



# SCIC Newsletter

Volume 23, Issue 2

November 15, 2012

## Notes from the Road

### ***In This Issue....***

<i>President's Message</i>	1
<i>Words from the V. President</i>	2
<i>National Director's Notes</i>	3
<i>Volunteer Call out</i>	4
<i>Treasurer's Report</i>	4
<i>Dues Reminder</i>	4
<i>Membership Form</i>	5



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Well here we are going in to Fall and next is hopefully finding warmer weather for the winter. It has been an interesting summer to say the least. FMCA Family Reunion in Indianapolis, IN was well attended. There was plenty to do, with lots to see. The seminars were very informative and plenty of vendors and destinations were on hand to supply and or inform you. Service and installation was offered by a number of vendors and suppliers. There were many new coaches to choose from or to at least enjoy looking at. Newmar even offered a \$100.00 gas card for taking a test drive. The entertainment was excellent as usual. If you have not taken the opportunity to attend an FMCA Rally or Family Reunion you really should, they are very much worth the time and money.

I would like to thank the great people that helped at the SCIC booth at the Spartan Display. They are John McFadden, Gene and Rose Huhndorf, Lenny and Pam Larson, Jim and Nancy Anten, Tom and Teri Chelbana, Dick and Peg White, Sharon Bowen, Lenny Larson, Bob and Carol Hefta, and Bob and Dori Clipfell. Thank you very much for volunteering. Without volunteers we would not exist as a chapter, after all is said and done it is your chapter and you make it happen. At this point I need to apologize to those who volunteered at the Chapter Fair because I don't have your names, but thank you very much also.

In spite of not having a recognized Post Rally 6 couples went up to Elkhart Campgrounds and had a great time. Joining Linda and I were Jim & Nancy Anten, Dave & Bev Simons, Roland & Gracie Talbot and new members, Mike & Sandi Strandlie and Tony & Marilyn Hughes. We went to Shipshewana, dug around in the surplus stores, did the Amish Heritage Tour, and enjoyed the New York Central National Rail Road Museum and The Studebaker Museum, in addition to just relaxing and enjoying getting to know each other better. Of course we enjoyed the obligatory 4pm round table, where magically snacks would appear and every one had their personal choice of beverage. What a great way to get to know each other. Dandinos in Goshen served up some excellent food as did Cock-a-Doodle Cafe. A wonderful time was had by all. I would encourage all of you to get together with some of your friends and fellow members and do a mini rally anywhere and enjoy each other's company, it's definitely worth it.

Our annual meeting was fairly well attended however we missed David and Iva Starke our Vice-President and our Recording Secretary. Unfortunately the facilities left a lot to be desired. The sound system was less than effective and the background noise made it nearly impossible to hear. Eric West of Spartan Motors addressed the meeting, updating us as to what Spartan is doing. At this time the motor home chassis manufacturing will remain in Charlotte but will be reviewed from time to time. Eric also said that Service Week and Homecoming are still being reviewed. Hopefully we will know something by the first of the new year. They are aggressively pursuing new and additional business Eric said. Eric also asked that anyone that would like to comment on what you would like as to both, Service Week and Spartan Homecoming, email or drop a note to me or Frank Wyzwany, they would like to have our input.

Old business: It was brought up that we are in urgent need of someone with strong computer skills to volunteer to take over administration of the web site and publish the newsletter.

As many of you know the Post Rally in Elkhart was canceled because there were not sufficient registrations. I'm sure that the Cummins rally in Columbus, IN had a direct effect.

New business: We recognized Scott and Wanda Brady for their co-founding of SCIC and their dedication to it. Unfortunately Wanda became ill and wound up in the hospital and Scott spent most of his time with her. A thank you will be purchased and sent to them. As a reminder, elections will be held at our meeting in Gillette, WY. We need someone to host the post rally after Gillette, someone from that area would be ideal. I am investigating the possibility of holding it on the facility there at CAM-PLEX in Gillette.

As a result of canceling the post rally we had door prizes to give out.

June 19-22, 2013 will see us in Gillette, WY at the CAM-PLEX. I have been told that this is a very good venue and we are looking forward to being there.

Safe Travels See You In Gillette  
George Loutzenhiser, President

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<i>National Director's Notes</i>	3
<i>Volunteer Call out</i>	4
<i>Treasurer's Report</i>	4
<i>Dues Reminder</i>	4
<i>Membership Form</i>	5



From the mobile desk of David Starke VP

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer and safe journey to your winter destination.

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you thoughts on Family and Friends. Our RV friends are also family, the FMCA family, the Spartan Chassis family and your coach Mfg. family. Getting together always results in good memories.

We had a great summer. We were able to have both of our grandchildren with us from Memorial Day to Labor Day traveling throughout the Midwest, South and the Carolina beaches. They look forward to this trip every year and have memories that will last a lifetime. They are the future RVing generation.

We have heard from Charlie Schrenkel Pres. FMCA about the importance of growing our RVing family. It's like preaching to the choir, but it is our responsibility to spread the word on the joys and benefits of the RV lifestyle. With the advantage of the electronic world, we can contact people throughout the world. We have many opportunities to let friends know how each day is an adventure and the RV community has some of the nicest people you will ever meet! We always have so much fun and learn something interesting from all the people we are blessed to have touch our lives. By including family in ones RV travels, you can get them interested in the RV lifestyle. Our members are full-timers, part-timers, snow birds or weekenders and how often do we hear "that's what I want to do!". There is an opportunity to encourage them to look into RVing. I save my FMCA magazine when I have finished reading them and give them out to folks who are interested in the RV life.

Remember the less fortunate this Holiday Season and make a donation to help them have a better holiday. One way is to donate to an organization that will feed families this Thanksgiving. Support toy drives that will provide toys for so many children that would otherwise not have a Christmas.

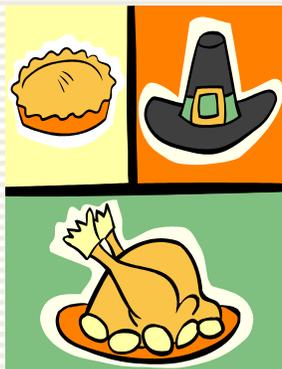
Also remember to pray for our troops who are serving around the world to insure our freedom.

Also pray for the victims of Hurricane Sandy. The north east has suffered a very severe blow. We should always heed warnings to evacuate when there are severe storm warnings. We lived in New Jersey for 19 years and are very familiar with the Jersey Shore. That is where most of these people spend their vacations and weekends. It was a beautiful place and it appears it will have to be completely rebuilt. They have the ability to come back and create something even better for all those people.

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President's Message 1  
 Words From the V. President 2  
 National Director's Notes 3  
 Volunteer Call out 4  
 Treasurer's Report 4  
 Dues Reminder 4  
 Membership Form 5



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Governing Board meeting August 27, 2012 Indianapolis IN

315 directors present 67% of chapters represented  
 Executive board voted to make Jerry Yeatts Executive Director. The Executive board is in the process of hiring an accounting professional. Current staffing is 36 full time and 4 part time employees.

FMCA Assist has declined medical coverage as of Sept. 30. As of Oct. 1 2012 there will be no free coverage.

The budget for 2013 is \$6,721,482 reduced \$107,019 by the governing board.

As of Aug. 1 there were 83,237 active members Loss since 2004 of 45,900. We are losing 400 to 500 members a month, gaining an average of 1000.

Amendments:

- Proposal 1: To have electronic meetings. Carried
- Proposal 2: A member may hold 2 offices, 1 each in two clubs or 2 offices in one club. A national or alternate director may not hold another office. Carried
- Proposal 3: FMCA shall be composed of 6 membership categories including Family Associate. This is a full member who no longer owns a qualifying coach, or a person who owns a 5th wheel, travel trailer or pop topper that includes cooking, sleeping and as defined sanitary facilities. They shall pay dues but cannot vote or hold office. Defeated

Policy and Procedure

- 2012: Executive Board selects outside investment managers and will make recommendations. Carried
- 2031D: Stipends, travel allowance and per diem for parking chief, asst chief, coordinators, crew leader and members. Defeated
- 3022 & 3024: A national director or alternate must be a member of the club he is representing. Carried  
 He may represent only one club.
- 3011: The authority of each chapter for its internal govt. in its entire membership. The proposed change is a provision for chapters to hold electronic meetings. Carried

Travel trailers, 5th wheels and campers fully contained will be allowed at rallies. They pay an extra \$50 and cannot join the club. Carried

FMC Assist is cancelled as of Sept. 30. Members may purchase insurance on your own. This new insurance is world coverage, 100 miles from home, except full timers, covered at all times. The cost is \$105 for family, \$85 single per year. Medicare must pay first. This is a savings of \$341,529 for 2013. 18 members have used the insurance since the beginning. The 50th Anniversary Rally will be June 19-22 in Gillette WY. The committee is requesting any history of FMCA. Many special activities are planned. There will be a special promotion for lifetime membership at \$10 if staying more than 20 50.

A contract with Camping World has been cancelled. No more coupons.  
 Camping at FMCA campground in Cincinnati will charge \$20 if staying more than 2 nights.  
 Michelin tires are offering FMCA members a discount price on new tires.  
 Fantasy tours are offering FMCA members only tours at a discount.  
 There is a UPS discount offered - details on web site.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Nancy Anten SCIC National Director

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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Rally Host & Co-Host**

If you would like to host or co-host the Post Rally immediately following the FMCA Convention in Gillette, WY, June 2013 please contact any of the officers for additional information. We have guidelines to help you get started. Hosting a Rally is a great way to get involved in your club. The more involved you become the more fun you will have. *Please note the compensation as outlined in the Standing Rules.*

**Newsletter Editor**

We also need someone to volunteer to put together and publish the newsletter. If you have the skill to help us, please contact George Loutzenhiser, David Starke, or Dori Clipfell.

Volunteers are the backbone of any club, without volunteers there will cease to be a Club. If anyone is willing to step up and fill some of these positions, please contact any one of the officers.

**Treasurer's Report**

We began October, 2012 with a balance of \$23,787.74. There were expenditures of \$1,275.03, leaving us with a balance at the end of October of \$ 22,512.71

Membership renewals trickle in all year. We currently show a membership number of 375 after enrolling 30 new members during the period of August through October.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Dori Clipfell

**Dues Reminder**

SCIC dues are collected on a Calendar Year, meaning that they are due and payable January 1st each year. Any member whose dues remain unpaid for more than two months after becoming due shall be considered delinquent; after three months membership is cancelled. Dues must be kept current in FMCA to remain a member of SCIC.

Please use the new/renewal application form at the end of the newsletter to submit your dues for the upcoming year. Multiple years may be paid if desired.



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## Join the Spartan Chassis International Chapter of FMCA

As the owner of a Spartan chassis and member of the Family Motor Coach Association, you are welcome to join the Spartan Chassis International Chapter (SCIC) of FMCA.

SCIC members benefit by receiving free shipping on parts orders placed online totaling over \$75.00, participating in rallies, and meeting and networking with other Spartan chassis owners. Not to mention our members have a lot of fun.

**Attention! You must be a member of FMCA before you can join SCIC.**

Your FMCA membership number (FMCA#) will be your SCIC number and your application for membership cannot be processed without it. An FMCA membership brochure and application are available at [www.fmca.com](http://www.fmca.com) or by contacting:

George Loutzenhiser  
 President—Spartan Chassis International Chapter  
 514 Americas Way #2532  
 Box Elder, SD 57719  
 Phone: (574) 370-2076  
 E-mail: [gandlloutzen@gmail.com](mailto:gandlloutzen@gmail.com)

***SCIC Membership Application (please print clearly)***

Please Check One:     New Member             Renewing Member             Update Information

Please Check One:     **Receive newsletter by email**     Receive black & white printed copy of newsletter

**FMCA #:** \_\_\_\_\_ (required)    Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Co-Pilot \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Annual dues are \$10.00 US and are due in December each year.**

**Please make check out to: SCIC (do not send cash)  
 Send completed Membership Form and check in US Dollars to:**

**Dori Clipfell**  
 411 Walnut Street PMB 8861  
 Green Cove Springs, FL 32043-3443  
 Email: [dori.scitreas@gmail.com](mailto:dori.scitreas@gmail.com)  
 Phone: 317- 908 - 4861

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*Please clip & mail*