



## NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT September 30, 2009

Hi Everyone!

Once again it is the time of year when we note that the nights are getting cooler and the trees are starting to turn, so I guess that Fall must be upon us.

On the National scene, the latest figures show that our membership is continuing to drop. Although this may be starting out on a somber note, I would ask, of course, that everyone consider trying to recruit a new member for FMCA. Don't be bashful or afraid to approach a motor home not showing a goose egg in your travels, whether it be a rest area, camp ground, truck stop, or whatever. Give them one of your older magazines and let them know what a great organization FMCA is, and specifically direct them to the benefit section. Also in conjunction with gaining new members, each Chapter is allowed five free FMCA memberships to hand out. If you know of someone who would like to join, please contact Elizabeth MacCallum, our Chapter President. I would point out that these free memberships expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year.

Our Bowling Green National Convention was a success, although the numbers were not as great as we would have wished. The Magazine had good coverage of it, and I need not repeat what you have already seen. The next National Convention is in Albuquerque, New Mexico on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010. If you are in the southwest this winter, and particularly Arizona, California and New Mexico, please consider attending this Convention. You are no doubt aware, of course, that Albuquerque is the home of the Balloon Festival, and although Kathy and I have never been there, those that have report that it is quite a sight to see so many balloons take off. Next summer we are back in Redmond, Oregon. The dates are August 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Redmond, for those of you have been there before, as you know, is a great facility. Everything is quite close, and those of you who are familiar with Perry should know that the design of Redmond was patterned after Perry, Georgia. For those of you who are planning on attending the Redmond Convention, I would appreciate if you would let me know.

Speaking of winter, the Southeast Area Rally will be held in Brooksville, Florida from February 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010. I know that many of our members winter in Florida, and have attended this Rally before. Again, if you would let me know those of you that are planning to attend, perhaps we could get together for a "Happy Hour". My contacts are listed below both phone numbers and email.

The pre-security volunteers at the Bowling Green Convention this past summer did a tremendous job, and I would like to thank each and every one of them who volunteered.

The following are the people who helped out:

Ron and Shirley Isnor

Jim and Shirley Hawn

Jack and Mary Jagt

Dennis and Bernie Dunning

Art and Janet Clark

Eric Auzins

Bryn and Jeanette Boulter

Ken and Mary Neumeister

Les and Sue Naylor

John and Elizabeth MacCallum

Sonny and Kate Rundstedler

Henry and Pat Lim

Tony and Joan Ciampa

Ed and Linda Ansell

Jim and Marlene Langdon

Dennis and Shirley Ross

Lloyd and Marg Green

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The beauty, of course, about pre-security ~~was that~~ basically by Sunday our job was done and we could enjoy the rest of the show. I am told that we will be back in Indianapolis, Indiana, which is in our Great Lakes Area in the summer of 2011, and I would think we should ask to do pre-security again.

Also in conjunction with the Bowling Green Convention was the Annual Governing Board meeting. The budget that was passed by the Governing Board included keeping medics as a member benefit, with a proposed deficit in the neighborhood of \$700,000.00 plus. There was also a motion on the floor to cut the stipend for the National Directors attending the Governing Board. This motion was defeated. On your behalf I refused mine, since I felt it was unfair that the Governing Board did not take any cut in their

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remuneration, and yet the staff and National office had been cut 10 percent. It seems to me if the Governing Board is going to assume leadership, this is one area where they fell down completely.

In closing, I wish you good camping for the upcoming winter season, and good health. Again, remember if each of us recruited one new member, FMCA would be on very solid footing, and no doubt would be able to offer more benefits to our members.

Kathy joins with me in wishing you the best, and a very happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas, and a happy and prosperous New Year. Get out there and enjoy your motor home!

Thanks again for re-electing me as your National Director to represent you on the Governing Board of FMCA.



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