

NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT October 31, 2008

As I write this comment it is Halloween, and here in London we have recovered from our first snow fall of the year which happened on Wednesday and was very heavy, we still have people without power.

The National Convention in St. Paul, Minnesota in July was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Unfortunately, our numbers were down. As you recall, July was in the height of the fuel crisis and our fuel prices have now tumbled by some 50%. The turnout including Show Coaches is a little over 3,000 units, and we would hope that the Winter Convention in Perry, Georgia March 16th - 19th, 2009 may be better attended. Historically, this has been a well attended Convention. Kathy and I hope to see many of you there.

And speaking of conventions, may I remind you again, that I am the Captain in charge of Pre Security for the Bowling Green Convention being held in Bowling Green, Ohio July 20th - 23rd, 2009. Some of you have already indicated that you are going to sign up. We will be arriving the Tuesday prior to the commencement of the Convention and will be given preferred parking. The beauty of volunteering for Pre Security is that once the show starts you will be free to attend without any problems. I would appreciate if you would contact me by email at dnkc@rogers.com in writing or by telephone at 519-652-6057.

On a more perplexing note, I have to report that our membership is continuing to drop. I obviously do not have the October figures yet, but at the end of September we were down around the 109,000 mark. Our Magazine revenue, which of course carries much of the burden and cost of FMCA, is also down, as many dealers and manufacturers are closing the doors because of the recession that is apparently starting on the American side of the boarder. I will of course continue to keep you posted. It should be noted however, that if everyone of us could recruit one member it would put FMCA back on a very sound footing. So don't be bashful when you are at a campground, a truck stop or a rest area

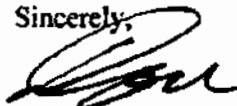
and you see another motor homer without a goose egg to approach them, give them a magazine and let them know the great benefits that are available by being a member.

As you may have learned from the Magazine the Governing Board delivered a balanced budget in St. Paul without a dues increase. However, if I had to guess, I would think that there may be a dues increase coming at the Governing Board meeting in Bowling Green, 2009. It seems to me a slight increase of \$10.00 or so for the benefits received is a small price to pay. In fact, I would favour a graduated increase of \$2.00 per year for the next five years. It has been reported to me that some individual Chapters have annual dues that are higher than ours. Remember that FMCA's strength is in its members who enjoy the motor homing lifestyle.

While it may be a touch early, Kathy and I take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season. For those of you who are going to warmer climates for winter – we envy you.

In the meantime, Happy Motoring.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Don