, New York***

MIDWEST AREA RALLY

August 9-12, 2017

***Amana Colonies RV Park & Event Center
Amana, Iowa***

ROCKY MOUNTAIN AREA RALLY

September 20-24, 2017

***San Juan County Fairgrounds - McGee Park
Farmington, New Mexico***

EASTERN AREA RALLY

October 4-8, 2017

***State Fairgrounds of West Virginia
Lewisburg, West Virginia***

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA RALLY

October 25-28, 2017

***Four States Fairgrounds
Texarkana, Arkansas***

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS CONTACT CHAPTER SERVICES

513-474-3622
800-543-3622
chapters@fmca.com

VISIT US ONLINE AT 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 Christy Budai, Chapter Services, FMCA, 8291 Clough Pike, Cincinnati, OH 45244; fax them to 513-474-2332; or e-mail them to cbudai@fmca.com. Or 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.

FAMILY MOTOR COACH ASSOCIATION

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