

# Eastern Area Motorhome Association



April 2017

## **BILL MALLORY, PRESIDENT**

Garnetta and I are on the road heading east on I-10 from FMCA's International Convention "Rally in the Valley." Arizona is one of our favorite places to visit. Evidently over 2,400 other FMCA member families felt the same way. Chandler was a great place to visit. Rawhide offered a fantastic venue for a rally. We were surrounded with things to do and see, if we wished to take a break from the convention. Main complaints were "...it was dusty." We were in the desert!

We have traveled west numerous times since we began motorhoming. This was our first trip via I-10, beginning in Florida and going straight west for 2,100 miles. Each time I go west, whether it be the southern route, middle U.S.A., or through the Dakotas, Montana, or Wyoming, I think of the pioneers that left east to go west. WHAT WERE THEY THINKING? It took a special person to leave the "comforts" of the east to go into a barren, unexplored territory in a covered wagon with less than the necessities for survival. They were looking for a change, a new opportunity, a new adventure. We do the same but in the comfort of our RVs.

Those attending Chandler heard from President Charlie Adcock about Remodeling FMCA. Questions, concerns, comments were similar to those I am sure our early pioneers received. WHAT ARE YOU THINKING? Are we really changing the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation to open the door for a whole new audience of RVers? Do we really want to leave our comfort zone, being an exclusive organization for motorhomes? Why do we need to change? Then there are those with the pioneer spirit. It is time for a change. We need to explore new territory. We want to remodel our organization for future generations.

Change does not come easy. Change requires exploring the unknown. Change moves us from our comfort zone. We have to begin to think differently. Change requires making decisions that not everyone will be in agreement. Think of our pioneers getting into those covered wagons and moving into areas like the Badlands of the Dakotas or the desert of Arizona or the desolate area of west Texas.

## **Eastern Area Motorhome Association Officers**

### President

**Bill Mallory, F256138**



### Senior Vice President

**Maxine Schremp, F46727**

### Central Regional Vice President

**Jerry Cohen, F259701**

### Western Regional Vice President

**Dennis Ducharme, F402669**

### Southern Regional Vice President

**CB Edwards, F221778**

### Northern Regional Vice President

**Thomas Hoffmeier, F361811**

### Secretary

**Rosemary La Barre, F31841**

### Treasurer

**Berkley Alexander, F290051**

### Immediate Past President

**John Reynolds, F171042**

As one of those members of the Executive Board that has the responsibility of educating, listening, and making decisions that will have a tremendous effect on the future of FMCA, I ask each of you to approach the “remodeling” of FMCA with an open mind. President Adcock, Jon Walker, Gaye Young, Percy Bell, the National Vice Presidents, and FMCA staff are all working very hard to present facts, answer questions, and lead you, the membership, in a direction that will have the most positive effect on the future of FMCA.

Garnetta and I will be visiting with chapters, visiting with you personally, via newsletter, email, and phone, discussing the “remodeling” with the goal of giving you the facts to assist you in your decision-making process. EACH AND EVERY MEMBER WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE.

### GEAR 2017

I encourage all of you to save the date, October 4-7, 2017, to attend GEAR at the West Virginia Fairgrounds, Lewisburg, WV. Lewisburg and the surrounding area offer a wonderful venue for good times, good food, and beautiful places to visit. We are offering 250 50-amp, full-hookup sites; 300 30-amp full-hookup sites, and several 30-amp electric sites. The registration forms for GEAR will appear in the FMCA magazine mid-summer. We plan to have registration information online no later than May 1, 2017. So anytime after that you may register.

### Building Project

I AM EXCITED ABOUT THIS PRE-GEAR ADVENTURE. The Lewisburg area was devastated a few months prior to our 2016 October GEAR. Many homes and communities were washed away in flash floods. Certain areas are still rebuilding. Jeff & Robin Walukonis are leading a rebuilding program the week before GEAR. Chris and Nancy Holtzman have agreed to assist in this project. If you can spare a few days prior to GEAR, let Jeff and Robin (904-753-2214, jwalukonis@gmail.com) or Chris and Nancy (803-516-1020, rholtz6524@aol.com) know of your interest. Volunteers for this project will arrive at Lewisburg, West Virginia, state fairgrounds on Monday, September 25, and go to work on Tuesday. Cost per night will be no more than \$30 depending on availability of sites inside the fairgrounds. You will need to move your coach prior to the beginning of GEAR.

### Indianapolis International Convention

Indianapolis is an excellent location for an International Convention. If you have not done so, please put July 12 through 15, 2017, on your calendar and register for the summer FMCA International Convention. Garnetta and I have spent lots of time in the area. Our farm is located three hours south of there. We have friends that have lived there for more than 40 years. There are great places to see and explore in the area. If Chandler, with close to 2,400 family coaches, is any indication, we should have a fantastic attendance and good time to be enjoyed by all.

### Election Year

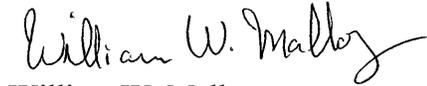
Our own John Reynolds, Immediate Past President of EAMA, is one of two candidates for FMCA National Treasurer. Frank Taber of the South Central area is also a candidate for National Treasurer. Deb Rohrbaugh, Maxine Schremp and I are working on updates to our website, and hopefully by mid-May we will have the updates completed. Just be sure your chapter’s National Director, Alternate Director, or official representative will be in Indy with your chapter’s vote.

### Chapter Visits

The most enjoyable part of being the Eastern Area National Vice President is visiting with the membership. Garnetta and I get great satisfaction from our fellowship with other members of FMCA.

Please share your chapter schedules with us. We will make every effort to visit with as many of you as time permits. CB Edwards; his wife, Kaye; Garnetta; and I had a great visit with a brand-new chapter, the Carolina Guroos. You will read more about this visit when you get to CB's article. I just want to say, the enthusiasm of the chapter members was very refreshing. The Chapter President, Martha Cavanaugh, is a real "go getter." She has a great bunch of members. I am sure we will be seeing more of this chapter.

Until next time, safe travels.



William W. Mallory  
President  
[4windsacres@gmail.com](mailto:4windsacres@gmail.com)

### **MAXINE SCHREMP, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**

#### ***Maxine's Update***

Spending our days in Arizona since mid-February preparing for the FMCA Convention, which was held in Chandler, AZ, March 7-10, was an adventure in itself. There was a time that I truly believed that I would love to spend my retirement years out here in the desert. I'm sure glad that George talked me out of it. It's just too dry there, and I guess I just love the green grass and the beautiful full trees of the East. After the International Area holds their Branson Rally in early May, we will be heading home to good old Fredericksburg, VA. Yea!

We won't be spending too much time in Virginia. In late June we will be heading to Indianapolis, Indiana, for our Summer FMCA Convention in early July. This convention will be a really good one with great entertainment, seminars, and classes. And don't forget it is also the election of our FMCA officers for the next two years. If you are a National Director, you will be voting whether FMCA will allow towable owners to become members of FMCA in addition to several other very important changes. Please make this convention. It is important to represent your chapter and vote for the officers, etc. Also, just a reminder, there are two members running for the FMCA Treasurer.

After the convention, we will return to our home for rest, relaxation, and catching up with our friends and neighbors. Oh yes, my "other half" told me to include all the "honey do's" that need to be accomplished before we leave again. He is such a sweetheart!

By the way, I almost overlooked the Great Eastern Area Rally (GEAR) in Lewisburg, WV, October 4-7. Lewisburg is a great place to go and sightsee. There are so many historical things to see, such as the Greenbrier Resort, and did I mention fantastic restaurants? The things we have planned for you at GEAR are even better. The entertainment, seminars, etc., are great, but seeing your ole friends is the best feature of GEAR.

George and I hope to see you there. Be safe,

Maxine Schrempp  
Senior Vice President  
Eastern Area of FMCA  
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## JERRY COHEN, CENTRAL REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Hello, everyone. Hopefully you had a good winter and are looking forward to happy camping season. Millie and I have been busy visiting family and preparing for spring and summer.

My main focus in this newsletter is asking each of you to help me collect door prizes for GEAR. I have not been as successful as I would like. I will collect these once we arrive in Lewisburg.

Also, after many faithful years of serving as Community Donation chair, Millie is retiring from this position. If you have interest in filling this position or know of someone that would have interest, let Millie or Alice Tew know of this interest.

Jerry Cohen  
Central Regional Vice President  
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757-641-1804

## DENNIS DUCHARME, WESTERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

### CHAPTERS IN THE EAMA WESTERN REGION

**Cardinal, Kentuckiana Travelers, KY Horse Shu Kru, Let's Roll, Tennessee Travelers, Happy Tennessee Travelers, and Tennessee Ridge Runners**

Winter is over and spring has arrived. Betty and I hope you have survived the winter months and are ready for the rally season to begin. Betty and I would like to visit one of your rallies this year. Please send me your rally schedule either by e-mail ([DDuch21603@aol.com](mailto:DDuch21603@aol.com)) or by mail at 2147 Alexandria Drive, Lexington, Kentucky 40504. We look forward to visiting your rally.

I know it seems like a long time until GEAR in Lewisburg, WV, October 4 through 8, 2017, but time has a way of slipping by. Be looking for registration information in FMC magazine. You will not want to miss this rally as it promises to be another great one.

Betty and I look forward to seeing you sometime this year and wish you safe travels.

Dennis Ducharme  
Western Regional Vice President  
859-338-3548

## **CB EDWARDS, SOUTHERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

Kaye and I had the opportunity to visit the Carolina Guroos Chapter rally in February. They are a new FMCA Chapter that was formerly a Bounders Club. The rally took place in Eustis, Florida, with an attendance of 13 rigs. We really enjoyed the meals and fellowship with the Guroos. The trip to the seafood restaurant was excellent. Also the games and entertainment were a lot of fun. Martha Cavanaugh (Chapter President) and her husband, Jim, along with rally hosts Bill and Beth Harford, really made us feel at home. Beth had a very nice devotional on Sunday morning to close the rally.

This is a very active chapter that has rallies monthly. They really enjoy food, fun, and fellowship. They are a growing chapter and are open to new members and visitors.

Kaye and I had a great time and look forward to seeing them all at GEAR in October.

CB Edwards  
Southern Regional Vice President  
[kayeandcb@gmail.com](mailto:kayeandcb@gmail.com)

## **TOM HOFFMEIER, NORTHERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

This first quarter of 2017 has really flown by. It is hard to believe it is time for everyone to start planning for their summer trips. So, just a reminder to check your motorhome tires for correct air pressure, service your engines, and clean and service your air conditioners and heaters. It is also a good time to change batteries in the smoke detectors and test your house and chassis batteries to see if they need to be replaced. Now is the time to take care of these maintenance items rather than later when you are on the road and far from home. I wish you all safe and trouble-free travels.

I also would like to remind everyone that our Eastern Area's former President and National VP John Reynolds is running for National Treasurer of FMCA. Frank Taber of the South Central area is also a candidate for National Treasurer.

Safe and Happy Travels,

Tom Hoffmeier  
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