



Central Oregon
Chapter of
Family Motor Coach Association
(FMCA)

**July August 2018 Electronic
Newsletter**

Peter Ribble - Editor

Hi Rim Rock Roamers:

Jinny and I attended the FMCA Governing Board meeting today representing the Rim Rock Roamers and Jinny representing the Puget Sounders. The meeting was uneventful with the Governing Board approving all the recommended changes to the FMCA Constitution and the Policy and Procedures. The meeting was not without some interesting discussion. Official business was concluded at noon which some said was a record. President Jon Walker's State of the Association presentation was very interesting. Here are the highlights;

- @ The current active membership as of June 18 is 76,692. Up from 70,154 in 2016. At the peak in 2004 FMCA had 129,189 members.
- @Motor home production was 62,638 in 2017 up from 13,200 in 2008.
- @FMCA has had 17 months straight of membership growth to June 2018.
- @FMCA now has 2210 non-motorized RV owners.
- @FMCA had 12,995 new members in 2017 and expects to exceed 13,800 this year.
- @67% of new members join on-line.
- @FMCA member attendance at Gillette is 1,579. Last year at Indiana it was 1,449 and the previous year at West Springfield of 1,059.
- @Winter attendance at Perry this year was 2,562.
- @Membership renewal rates: Chapter members 95%, Non-Chapter 62%
- @In 2018 there are 22,504 Chapter members compared to 34,435 in 2014.
- @In 2014 there were 427 active chapters and we now have 355 active chapters.

And the last item that was discussed was the next fiscal FMCA budget of \$9,375,976. This budget was approved by the Governing Board.

Jinny and I are enjoying our visit to Gillette. This is the second time in Gillette for us this month and we have experienced two very bad storms. It brings back memories of our youth living in the Mid-west. This will be my last report as your National Director. I have enjoyed representing the Roamers at the FMCA National meeting. Jinny and I will see you all at the remaining rally's this year.

Jerry

Editors Note: Don Schleuse was recently sworn in to be the new National Vice President of the NW Area of FMCA. Thanks to Kathy & Andy Balogh for their years of service to FMCA and the NW Area.



Nice Sunset



Aplets & Cotlets – Cashmere, WA



Pybus Public Market - Wenatchee



Old – A-1 Skyraider
New - A-10C Thunderbolt

NW Area Planning Meeting!!

Held September 25 and 26, 2018 at the Cowlitz County Event Center in Longview, Washington. Each chapter in the NW Area is allowed two coaches to attend this important meeting. Day one is the NW Area FMCA Business Meeting, where the governance of the NW Area chapters is carried out. In 2018 we welcome Don Schleuse, our new NW Area National Vice President. He is assisted by a Secretary, Treasurer and four Vice Presidents. Elections will be held in the fall to fill several vacancies.

Day two is the preliminary planning session for the 2019 NW Area Rally to be held at the Linn County Fair and Expo Center in Albany, OR to be held on **June 6 through June 9, 2019**. In this meeting chapters discuss and sign up for volunteer duties related to the NW Area rally. Meals are served both days and your parking (with full hookups) is complimentary as an attendee representing the Rim Rock Roamers. Rim Rock Roamers have TWO complimentary sites. This is an ideal opportunity to learn about the "inner workings" of a FMCA rally and engage with the other chapters and volunteers.

Several of us have attended these meetings for many years, but the time has come for some new folks to get involved. It really is a lot of fun...you will make many life-long friends. For information, please contact Jerry/Jinny Andres, Peter/Debbie Ribble or Richard/Jan Rydman.



Rim Rock Roamers Rallies 2018

Getting down to the end!!

After making reservations please let Jan Rydman know you've signed up so we can keep a count of those attending.

Phone: (503) 318-2760 or E-Mail J2L3R@hotmail.com *Thank You*

Four couples enjoyed a fun rally at Olde Stone Village in McMinnville May 18 – 20

Six couples enjoyed some wonderful coastal weather in Winchester Bay June 13 – 17 – Before going to the NW Area Rally

Seven couples enjoyed the NW Area Rally in North Bend June 17 – 24

*Three couples enjoyed Summer Theater in Leavenworth, WA July 20th - 24
"Sound of Music" on the ski hill*

Three couples (and many guests) enjoyed the Hydroplane Races and Air Show at the Water Follies in Kennewick, WA July 26th - 30

August 8th to August 13th – Guaranty RV Park Junction City, OR (12 Coaches)

93668 Hwy 99

rvpark@guaranty.com 541-998-7000 or 855-678-7275 toll free

This weekend is the Scandinavian Festival which starts on Thursday Aug 9th, each day a Scandinavian country is featured, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Denmark.

Our final rally of 2018 is to Oktoberfest in Mt. Angel, Oregon (5 Coaches) The dates for the Oktoberfest are: **September 13 – 16, 2018.** We have reserved full hook up sites at Portland-Woodburn RV park and sent out e-mails to all members. We currently have three coaches signed up for Portland-Woodburn RV and two that will be dry camping in a field very near the venue. Come join us, but the reservations are up to you!!



Water Follies 2018 Kennewick, WA

Something to think about!

The first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know. I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder.

I turned around to find a wrinkled, little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being.

She said, 'Hi handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eighty-seven years old. Can I give you a hug?'

I laughed and enthusiastically responded, 'Of course you may!' and she gave me a giant squeeze.

'Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?' I asked.

She jokingly replied, 'I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married, and have a couple of kids.'

'No seriously,' I asked. I was curious what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age.

'I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!' she told me.

After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milkshake.

We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always mesmerized listening to this 'time machine' as she shared her wisdom and experience with me.

Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students. She was living it up.

At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the podium. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her three by five cards on the floor.

Frustrated and a little embarrassed she leaned into the microphone and simply said, 'I'm sorry I'm so jittery. I gave up beer for Lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back in order so let me just tell you what I know.'

As we laughed she cleared her throat and began, ' We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing.

There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy, and achieving success. You have to laugh and find humor every day. You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die.

We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it!

There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up.

If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything I will turn eighty-eight.

Anybody! Can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunity in change. Have no regrets.

The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets..'

She concluded her speech by courageously singing 'The Rose.'

She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives. At the year's end Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those months ago.

One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep.

Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it's never too late to be all you can possibly be.

When you finish reading this, please send this peaceful word of advice to your friends and family, they'll really enjoy it!

These words have been passed along in loving memory of ROSE.

REMEMBER, GROWING OLDER IS MANDATORY. GROWING UP IS OPTIONAL. We make a Living by what we get. We make a Life by what we give.

God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage. If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it.

***Good friends are like stars.....You don't always see them,
but you know they are always there.***