

**NORTHWEST MOTOR HOME AREA ASSOCIATION – FMCA
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Cowlitz County Event Center
Tuesday April 11, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 1:05pm. President Kathie Balogh presiding and Secretary Bobbi Radford were both present. Executive Board Members Don Schleuse, Barbara Schleuse, Dennis Martin, Judie Lehenbauer, Bill Chambers and Andy Balogh were in attendance

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting were waived. Al Zimmerman moved to accept the minutes that were previously distributed by email and posted on the web. The motion was seconded and carried.

Barbara Schleuse, Treasurer, reported the balance on hand in checking account, as of April 5, 2017, was \$48,069.98. The savings account balance, as of April 5, 2017, was \$67,297.44. The total cash on hand, as of April 5, 2017, is \$115,367.42. This total includes income for the Cowlitz Rally. The Treasurer's Report was accepted for file and will be filed with the meeting minutes.

Committee Reports:

Nominating Committee: Nominating Committee Chairman Jerry Lehenbauer reported that in March he sent a letter to the Chapter Presidents, National Directors, and Alternate National Directors outlining the responsibilities of the Area Offices. There are three positions up for election: the Senior Vice President position currently held by Don Schleuse who is eligible for re-election; a Vice President position currently held by Judie Lehenbauer who is terming out after completing her second term; and the Secretary position currently held by Bobbi Radford who is eligible for re-election. Jerry reminded everyone that the deadline is August 1st. Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the General Meeting on September 19, 2017. At this time, he has no declared candidates.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Chandler 95th International Convention Update: : Kathie gave a report on the Chandler convention. There were 2647 coaches in attendance, this includes 2273 Family Coaches, 72 Exhibitor Live-ins, 232 Display Coaches, and 50 Demo Coaches. There were approximately 400 coaches from the Northwest Area. The turnout at the Northwest Area gathering was good. We discussed the benefits of belonging to a chapter and tried to introduce non-chapter members with a chapter member. FMCA President Charlie Adcock, FMCA Sr. VP Jon Walker, and FMCA

Secretary Gaye Young stopped by for a visit. President Adcock spoke briefly to the attendees about the remodel program.

Indianapolis 96th International Convention: The upcoming Indianapolis convention and the need for temporary delegates for the Governing Board meeting were discussed. This is an election year for the four National Officers. The Northwest Area would like to have a strong presence. Kathie asked if anyone was planning on attending the Indianapolis convention to please notify the Secretary as the Area needs Temporary Delegates to represent Northwest Area chapters who are unable to have representation. Kathie announced that after the Convention, there is an opportunity for the Northwest Area attendees to go to Cincinnati and stay at the FMCA Campground on Round Bottom Road for three nights, have a tour of the FMCA National Office and enjoy lunch with the FMCA staff.

Northwest Area 2017 Rally Update: Rally Master Andy Balogh and Assistant Rally Master Don Schleuse will discuss the upcoming Rally in detail at the Planning Meeting beginning Wednesday April 12, at 9am. Kathie asked that all questions about the upcoming rally be held for that meeting. Kathie talked about the email blasts that are sent out from the National Office; the first email blast has been sent out; the second blast is scheduled to be sent out around April 25th and the third blast will be sent out around May 25th. These email blasts keep our rally on the minds of FMCA members in the Western Area, Rocky Mountain Area and our Area. Kathie commended the Cowlitz County Event Center for their friendliness and cooperation in the planning of the “**Blast From The Past**” Rally.

Northwest Area 2018 Rally Update: The 2018 Northwest Area Rally will be held at The Mill Hotel and Casino. Kathie asked everyone to think about a theme for the 2018 Rally and then we can work on the logo. Kathie will reconvene this meeting after the Planning Meeting to give us a chance to think of rally themes to be voted on for the 2018 rally. There was a question about satellite parking at The Mill. Andy Balogh explained that there would be no off-site parking; all parking would be on The Mill property. The Mill and Kathie are working on new ideas for events to be held at the 2018 rally. The wine walk was very successful in 2015. We cannot play bingo at the Mill; they do not have the proper licensing. We will find another activity in place of bingo, such as card bingo.

FMCAssist: Discussion was held regarding the FMCAssist program. Cost of the program (which has gone up significantly), the 10 year or older motorhome issue, and the need for the family member to call FMCAssist, as soon as possible, after calling 911.

Recruitment: Kathie asked how many chapters in the Northwest Area have used the \$125 mailing program offered by FMCA. Not one chapter in the Northwest has used this benefit. Out of over 400 chapters in FMCA only five have used this benefit.

Membership: FMCA Membership Committee is looking for ideas and programs to get new members. Any suggestion would be accepted.

Questions for Cincinnati: Kathie is compiling a list of questions that members of the Northwest Area want answered by the National Office. If you have questions, please send them to Kathie before the meetings beginning May 6th in Cincinnati.

RVillage: Don Schleuse gave the stats about RVillage. The number of members shown on their website today is 61823 members. According to monthly reports, Kathie said that FMCA has recruited 84 members from RVillage .and she will check how this number was reached.

Northwest Area Website: www.fmacnw.org Members are encouraged to check the website for information about upcoming events for both the Northwest Area and Chapters.

FMCA Remodeling: Kathie opened the discussion on the proposals that will be voted on at the Governing Board meeting in Indianapolis in July 2017. The proposals, if accepted, would allow all recreation vehicles (with a few exceptions) as full members of FMCA. The entire membership will vote by written ballot on this proposal, if the Governing Board passes it. There was a discussion on what types of RV's, would be allowed. Kathie had copies of the proposals for anyone that had not seen it. After a discussion, Kathie suggested that after the meeting today, we have a roundtable discussion on the proposals and the remodeling of FMCA. Everyone agreed.

Proposals: There are several proposals that will be voted on by the Governing Board in Indianapolis. A short discussion was held on these proposals.

Northwest Area National Vice President Election: Kathie's second term will be completed in July 2018. She asked that anyone interested in the position, please let her know and she will be happy to explain the duties involved with the volunteer position. An election will be held in early Spring with the new Northwest Area National Vice President being installed in office at the Gillette, WY convention.

Future Sites: 2019/2020 : The 2019 Northwest Area Rally will be held at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center from June 06 – 09, 2019; pending successful negotiations. Kathie is looking for rally sites for 2021 and 2022. The Northwest will not hold a rally in 2020, as the FMCA International Convention will be in Redmond, Oregon in 2020.

Updates on Chapter Officers: Please keep your Officer's information updated by sending new information to the Northwest Area Secretary, Bobbi Radford.

Indio (Western Area) Rally: The Indio Rally will be held at the Riverside County Fairgrounds in Indio California, January 10 – 14, 2018. The Northwest Area get together will be January 11, 2018 in the Queens Gallery right after the parade.

Quartzsite: Kathie reported that she and Andy attended the Big Tent in Quartzsite Arizona. She made many chapter visits while in Quartzsite. More chapter visits were made while in Yuma, Arizona.

Meeting recessed: 2:35pm

Meeting resumed: April 12, 2017 1:45pm

Kathie presented the Panhandle Gems with their 15th Anniversary certificate at the request of their President Art Gemmrig. Accepting the Certificate were Anne Tighe, founding President of the Panhandle Gems, and Jim & Kathy McBride.

Kathie would like to have the Chapter Boards redone, we will do this one evening during the September meetings. Please bring new pictures for your new boards. You may have the old boards for your chapter.

Suggestion for Themes for 2018 NWA Rally:

Dennis Hill presented a list: Salt and Play Festival, Play and Stay Festival, Cool of the Night, Wind in your Sails, West Coast Jamboree, Coast line Jamboree, Coastline Play & Stay, NW Stay & Play, NW Beach Bums, Coastline- Milling Around, Fun By The Bay, Sand-Bay and Pay. Other suggestions were; Party at the Beach, Milling Around Coos Bay, Ocean Breezes & Friendly Faces, Bay Time Play Time, Coos Bay Enjoy Your Stay, Lumber Beaches and Fun, Bridge to Friendships, Sawdust in your Hair, Bridge to the Bay.

After all the names were read and after consideration and a preliminary vote; there was a run off between “Bridges to Friendships” and “Milling Around Coos Bay”. A final vote was taken and “Milling Around Coos Bay” received the most votes. Martie Martin made a motion to accept “**Milling Around Coos Bay**” as the theme for the 2018 NWA Rally to be held at The Mill Hotel & Casino. The motion was seconded and carried.

Kathie asked all chapters to please send their rally schedules to her so she can plan her travel schedule for 2017 and 2018.

Bobbi asked the chapters to keep her updated on officer changes. She needs current contact information; email addresses and phone numbers.

Bud Fouts announced that he and Marje will be stepping down as officers of Northwestern in September after many years of service to the Northwest Area and FMCA. Kathie thanked Bud and Marje for all their years of volunteering for the Northwest Area, all the Chapter and Area offices they held and their friendship and support. Marje served on the Northwest Area Executive Board as Northwest Area Secretary for three FMCA Northwest Area Presidents. Bud served on the Executive Board as Vice President for three Northwest Area Presidents. THANK YOU to you both!

Kathie thanked everyone for coming and participating in the Northwest Area governance and planning meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40pm

Announcemnts

Cincinnati Meeting – May 06 – 13, 2017
Cowlitz County Convention Center – Northwest Area Rally - June 22 - 25, 2017
Indianapolis, IN – FMCA 96th International Convention – July 12 – 15, 2017
Planning Meeting – Cowlitz County Event Center - September 19 – 21, 2017
Cincinnati Meeting – October 10 – 15, 2017
Indio, CA - Western Area Rally - January 10 - 14, 2018
Quartzsite – January 20 - 28, 2018
Perry, GA – FMCA 97th International Convention - March 15 – 18, 2018
Planning Meeting Dates – Mill Hotel & Casino - April 17 - 19, 2018
Cincinnati Meeting – May 2018
Northwest Area Rally – Mill Hotel & Casino - June 21 – 24, 2018
Gillette, WY – FMCA 98th International Convention - July 18 -21, 2018
*Chandler or Tucson, AZ – FMCA 99th International Convention - Spring 2019
Northwest Area Rally – Linn County Fair & Expo Center - June 06 - 09, 2019
*St Paul, MN – FMCA 100th International Convention - Summer 2019
*Perry, GA – FMCA 101st International Convention - Spring 2020
*Redmond, OR – FMCA 102nd International Convention - Summer 2020
* Pending successful negotiations.

2017 Chapter Anniversaries -

50 years: Northwestern - July 6, 1967
25 years: Arctic Travelers – August 15, 1992
15 years: Panhandle Gems – May 19, 2002

Southern Alberta Drifters – August 17, 2002
Vancouver Islanders – July 07, 2002

10 years: Bernie & Red - April 07, 2007

Northwest Country Coachers – September 29, 2007

Bobbi Radford
Secretary
Northwest Area - FMCA

Kathie Balogh
President
Northwest Area - FMCA

April 30, 2017