

# NORTHWEST MOTOR HOME AREA ASSOCIATION - FMCA MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

Swiss Sportsmen's Club Park  
Bonney Lake, WA  
Tuesday, September 22, 2015

## **Call to Order:**

The Business Meeting of the Northwest Motor Home Area Association (NWMHAA) was held at the Swiss Sportsmen's Club Park. President Kathie Balogh presiding, and Karen Pratt, Secretary were both present. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. followed by invocation and flag salute.

## **Members in Attendance:**

Executive Board Members Arvin Spofford, Kent Pratt, Judie Lehenbauer, Don Schleuse, Barbara Schleuse, and Andy Balogh were in attendance.

Kathie wished Bud Fouts and Meri Schneider a Happy Birthday

**Roll Call.** The roll call was taken and chapter delegates identified. A quorum was established.

## **Approval of Minutes:**

The reading of the April 21, 2015 minutes was waived. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. Jack Crans moved to accept the minutes as previously distributed. The motion was seconded and carried.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

Barbara Schleuse, Treasurer, reported the balance on hand as of September 16, 2015 was \$ 18,056.74 in the checking account and \$77,564.69 in the savings account for a total of \$ 95,621.43 cash on hand. The Treasurer's Report was accepted and will be filed with the minutes.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

## **Coos Bay Rally Update:**

Rally Master, Andy Balogh reported on the *Play by the Bay* Rally, held at Coos Bay, OR in June 2015, we made a profit of \$17,609.92. There were 92 show coaches in attendance, which helped our bottom line tremendously. Andy stated that it was a very successful rally with very few problems or complaints. We had good weather and everyone had a good time. Thank you to everyone who attended. Also, a big THANK YOU to all the volunteers!

## **Madison, WI Family Reunion:**

Twenty-one delegates from our area attended the Governing Board Meeting. There was discussion on all the Policies & Procedures voted on at the meeting. The Governing Board Report is on the Northwest Area website, [www.fmcanw.org](http://www.fmcanw.org), as well as, the FMCA website, [www.fmca.com](http://www.fmca.com). Bob Henderson's proposal did not pass. There was a discussion on the proposal and Kathie Balogh suggested that if Bob decides to pursue his proposal, it could be reworded and resubmitted before December 31, 2015. It would then go to the Policy & Procedure Committee and be put on the Governing Board agenda for the meeting at the summer 2016 Family Reunion.

## **Member Benefits:**

Staples has purchased Office Depot. Please go online to the FMCA website to register for the Staples program. Kathie asked FMCA in Cincinnati to send member benefits information for our meeting; it is displayed on the table for everyone to pick up. FMCA Road Assist is now available along with FMCA Auto & RV Insurance, and a discount prescription program.

## **Membership:**

The Membership Committee is meeting in October and Kathie is on that Committee. Membership retention is down; FMCA is recruiting new members, but losing at a faster rate. Membership declined from 71,696 members on August 1 to 71,107 on August 31. We lost 589 in the month of August and 4,408 year to date. We have 411 active chapters and 13 inactive. Our best recruiting tool is the Internet (31%), with family members recruiting 25% and chapters recruiting only 1%. The Committee welcomes any suggestions for member retention. Past members or members who have sold their motorhome and have a fifth wheel or trailer, or even do not RV anymore, can pay the annual dues and become an Associate Member. As an Associate Member, they receive all the benefits they had as a Family Member; the only difference is that as an Associate, they cannot hold National Office or vote.

If you know of someone who is traveling with a member, but does not have their own FMCA #, they need to call FMCA and be put on the member's F number; this will entitle them to be able to have all FMCA benefits and be covered by FMCA Assist.

## **Northwest Area Web Page:**

Sandie Blakley has emailed Kathie stating that she is willing to put additional information for the chapters on the Northwest Area website: i.e. bylaws, pictures, etc. Chapters have been including pictures in their newsletters and they reproduce well. Please send all items for the website to our Secretary, Karen Pratt. Karen's email is [karenkprtt@aol.com](mailto:karenkprtt@aol.com).

## **FMCA Website:**

Kathie advised that Chapter Secretaries need to look at their chapter info on the FMCA website and make sure the information is current. Send updates to Dianna Mitts at [dmitts@fmca.com](mailto:dmitts@fmca.com). The New Member Report is also available by request from Dianna Mitts. This report will soon be sent automatically to the person listed as the contact person on your chapter information page on the National website.

## **Chapter Officers Duties:**

Some chapters are having trouble getting officers--especially National Directors and Alternate National Directors. Your delegates do not need to travel as we are able to get temporary delegates. The chapters do not need to feel that they have to pay their National Directors to go to the Governing Board Meetings; not all Chapters pay their National Directors. The smaller chapters do not have the funds. Commercial members can also be Family members of FMCA. You can hold two offices in one chapter or one office in two chapters with the exception of National Director or Alternate National Director.

## **Linn County - June 2016 Rally:**

Kathie asked former captains that were present to explain their responsibilities as Captain; what their job had entailed from the day they volunteered as a captain until the end of the rally. This was done so that someone thinking of volunteering for the different positions would have an idea what to expect. Andy reported on the Rally Master position. He explained that we have seen him doing a lot more than what is expected of the Rally Master; because as President, there are certain jobs that have to be done by the President; such as signing contracts, obtaining caterers, entertainment, and selecting the captains of the Program Book (which includes the advertising), Vendor Captain, Dealer Coach Captain, Parking Chief and Information /Registration. These Captains are trained by previous Captains due to the nature of the position. The duties of the Rally Master are more like the duties of a Volunteer Coordinator. It was suggested that we change the name of Rally Master to Volunteer Coordinator in the future.

## **Area Banner:**

A new Area banner has been suggested by Marje Fouts. Marje made the original banner 14 years ago and it is getting pretty worn. Some of the Chapter logos are coming off. Marje has checked on a vinyl banner with photo logos on the vinyl; as well as, a canvas banner with the logos sewn on the banner. Kathie would like us to get the most durable banner because the President carries the banner to all National Reunions, Area Rallies and Chapter Rallies. The vinyl banner looks like the best option. The original banner will be kept for posterity. We will be sending an email to all Chapters for them to check to be sure their logo is correct. Fred Royce moved that the banner reflect the Chapters that are in existence now. Motion seconded, discussion followed. Motion carried.

## **Cowlitz County:**

The Cowlitz County Fairgrounds and Convention Center contract is all inclusive, with the exception of golf carts, pipe & drape and maybe 2 audio visual set ups for seminars. The site has been visited several times. There are a number of electrical boxes; a few 50 amp, some 30 amp, and some 20 amp. The dining room, seminar rooms, vendor building, and show coach area will be great. The Executive Board has decided to have the Sept. 19-22, 2016 planning meeting in Kelso, WA at the Cowlitz County Fairgrounds. This would give delegates and captains a chance to do their planning.

## **Proposals for 2018/2019:**

We are looking at several sites including Spokane. There will be suggestions given at the April 2016 meetings.

## **2015 Election of Officers:**

Kathie asked Fred Royce for the Nominating Committee Report. Fred presented the following slate of candidates.

Sr. Vice President Position - Candidates: Kent Pratt and Don Schleuse

Vice President Position - Candidates: Judie Lehenbauer, Dennis Martin, and Jim McBride

Secretary Position - Candidate: Karen Pratt

Kathie thanked Fred Royce and the entire Nominating Committee. The election was held and the results are:

Senior Vice President Don Schleuse by ballot

Vice President Judie Lehenbauer by ballot

Secretary Karen Pratt - Al Zimmerman moved that Karen be elected by acclamation. Motion seconded and carried.

Fred Royce - Nominating Committee Chair, explained the procedure to be used to replace the vacancy left by Don Schleuse for Vice President. This is for a one year position. Nominations were taken from the floor. Sandy Baker nominated Dennis Martin. Dennis accepted the nomination. Anne Tighe nominated Jim McBride. Jim accepted the nomination. Arvin Spofford moved that nominations be closed. Motion seconded and carried.

Vice President Dennis Martin by ballot

Bobbi Radford moved the ballots be destroyed. Motion seconded and carried.

Election for Nominating Committee:

The following were nominated: Beth Harrington, Jerry Lehenbauer, Fred Royce, and Bobbi Radford. Al Zimmerman moved nominations be closed and the candidates be elected by acclamation. The committee will choose the Chair of the Nominating Committee.

## **Announcements:**

Cincinnati Meetings - October 17-26, 2015

Indio, CA - Western Area Rally - January 7-10, 2016

Perry, GA - FMCA 93rd Family Reunion - March 17-20, 2016

Planning Meeting Dates - Linn County Fair & Expo, Albany, OR. - April 18-21, 2016

Linn County Fair & Expo - NORTHWEST AREA RALLY - June 23-26, 2016

West Springfield, MA - FMCA 94th Family Reunion - August 3-7, 2016

Planning Meeting Dates - Cowlitz County Convention Center - September 19-22, 2016

Chandler, AZ - FMCA 95th Family Reunion - February 8-11, 2017 (held at this time to be before Good Sam & Escapees)

Planning Meeting Dates - Cowlitz County Convention Center - April 11-13, 2017

Cowlitz County Convention Center - NORTHWEST AREA RALLY - June 22-25, 2017

Indianapolis, IN - FMCA 96th Family Reunion - July 12-15, 2017

NORTHWEST AREA RALLY - TBD - June 21-24, 2018

NORTHWEST AREA RALLY - TBD - June 20-23, 2019

## **2016 Chapter Anniversaries:**

35 Years: Northwestern Bus Nuts

30 Years: Monaco Northwest

Olympic Peninsula Ramblers

WIMBCOA

Lewis & Clark Thousand Trails

20 Years: Columbia Basin Cruisers

15 Years: Klondikers

Reigning Rex

10 Years: Great American RV

KM International

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Karen Pratt, Secretary