

SCUTTLEBUTT

Singles International

www.fmca-si.com

VOLUME 27

Issue 5

Aug.-Sept. 2011

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Officers

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Application

I am writing this as we are headed for the FMCA National Convention in Madison, WI. Amazingly, I am still in Michigan where I wrote my last message. This is the most time I have ever spent in Michigan and my first time to the Leelanau Peninsula in Northwest Lower Michigan. Wow, the weather was fantastic, no mosquitoes and the scenery was amazing. It is really interesting how your views of a state change when you spend some time there. I was able to get some maintenance done on my rig, travel around Michigan and visit with some of the SI members.

I just gave away our last free FMCA membership. FMCA has been running "A Dozen Does It" program for the last couple years encouraging chapters to recruit new members to enjoy the motorhome lifestyle even more by taking advantage of the benefits FMCA has to offer including the fun and fellowship of membership in a chapter such as Singles International. If a chapter signs up twelve new members for FMCA in a given year the chapter gets a Chapter Prize Package filled with gifts we can use as giveaways at future chapter rallies. In addition, if you recruit a new member for FMCA, make sure you put your name and F# on the application and you will receive a \$10 recruitment coupon for your own use and get a postcard back from FMCA to give to your chapter president so we can get credit for the new member. If you have any of these cards hanging around, please get them to me.

To help us to this end, FMCA even gives us five free memberships to give out. We didn't make it last year even with the freebies! This year, I think we are knocking at the door. My unofficial count of new FMCA members is ten. If everybody pitches in to help recruit new members for FMCA, we should be able to get to twelve. Remember you benefit and your chapter benefits.

I hope everyone is enjoying the last days of summer as they wind down. Enjoy your travels and stay safe. See you in Madison or down the road.

Alaska Bob Hill

Next Input Deadline: October 5

CHAPTER OFFICERSPresident

Bob Hill F319404
220 Rainbow Dr. #12092
Livingston, TX 77399
602-321-6715
alaskabobhill@gmail.com

Executive VP

John McPherson F088818
PO Box 1347
Yorktown, VA 23692
757-880-9347 Cell
macirishone@aol.com

Secretary

Trisha Schmidt F380421
110 E. Center St. # 544
Madison, SD 57042
518-253-3842
trvlingschmidt07@gmail.com

Treasurer

Dale Koepka F343910
3590 Round Bottom Rd
PMB 343910
Cincinnati, OH 45244-3026
404-583-8197
dkoepka1@gmail.com

Rocky Mountain Area VP

Joanne Harnit F198481
124 Rainbow Dr. #2420
Livingston, TX 77399-7396
307-630-7396 Cell
joanneharnit@yahoo.com

Great Lakes Area VP

Susan Balmert F260271
3590 Round Bottom Rd.
PMB 260271
Cincinnati, OH 45244-3026
440-315-8417
balmertscb@aol.com

Northeast Area VP

Bob Burnham F220375
PO Box 203
Hinsdale, NH 03451
603-762-0172 Cell
burnham@sover.net

**Western Area VP/Midwest Area
VP Northwest Area VP**
Vacant

SI Website: <http://www.fmca-si.com>

Webmaster: John McBeath

3311 Wilderness Trail
Kissimmee, FL 34736
407-846-3724
jmcbeath@att.net

South Central Area VP

Bobbie Shiplett F356105
102 Rainbow Dr. #234
Livingston, TX 77399
801-455-0780
bobbieshiplett@yahoo.com

Eastern Area VP

Betty Howard F334503
2479 John Marshall Hwy
Front Royal, VA 22830
703-581-7262
bettytnt@aol.com

Southeast Area VP

Gloria Sixt F311027
5238 Rogers Ave.
Port Orange, FL 32127
386-788-4016 Home
386-538-1741 Cell
mamacamper@aol.com

Newsletter VP

Claudia Giddens F387708
3590 Round Bottom Rd.
PMB 387708
Cincinnati, OH 45244-3026
270-217-8192
imseegee@aol.com

National Director

Bob Boxell F186274
4656 Explorer Dr. Apt. 211
West Melbourne, FL 32904
407-415-3114
rboxell@aol.com

Alternate National Director

Pat Warhurst F190229
4704 Montgomery St.
Annandale, VA 22003
703-989-3213
pwarhu4704@aol.com

Treasurer's Report June-July, 2011

Beginning Cash			\$8,279.29
Income	\$110.00		
Expenses		\$1,034.01	
Net Increase/Decrease			-\$924.01
Cash on Hand			
Cash in Bank			\$7,355.28
Total Cash			\$7,355.28



Renewal Time

October is the time to pay dues for 2012.

Please fill out the renewal form on page 11 of this newsletter.

Send \$10.00/year to Dale Koepka, 3590 Round Bottom Rd. PMB 343910, Cincinnati, OH 45244-3026

Check your label on this newsletter to see when your dues are paid through. You can pay multiple years.

RALLY REPORTS



GLASS Rally

PRE-RALLY NEAR

The North East Pre Rally was held at the Elks Club in Burlington, VT. Our two motor coach Rally was outstanding. Allen Reed, a member of the Elk's Lodge, took us on a great tour of Grand Isle on Lake Champlain. We saw 4 man-made stone castle replicas about 6 feet tall. He used small stones he gathered from around the lake. We would never have found them on our own. We got to view the devastation of the record high water levels of the spring run off as well as many side roads with beautiful cottages and beautiful homes. Of course, we made several trips to the Shanty Restaurant for excellent seafood and a beautiful view of Lake Champlain. Attending the rally: VP Bob Burnham, VP SI John McPherson and Ethel Sawyer.

Submitted by Ethel Sawyer

NORTH EAST AREA RALLY

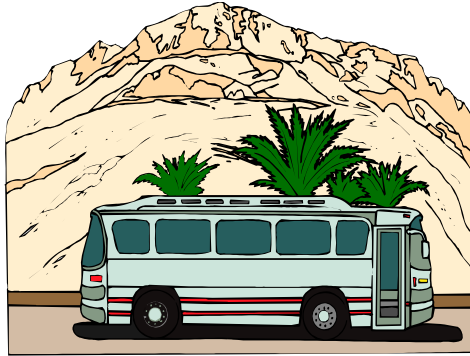
There were many interesting seminars and three GREAT evenings of entertainment!!! The dinner on the Northern Lights Cruise Boat with live music, a breath taking sunset, and a sparkling cool Lake Champlain was most refreshing after a long day of intense HEAT!!! We held a chapter fair-many people stopped by with many inquiries and took membership forms and the Scuttlebutt with them. We hope to get more new members. At our daily happy hours we entertained perspective members of our club: Bob Kelly, Sue Coulson, Marilyn Kelly and Cindy Shultz.

We gained a new SI member-Cindy Shultz of State College Pennsylvania. Welcome Cindy!!! We had 5 SI signs around our two coaches-there were many inquiries-what is SI? We heard someone say "it stands for Staten Island." WE THINK EVERYONE KNEW WE WERE SINGLES INTERNATIONAL BY THE TIME THE RALLY WAS OVER!!!

We rounded up other SI members parked elsewhere, Frank Witte and his new bride Euvinania, and Matthew Rutschky and his friend Cindy Schultz to join us for our happy hour. Bob Burnham, North East Area VP, John McPherson, SI VP, Ethel Sawyer and guests all survived the intense heat (100 degrees). Small attendance but a great time was had by all.

Submitted by Ethel Sawyer

UPCOMING EVENTS



“A FAMILY AFFAIR” IN MADISON, WI

Pre-rally Aug. 6-10

August 10-13, 2011

Come join the “SI Family” in Madison, WI this summer and plan to participate in the fun and games. We have been asked to direct the games during this rally and are looking forward to sharing and spreading our enthusiasm. However, for this task, we will need lots of help and support. In addition, if we have a quorum, we will have a business meeting to decide about next year’s election.

A pre-rally has been planned for August 6-10 (4 nights) at Tom’s Campground in Dodgeville, WI. You must make your own reservations. Liz Kieffer has arranged for 20 sites for the SI’s so please mention Singles International when you call. Rates are \$22 for 30 amp and \$25 for 50 amp. The park does not accept credit cards so be prepared with cash or check when you arrive. Phone # 608.935.5446 Website: www.tomscampground.com. Address: 2626 Spring Rd. Dodgeville, WI.

Liz will plan for us to visit some local attractions during the pre-rally. We will also have a pot luck one night. Contact Bobbie Shiplett at 801.455.0780 or bobbieshiplett@yahoo.com.

Submitted by Bobbie Shiplett



VETERANS AT PERRY, GA

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER CLOUD 9 RALLY

September 7-14, 2011

Carol Klenow will host us at Cloud 9 Ranch in Caulfield, MO on September 7-14. Caulfield is about 20 miles west of West Plains on Hwy 160 and the Ranch is just west of Caulfield. GPS coordinates for the entrance to Cloud 9 are N 36 37.447, W 92 08.030. The Ranch needs a list of attendees to let us in as this is a membership only park, so please give Carol a call at 810-287-1486 or email at klenoc@aol.com if you plan to attend. A special rate of \$15.00 per day **per coach** for full hookups has been arranged or you can use Coast-to-Coast or RPI at their going rates. You may arrive as early as September 6th, but the rally officially starts on September 7th with departure scheduled for September 14th. They will have ATV riding available for a one-time charge of \$25.00 during the time of the rally if you bring your own machine. There are many great trails there. Other events are fishing, horseback riding, geocaching, weenie roast, and several outdoor pot luck meals. So come and sign up and see what is planned for you. It is planned that we will caravan to Treasure Lake RV Park, Branson, MO on September 14th.

Submitted by Carol Klenow

SEPTEMBER IN BRANSON, MO

September 14-22

Branson Fall Bash will be held Sept. 14-22. As usual we will stay at Treasure Lake RV Park as guests of Bob Hill. You must let Bob know if you plan to attend as he has to provide a list for the office. The cost will be \$12 per day for full hookups or you can come in under Coast to Coast or RPI.

Activities will be decided once the group arrives, but will include some breakfasts and dinners out, a covered dish picnic, visit to Olde Town and Branson Landing, and of course some local shows. We are generally very lucky and get some special prices to some of the shows. If you have a particular show you would like to see, chances are someone in the group is also interested in that show and you will have someone to go with. Contact Bobbie Shiplett at 801.455.0780 or email bobbieshiplett@yahoo.com if you plan to attend. From Branson we will begin our caravan to the Balloon Fiesta and the Rocky Mountain Ramble. (See article found elsewhere in this edition)

Submitted by Bobbie Shiplett.

BALLOON FIESTA CARAVAN TO ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAMBLE

September 22-October 9

Our caravan will begin in Branson, MO at Treasure Lake RV Resort on September 22. You may join us any time after September 14 at Treasure Lake. Just let Bob Hill know that you are coming so that your name can be submitted to the office. From there we plan to head out to Claremore, OK and across I-40 (possibly traveling on parts of old Route 66) to Albuquerque, NM and the Balloon Fiesta Grounds. We will be at the Balloon Fiesta from October 5-9 before heading up to Farmington, NM and the FMCA Rocky Mountain Ramble. Sights along the way include the Will Rogers Museum and Boyhood Home, Oklahoma City Memorial, National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, Will Rogers World, Harley and Annabelle's Mediocre Music (if open), Palo Duro Canyon, Pan Handle Plains Museum and Cadillac Ranch. If anyone has knowledge of other sights along the route, we can be flexible. After leaving Treasure Lake, most overnights will be at Casinos, rest areas or Walmarts. Final plans will be decided on in Branson and I am open for suggestions if anyone has any. If you need hook-ups on a nightly basis you will have to arrange for that yourself. I will provide a more current detail of stops if you will email me at bobbieshiplett@yahoo.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Balloon Fiesta continued

I do suggest that you contact the Balloon Fiesta at rvspace@balloonfiesta.com and make a reservation for our stay there for 4 nights beginning October 5th. The cost for boon docking is \$30.00 per night. We are paying for the convenience and location. Wake up to balloons flying overhead. No hassle to drive to the grounds and free shuttle to the main event area. At the conclusion of the Balloon Fiesta we will continue our caravan to Farmington, NM to attend the FMCA Rocky Mountain Ramble. Directions to Treasure Lake: 1 Treasure Lake Dr., Branson, MO. Your GPS will bring you there. The park is located behind the IMAX Theatre on Shepherd of the Hills Hwy. Try to avoid Hwy 76 through town. You cannot see the park from the road and it will appear you are going into the IMAX parking lot. Tell the office you are with SI (Bob Hill) and they will direct you to where we are parked. Call Bob (602.321.6715) if you have any problems.

Submitted by **Bobbie Shiplett**



ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL NEWS

October 9-11 Pre-Rally

October 11-15 Rocky Mountain Ramble

The next Rocky Mountain Regional Ramble is scheduled for October 11-15 at the Farmington/McGee Park and Fairgrounds in Farmington, NM. with a pre-rally Oct. 9-11. This is a nice 300-500 rig gathering with good 30 amp and water hookups for over 500 rigs. There is a casino next door with large parking areas where early parking is possible. The region is full of ancient historic sites-Chaco, Aztec and Salmon ruins, Canyon de Chelley, Monument Valley-and many more places to visit. Weather is sunny warm days and crisp nights. Come on down!! Joanne Harnit 307-630-7396

Submitted by **Joanne Harnit**

GEAR PRE-RALLY

October 11-17

Hagan Stone Park, Pleasant Garden, NC

We have had many requests to extend the GEAR Pre-Rally, so this year it will be longer, October 11-17.

21 sites have been reserved. Call Betty Howard at 703-581-7262 to get your name on the list.

Some attractions in the nearby Greensboro area are: The Bog Garden, Tanger Bicentennial Gardens, Guilford County National Military Park, lots of museums and art galleries, Architectural Salvage (looks like a fun place) and of course, wineries and who could forget lunch and dinner out. We might even get another visit to the Childress race car museum. Breakfast will be provided and we will have a pot luck dinner. Rally fee will be determined at a later date. Maybe around \$10.00 or so.

Submitted by **Betty Howard**

UPCOMING EVENTS



THANKSGIVING ON THE SPACE COAST

Start planning now to spend your Thanksgiving with the SI's at Red Fish Charlie's Tiki Grill in the Titusville, FL area of the Space Coast. Once again Bill Molenaar has made arrangements for us to boondock adjacent to the Flea Market and enjoy the hospitality of Charlie's Grill. The rally fee of \$25 or \$30 will cover a catered Thanksgiving Dinner by Charlie and music at least one night at the Grill. The Flea Market and Restaurant are both within walking distance and the parking area is on the corner of US 1 and Spring Street with easy access from I-95.

Events will begin on Monday, Nov. 21 and end on Nov. 28. You are welcome to come anytime during the week. Enjoy the various attractions around the Space Coast, including Cocoa Beach, NASA Space Center and tour of Cape Kennedy as well as the Orlando area. Friday night, Nov. 25 there will be a Crash-A-Rama Demolition Derby at the Bithlo Raceway (\$) which we will plan to attend.

Anyone planning on going on the cruise out of Tampa will have easy access to Tampa from the race track.

Please call Bill Molenaar at 321-243-3340 or email at rvwildbill@yahoo.com to let him know your plans. He needs to know how many to expect in order for Charlie to prepare the dinner.

Submitted by Bobbie Shiplett



NEW YEAR'S EVE AT PANCHOS RANCHO

Marvin Panch's Ranch
Port Orange, Florida

RALLIES

See calendar to contact host

PRE-RALLY FMCA

August 6-10 Madison, WI
Host Liz Kieffer

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA RALLY

September 28-October 2
Hutchinson, KS

PRE-GEAR RALLY

October 11-17
Hagan Stone Park
Pleasant Gardens, NC
Host Betty Howard

THANKSGIVING RALLY

November 21-28 Titusville, FL
Host Bill Molenaar

WESTERN AREA RALLY

January 8-11, 2012
Host Joanne Hartnit

FMCA FAMILY REUNION

August 10-13
Host Bob Hill

Rocky Mountain Ramble

October 11-15
Farmington, NM
Host Bobbie Shjplett

GEAR RALLY

October 19-23
Winston-Salem, NC
Host Betty Howard

NEW YEARS RALLY

Pancho Rancho
Port Orange, FL
Host Bobbie Hardin



A special thanks to all those who called and emailed with appreciation for the roster.

I cannot take credit for the excellent job done by Dale Koepka. Dale comprised the roster to fit the format so that it could be mailed. All I did was print and mail it.

I have forwarded your emails to Dale and I do want you to know that we truly appreciate all your compliments and will welcome corrections and comments.

Claudia Giddens

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



The following people have joined Singles International since the last Scuttlebutt. Please welcome them with a hug and make them feel welcome.

David P. Buckwalter
Cindy Schultz

Tavernier, FL
State College, PA

F38256
F406935

SINGLES INTERNATIONAL/HAPPY PEOPLE

Those of us who spend the winter in Florida are aware that there is a second FMCA Chapter of singles called "Happy People". So the question is which chapter should a single join?" and which is the real "singles group"? The answer is "either and/or both". I will attempt to clarify this.

The Singles International Chapter was formed about 27 years ago as the first singles chapter in FMCA. FMCA is divided into several areas throughout the US, however there are some chapters that do not fall into any particular region and can encompass any or all of the US, Mexico and Canada. Thus there is an area called the International Area (INTO). The SI chapter falls into this area of FMCA. Of course, any FMCA member can join any Chapter they desire, but most people join a Chapter in the area in which they call home and participate in the activities of their home chapter. "Singles" can live all over the continent and thus fall into the "International" category. (It is possible to be a member of more than one chapter so you will find people joining chapters in which they share a common interest.)

During the winter there is always a large number of singles in Florida and around 16 years ago the group decided they would like to volunteer and participate in the Southeast Area (SEA) activities, but in order to do so, the SEA executives suggested that they form a Chapter within the Southeast Area. Thus the formation of the Happy People Chapter. By establishing a chapter within SEA the Happy People can park together, participate in the Chapter Fair and volunteer their services during the rally. Charter members of the Happy People elected officers and chose as their colors the SI yellow and use a happy face as their logo. Dues are \$10/year. A newsletter is available occasionally.

Martha Werre (352.787.9290 cell and 352.874.0212 home) serves as President and generally hosts a rally at her home in Lady Lake Florida in February prior to the International rally in Perry, GA. She also co-hosts with the SI VP of Southeast Area a pre-rally in January prior to the SEA rally in Brooksville, FL. The SI's and Happy People work together in Florida to provide activities for all singles. You can become a member of both organizations and enjoy experiences of other Rving singles.

OTHER NEWS

DEATH: PAT MALLOY

From Bob Mills: Pat Malloy was an SI member and a former SEA AVP. I can recall being at an SI rally with her where we all went out to dinner in a church hall where her daughter was the minister. She was a fine lady who had many friends in Singles International.

Singles International

2011-12

August

6-9 Pre-Rally

Liz Kieffer 608.695.9856
lizzy2u56@gmail.com

10-14 FMCA Family Reunion

Madison, WI
Bob Hill 602.321.6715
alaskaabobhill@gmail.com

September

7-14 Cloud 9 Caulfield MO
Carol Klenow
810.287.1486
klenoc@aol.com

14-22 Branson Bash
Bob Hill 602.321.6715
alaskaabobhill@gmail.com

22-Oct 9 Balloon Fiesta Caravan
Bobbie Shiplett
801.455.0780
bobbieshiplett@yahoo.com

28-Oct 2 South Central Area Rally Hutchinson, KS

October

9-15 Pre-Rally and Rocky Mountain Ramble Farmington, NM
Bobbie Shiplett
801.455.0780
bobbieshiplett@yahoo.com

16-19 Pre-Gear Pleasant Garden, NC
Betty Howard 703.581.7262
bettytnt@aol.com

19-23 GEAR Winston-Salem, NC
Betty Howard 703.581.7262
bettytnt@aol.com

November

21-28 Thanksgiving Rally

Cocoa, FL
Bill Molenaar
321.243.3340
rvwildbill@yahoo.com

27-Dec 4 Singles Cruise

Christy Kawabata
352.603.0024
christykawabata@hotmail.com

December

New Year's Eve Pancho Rancho
Bobbie Hardin
678.617.5748
jbobbi@mindspring.com

January 2012

8-11 Indio Pre-Rally
Joanne Harnit 307.630.7396
joanneharnit@yahoo.com

11-15 Western Area Rally Indio, CA
Joanne Harnit 307.630.7396
joanneharnit@yahoo.com

26-28 Pre-Rally Brooksville
Gloria Sixt
386.538.1741
mamacamper@aol.com

February 2012

1-5 SEA Rally Brooksville, FL
Gloria Sixt
386.538.1741
mamacamper@aol.com

March 2012



Singles International

Chapter of Family Motor Coach Association

Membership Application / Information Update

RALLIES Activities Companionship Newsletter Safety classes Website Caravanning New friends FUN

Welcome Aboard!

Name: _____ FMCA #: _____ Date _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Email address: _____

Dues are not prorated Initial Membership: \$10.00 plus \$10.00 for badge Total \$20.00 Renewals \$10.00 (Due Oct.1- please fill out form)

Make Checks Payable to: SI Chapter of FMCA

Mail to: Dale Koepka, Treasurer 3590 Round Bottom Rd. PMB 343910 Cincinnati, OH 45244-3026

Badge Information: As you want it on your badge: Name _____ City and State _____

Ship Badge to: Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE MY SCUTTLEBUTT (NEWSLETTER) ON LINE _____ BY MAIL _____

Singles International

Chapter of Family Motor Coach Association

Membership Application / Information Update

RALLIES Activities Companionship Newsletter Safety classes Website Caravanning New friends FUN

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Ship Badge to: Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

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Next Issue
Deadline October 5

Singles International
Claudia Giddens, Scuttlebutt Editor
3590 Round Bottom Rd.
PMB 387708
Cincinnati, OH 45244
August-September, 2011

FIRST CLASS MAIL