

Northwest Area Newsletter

A great time was had by all attending the Albuquerque International Convention, despite the chilly weather and snow. There were approximately 18 coaches from the NWA in attendance, and many of the area attendees volunteered to help out.

It was a split venue, with the majority of the coaches parked at Balloon Fiesta Park and the Vendors, Show Coaches, and Seminars were located at the Expo New Mexico. The transportation was amazing and one could travel between these locations with ease.



Many Northwest Area Chapters took part in the Chapter Fair, where the art work for Redmond Rocks, the theme for the 84th International Convention, was unveiled. The Northwest table got a great response from the attendees. A few chapters picked up new members.

At the chapter fair, the Area kicked off a program called “Northwest Area Traveling Rocks”. The travels of the Rocks adopted in Albuquerque will be tracked by email. There will be prizes for the Rock that travels the most miles and a prize to the owner who sends in the most pictures of their rock at various location along their way. These prizes will be awarded at the 2011 Northwest Area Rally.



Some convention attendees took a Hot Air Balloon ride including our area's own Anne Tighe, and our National President Charlie Schrenkel. Charlie was overheard to say “I'm a fixed wing man and I'm not real sure about this bag of wind”. He said later he enjoyed the ride very much.

After the convention the Northwest Area Officers headed for home as they were scheduled to be at the Northwest Area meeting in just one weeks time.

Northwest Area Motor Home Association meeting was held at Washington Land Yacht Harbor in Lacey Washington. There were many items on the agenda. Elections were held for two Vice Presidents positions and the Treasurer. The newly elected officers are; Vice President Kent Pratt, Vice President Neil Radford, and Treasurer Karen Pratt. Pictured left to right...Back row: VP Bud Fouts, VP Kent Pratt, Area President Andy Balogh,



Sr. VP Arvin Spofford, & VP Neil Radford. Front row: Treasurer Karen Pratt, Secretary Kathie Balogh. Missing from the photograph is Judy Keppler, Immediate Past President.

The 84th International Convention was discussed, and the need for volunteers. If you would like to volunteer at the convention contact your chapter President or National Director for information. Volunteering is very rewarding and a whole lot of fun. The Northwest Area is the host for this event and you will have the opportunity to make new friends and help the Northwest Area put its best foot forward. Volunteer won't you?"

A Message from Andy:

By now the Captains will have received their letters regarding the responsibilities from Maureen Mullarkey at FMCA. Remember she and Arvin will help you out in any way they can. Please let them know if you cannot fill your requirements, we will go out to other Areas and ask for additional support.

We are still looking for additional ideas to make "Redmond Rocks" truly one worth remembering. We have asked FMCA to consider adding Bingo, a 50/50, and a climbing wall to the venue. Any other ideas that could help draw members to our convention are appreciated. Please send any ideas you have to me at kabalogh@telus.net and I will bring them forward at our convention meeting in Cincinnati next week.

I plan to start visiting Northwest Area Chapters in June and look forward to meeting and working with you all. If I can be of assistance or you have a question or concern, please let me know and I will help out in any way I can.

I would like to personally thank Arvin Spofford for being our Acting President and Area representative with FMCA during the transition period. Arvin accepted a major task on short notice and did an excellent job of keeping the Northwest Area moving forward. I thank you, Arvin and Pat for everything you do for the Northwest Area.

I would also like to thank all those that allowed themselves to be part of this newsletter and Bobbi Radford for putting it together. I believe strength as a team makes our Northwest Area a leader in FMCA.

I will update you all on Redmond etc on my return from Cincinnati. May you all be safe in your travels. See you soon.

Andy

Andy Balogh
National Vice President
Northwest Area FMCA