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NEWSLETTER



An FMCA Chapter

Vol 2 No 1

Feb 2012

President's Message

(By Lou Snow)

The winter that never was certainly applies so far, to the '11/'12 season! I usually begin my winter comments by mentioning how I envied those traveling South for the season, but this year has not been that bad up here in the North Country. To those who will be heading back in the coming months, have a safe and uneventful trip home.

I would like to take this opportunity to THANK those that headed up last season's rally events at the various locations. Due to unforeseeable circumstances, we were not able to get out a final Newsletter for comment or seasonal wrap-up. Special THANKS to Anne and Charlie for their very successful Herman Melville rally and for providing us with a roof over our heads for the business meeting. We did have a casualty due to "mother nature" in the form of a tent canopy that collapsed and was destroyed by the inclement weather. An executive decision was made by your Chapter Officers and we voted in favor of making restitution to the members that generously provided us with that shelter. Also a very special THANKS to Rich and Sue Sank and my wife Lucille for their efforts in planning and organizing our "Holiday" gathering at Scottish Meadows Country Club as our season finale. Jim and Elinor Burns were only able to attend this rally for our catered dinner and gift giving evening due to her illness. Sadly, Elinor has passed away, her friendly smile, great personality and volunteer effort will be missed by our membership. Unfortunately, the Country Club property has been sold and will not be available for our future use. Scottish Meadows will be converted into a wind farm.

Welcome back to another RV season, GOT IDEAS, PLANS or SUGGESTIONS for the upcoming season? Your Chapter Officers would like to hear from you, we have the funding and help is available to get you going! Of course we will start off the season with Memorial Day weekend in Greenfield, Mass at the Franklin County Fairgrounds. The Good Sam organizers have gone all out this year in their efforts to make this rally one of the best in the area. Three evenings of entertainment will feature a Country and Western band on Friday, and Saturday the "Belairs" featuring the '60s greatest hits will have you dancing in the streets. As a finale, Trooper Dan Clark will be back for an encore on Sunday. Add that to the usual goings on and you are guaranteed to have a great holiday weekend. We will again have an additional site for our 20x30 tent and schedule a Chapter sponsored hot dog roast for all in weekend attendance. Our Volunteer Blood and can tab collection drive will again take place on Saturday. Mark your calendar and join us in Greenfield on this very patriotic weekend. Please use the Good Sam registration form included in this newsletter and let me know via e-mail or phone call if you plan on attending - we will be watching for you at the Fairgrounds.

Also in the planning stages, and on the agenda, will be our Quonset Point RI rally during the big Air Show weekend. The dates for this rally have been set to include the weekend of June 14th to the 17th and will feature the Air Force Thunderbirds as the main event. I will be meeting with Mt Laurel Chapter Officers in the very near future, as we are planning to include other Chapters and expand on this rally. Additional parking has been negotiated for, to include the enclosed area adjacent to the museum. Additional entertainment will also be included as an added attraction. We will keep you posted as planning progresses.

I am sad to report the loss late last year, of Jack Fahnstock. Jack provided our Chapter nametags and badges for the past several years. I was able to attend his wake as Chapter representative and was advised that someone within the Yankee Travelers would continue to offer this service. I will inform you when I receive this information. Also passing from our FMCA family was Patti Gage of the Green Mountain Chapter. As many of you know, both Gerry and Patti were organizers of the many ice cream socials that took place at our NEA rallies over the years. On behalf of our Chapter, I have extended condolences to the family members.

OK let's GO, get out and kick the tires, check the fluid levels and fill the tank; it's almost time to roll.

Lou

Attention, Attention, Attention!!!!!!

The Camping Season is almost here and we only have two rallies planned. These are Greenfield on Memorial Day and the Top Gun Rally for the air show at Quonset RI Air Museum.

We NEED People to Volunteer for at least two more rallies this year, more would be better. It's not hard to have a rally, just find a place and time. Everyone always helps. Your treasury has seed money to pay all up-front costs for rallies. All that is missing is YOU!

On a very serious note, this is an election year for Officers for the Massachusetts Minuteman Club. It is time to get involved. Most of your officers have been in office at least twelve years! It is time for a change in management. It isn't hard to be a club officer or a real time consuming job unless you want to be involved with FMCA national. (Just ask Lou.) When elected, your past officers will help you anyway possible to perform your duties.

No new officers, no more club! Please save and direct your club into the future. I feel that we have the best talent and friendly people in the Minuteman Club that we could possibly have. Please step up to the plate and take a turn.

Your Vice President,
Charlie Archambault

2011 Massachusetts Minutemen RV Club Minutes

Date: Sept 25, 2011

Time: 9:34am

Place: Arrowhead, Pittsfield, MA

Lou Snow introduced the executive board:

Anne Archambault, Secretary

Charlie Archambault Vice President

Web Master, Leo Ouellette (MA)

Executive members of other Chapters present

Mt Laurel President Mark Girouard

Constitution Cruisers Sharleen Thayer

Secretary Report read & accepted

Mark Girouard made motion and Dave Buker 2nd

Vice President read Treasurer's report & accepted. See attached

Motion to accept by John Wrona, 2nd by Gus Seahorst. Motion passed

National Director's Report read by Dave Buker

373 National Directors attended or 73% of chapters.

Total motor homes including display coaches - 2143.

FMCA has international emergency insurance

Need to get new members as FMCA is losing money

Administrators are taking a pay cut.

Charlie Schrenkle was again voted in as President

See attached report

Leo Ouellette made motion to accept report. Nancy Heck 2nd, motion passed.

Old Business:

Discussion on the new banner vs. older banner

Bob Heck made a motion to accept both presentations. Gus Seahorst

2nd motion to accept both banners were accepted.

New Business:

Neal Schermerhorn was given authorization to replace clothing inventory

Upcoming Rallies

Scottish Meadows will have a moon glow golf tournament

Toys for Tots for the Marines

Meals will be semi dress attire

Mt Laurels will have a business meeting

Tunbridge still has openings for Columbus weekend

Sharleen Thayer President of the Constitution Cruisers announced that Memorial Day weekend, 4th of July weekend and Labor Day weekend will be held at Hurley Field in CT. Follow directions and come with empty holding tanks.

Lou announced Greenfield was also available for Memorial Day weekend

Quonset Point will be held the 3rd or 4th weekend in June; he believes the Thunderbolts will be the attraction.

Announcement was made that 2012 will be an election year and all offices are open for next year. Please contact any officer if you are interested.

Thank you's were made and welcome to Ted and Marsha Robbins new members of Mass minutemen.

Leo Ouellette (MA) made announcement that the web site has a member's only page, you need to register and have email address.

Motion was made by Diane Buker and Donna Seahorst 2nd to adjourn meeting

Meeting adjourned at 10:21 am

Respectfully submitted

Anne Archambault, Secretary

***** Members please note: When registering for the Good Sam's Lobster Samboree, (registration form below), please ensure that you fill in our Chapter Name - Mass Minutemen - on your form. This will ensure that we are placed together in the campground.*****

Also please check our website, as updated info on future rallies should be posted in between newsletters.

May 25, 26, 27, 28, 2012
Massachusetts 41th Lobster Samboree
Emergency only telephone number (978)-821-9914

Greenfield, Mass. Franklin County Fair Grounds, 01301

Exit 26 from Rt. 91 then follow Rt. 2A East

Right at second traffic light GPS N42.34.82 W72.36.66

First right then first left. Come to main gate. (89 Wisdom Way)

Send registration to:

Frances Brown 781 - 447 - 4588

109 Hancock Street

Whitman, MA. 02382-1117

Join us in the fun and fellowship of Bingo, Arts and Crafts, Flea Market, Entertainment, Children's Games, Hospitality, Horseshoe tournament, Fry Pan Toss, Pancake and Sausage Breakfast, Friday evening Chowder and Crackers, Worship Services, Door Prizes, Food Concessions, Commercial Booths, Chinese Auction, Cribbage Tournament, Raffles, and Ladies Fancy Hat tea to name a few

CHINESE AUCTION: Donations to our Chinese Auction will be greatly appreciated, items must be usable, junk will not be accepted, and items should be brought to the Dole Building Saturday May 26th, at 10 AM.

ARTS AND CRAFTS: A \$5.00 donation will be charged for an 8 foot space, you must supply your own table. Sign up for arts and crafts across from the Leyden Church Building on Friday May 28.

EARLY BIRD PARKING: Parking will begin on Tuesday May 22, 2012 and will cost \$20.00 Per Day.

HANDICAP PARKING: We will try to meet your needs at the gate. State of registration issued plate or tag required.

DINNERS: Chicken or Lobster Dinners will be served Saturday (4:30 TO 6:00 pm)

PARKING: ALL general parking will be done by our parking committee. It is **HOBO STYLE** & to park with someone you must arrive with them! We recommend per-registering so you do not get separated!

TAB COLLECTION: If you have collected tabs we pick up Saturday after supper.

FOOD PANTRY: Contributions welcome for our food drive non perishable food items will be collected.

Continued for 2012 Early bird Dinner: Wednesday POT LUCK 5/23/2012

Golf outing: Sunday sign up by Saturday noon "T" time Sunday to be announced

CUT OFF DATE FOR PRE-REGISTERING IS MAY 15, 2012.

ALL REGISTRATIONS AFTER THIS DATE WILL BE CONSIDERED A GATE REGISTRATION AND PRICED AT \$95.00.

REFUNDS: (less cost of meals) **MADE ON WRITTEN REQUEST BY 6-15-2012**

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PETS: Your pet is always welcome, proof of rabies vaccination required at check in.

The applicant upon submission of this form accepts full responsibility for the welfare of their unit and persons within their unit, while attending the Massachusetts State Samboree, and holds blameless the Massachusetts Good Sam Club and its officers, for any personal injury or damage incurred to their unit.

Your canceled check will confirm your reservation please allow time for the check to process.

Please print on white paper black ink

all fees must accompany this application

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MASS GOOD SAM CLUB

PLEASE DO NOT STAPLE CHECK TO REGISTRATION

<http://massgoodsam.com>

01/28/2012

NAME:		SPOUSE:	
ADDRESS:		PHONE:	
CITY:	STATE:	EMAIL:	
MASS CHAPTER NAME:		or per-registered groups (10 or more units)	
HANDICAP PARKING:		GENERATOR: (UP EXHAUST PIPE REQUIRED)	
Number of ADULTS:	Number of TEENS:	Number of CHILDREN:	Number of PETS:
Weekend Fee (Covers three nights, water & Limited Electric) ----- >			\$85.00
If you are traveling alone DEDUCT \$10.00 from the weekend fee ----->			
If you have a guest/s traveling with you Add @10.00 per guest/s ---- >			
Early Bird Parking \$20.00 per night (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) ADD \$20.00 per night -- >			
LOBSTER DINNER \$16.00 PER MEAL	NUMBER	@ \$16.00 ----- >	
CHICKEN DINNER \$11.00 PER MEAL	NUMBER	@ \$11.00 ----- >	
CHILDRENS CHICKEN DINNER \$6.00	NUMBER	@ \$6.00 ----- >	
GRAND TOTAL	CHECK #	TOTAL AMOUNT --- >	

Mass Minutemen RV Club Officers

President: **Lou Snow** PO Box 71 Hardwick, Ma. 01037

(413) 477-6939; President@massminutemen.org

Vice President: **Charlie Archambault** 258 Holmes Rd Pittsfield, Ma 01201

(413) 445-6889; vicepresident@massminutemen.org

Secretary: **Anne Archambault** 258 Holmes St, Pittsfield, MA 01201

(413) 445-6889; Email secretary@massminutemen.org

Treasurer: **Patty Guthman** 33 Riverview Dr. Norwalk, Ct 06850

(203) 847-8929; treasurer@massminutemen.org

Newsletter Editor: **Sue Sank** 30 Brookmoor Road, Tolland, CT 06084

(860) 454-4827; newsletter@massminutemen.org

Massachusetts Minutemen

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL FORM

No person may be a member of the Mass Minutemen chapter
Unless they are members in good standing of FMCA.

FMCA # _____ (required) Expiration Date: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ Name _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

I/we have paid my/our dues to FMCA (or have applied for membership). I enclose **dues of \$10.00** and understand that this is for membership in the Massachusetts Minutemen Chapter, including newsletters, **through June 30, 2012 OR:** 3 years in advance = \$25.00 (Saving of \$5.00)

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Dues are due July 1st.

Please make your checks payable to: **MASSACHUSETTS MINUTEMEN RV CLUB**
C/O Patty Guthman, 33 Riverview Dr., Norwalk Ct 06850