

**Northwest Motor Home Area Association
Business Meeting
Washington Land Yacht Harbor – Lacey, Washington
September 2, 2009**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm. Judy Keppler, President, and Kathie Balogh, Secretary, were present. Judy Keppler gave the invocation, O Canada was led by Barbara Harkness, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Arvin Spofford. The roll call was taken and delegates identified for voting purposes. A quorum was present.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, June 7, 2009, had been previously distributed. There were no corrections to the minutes and they were accepted for file.

Reports:

Treasurer's report – Gwen Wright reported that the balance on hand as of June 7, 2009 was \$83,107.59. The balance as of September 1, 2009 is \$59,245.27. The report was accepted for file. Gwen reported receiving a direct deposit of \$1,084.36 into the checking account as rally reimbursement from FMCA which is not shown in the Treasurer's report.

2009 Rally Master Report – Andy Balogh thanked all the Captains and volunteers for a very successful "West is Best" rally. The hard work and dedication of the volunteers, the record number of vendors and the presence of 574 family coaches made the rally fun for all. There were 1,150 people served at each meal at an approximate cost of \$75,000.00. He suggested that we look at serving coffee and donuts for breakfast at future Northwest Area Rallies; to consider a change in rally fees, at \$145.00 per coach, we are losing money. The Loss for the rally is \$6,057.24 at this time. Judy Keppler and Gwen Wright are looking at chapter fair and first timer's seminar expenses coming from FMCA recruitment funds. A report will be given at the next business meeting.

Judy Keppler thanked Andy Balogh and Arvin Spofford for a great job as Rally Master and Assistant Rally Master. She also said that the sponsorships were very difficult to get and she has already started to work on sponsorship for 2011.

2010 Northwest Area Rally – There is not an area rally in 2010, as the Northwest Area is the host for the 84th International Convention in Redmond, OR. We will need approximately 600 volunteers in Redmond.

2011 Northwest Area Rally – Judy Keppler discussed the future sites for the 2011 and 2012 area rallies. In the Executive Board meeting of September 1, 2009, a discussion was held on all the possible sites. The Executive Board authorized Judy Keppler to act on the behalf of the Area and secure the selected sites. A decision will be made in the near future after the Puyallup Fair & Expo site visitation.

Nominating Committee – Beth Harrington, Win It NW, President and chair of the Nominating Committee gave the following report: Elections will be held at the April 2010 Business and Planning Meeting in Redmond, OR and the following positions are open; Vice President(position #1 and #2), Treasurer and all 3 Nominating Committee positions. Judy Keppler commented that the duties of the Vice President and Treasurer will be posted on the Northwest Area website for those who may be interested.

Unfinished Business

There was none.

New Business

New Executive Board Communication Plan – The Communication Plan has been approved by the Executive Board and will begin soon. The Area officers will have direct contact the chapter presidents to enhance the relationship between the Area and the Chapter. Detailed information will be in the next newsletter and on the Area website soon.

Future Northwest Area Rally Sites – The following sites were discussed: Linn County Fair & Expo, Puyallup Fairgrounds, Pendleton, Grant County Fairgrounds in Moses Lake, Boise, Spokane Fairgrounds and North Washington Fairgrounds. After a lengthy discussion, consensus was that we check on locations that seem to want us to come, i.e. Puyallup, Pendleton and Linn County.

Another concern for future rallies is food costs. Discussion included suggestions that we may need to look for sponsors for some of the food costs, raise the rally fees or charge separately for meals, as other areas do (i.e. GLASS and Northeast Area).

The timing of the rally was discussed and we are looking at the last week of May and first two weeks in June.

Rally Master 2011 – Judy Keppler asked that anyone interested in the position, please contact her.

Annual Business Meeting – The Business and Planning Meeting will be held at the Deschutes County Fair & Expo in Redmond, OR. The Executive Board Meeting will be held on April 6, 2010. The Business and Planning meeting will be held on April 7 and April 8, 2010. We will depart the fairgrounds on April 9, 2010. Elections will be held at this meeting.

The meeting was recessed at 2:10 p.m. and resumed at 2:25 p.m.

Announcements

Bowling Green Convention – Judy Keppler thanked everyone who attended the Bowling Green Convention in July. She gave an overview of the Northwest Area Caucus meeting with the Northwest Area delegates, the Candidates Forum and the Governing Board meeting.

Also discussed was the wrap up convention committee meeting with the captains on what worked well and things that could be improved for the next convention. Some topics of discussion were: bus and transportation issues, indoor vendor problems and how we need to treat first timers. Governing Board actions were discussed in detail and the minutes of the Governing Board meeting are available at www.fmca.com.

Judy Keppler read FMCA President Charlie Schrenkel's letter on getting new members and member retention and we discussed how to do this. We discussed the 5 free memberships given to each chapter and they need to be given out as they expire at the end of this year.

Bobbi Radford, National Director for the Puget Sounders voiced concern about Charlie Schrenkel's letter and vendor hours. Bobbi expressed concern about reversing the Governing Board's motion to extend the inside vendor hours. Judy Keppler stated the action of the FMCA Executive Board was to postpone the Governing Board's motion until further information could be obtained on how this decision would affect all vendors. Judy also noted that the Commercial Council voted to have display coach hours a half day longer than the inside vendors' hours. A report will be given at the November Executive Board meetings in Cincinnati.

FMCA Review Council – National Directors received information, guidelines and nominating form to submit names of candidates for this committee. The FMCA Review Council, formerly called the President's Council, was approved at the July 20, 2009 Governing Board meeting. Also approved was the selection of the candidates for this committee.

Dues Increase Vote – The National Directors will receive the ballots for the proposed \$5.00 per year dues increase in the mail soon. These ballots when returned will be counted and the membership notified of the outcome of the vote. There was a discussion on the impact of the Yes or No vote and whether the increase should be earmarked for Medex.

FMCA Chapter Search – With FMCA's new website design, all chapters have the opportunity to update their chapter scope to showcase their chapter. This is a wonderful way to recruit new chapter members. A message with examples of a chapter's scope will be forthcoming from FMCA to Chapter Officers.

Chapter Celebrations:

NW Trek Fun Club

5 year August (celebrating September)

Thomoka Wheelers	5 year September
Oregon River Ramblers	10 year September
Alberta Wild Rose	10 year October
Olympic Snowbirds	25 year October
Country Coach Intl	25 year October (celebrated in August)

National Committees - Announcements of the selection of national committee members has been made. Arvin Spofford has been appointed to the Constitution and Bylaws committee. Judy Keppler has been appointed Chairman of the Membership/Member Services committee.

Cincinnati Executive Board Meetings - Meetings have been shortened because not all committees will be meeting in November. The committees that will be meeting in November are the Convention, Finance and Membership/Member Services Committees. The Executive Board and Committee meetings will be held from November 9 through 14, 2009.

Volunteer Coordinator Position – Judy Keppler announced that Andy Balogh will be the Volunteer Coordinator for the 84th International Convention in Redmond, OR.

The meeting was recessed at 4:02 pm.

The meeting was reconvened on September 3 at 9:30 am.

Membership counts were discussed and a challenge from the Eastern Area for all areas was proposed. We discussed ways of recruiting new members and compete in the challenge.

Survey results from the “West is best” rally were discussed and will be helpful to the 2011 Rally Master.

PLANNING MEETING

The planning meeting began with a discussion on the pre visit to the Deschutes County Fairgrounds in Redmond by Connie Pool, Jerry Yeatts and Judy Keppler. Judy Keppler discussed the parking plans, proposed entertainment site in the Juniper Arena and proposed vendor location in Hooker Creek site. Convention names were discussed and of the 31 submitted names, the “Redmond Rocks” theme is being worked on by the FMCA Art Department.

Andy Balogh, Volunteer Coordinator, discussed the need for volunteers in nine different areas for the convention. He stressed the fact that “If you are a captain, it is from the start to the finish” and that “Volunteers make rallies and conventions work.”

VOLUNTEER CAPTAINS

Information Center (60)

2 4 hour shifts over 4 days

Captain Bud & Marje Fouts, Northwestern 20
 Lewis & Clark
 Snake River Valley
 Holiday Ramblers
 PacNats

FMCA Store (20)

2 4 hour shifts over 3 days

Captain Carol Hancock, Oregon Trail Drivers
 Assistant Captain Ed Block, NW Trek Fun Club
 Lewis & Clark 1

Coffee Hour (30)

3 hour shifts over 3 days

Captain Butch & Julie Evans, Pacers Northwest
Lewis & Clark

No others needed

Early Security (30-40)

2 4 hour shifts for Sunday and Monday

Captain Frank & Della Ward, KM International
Assistant Captain Barbara Harkness
Northwest Country Coachers 20

Security (120)

Hours unknown at this time – over 5 days to assist Beaver Ambassadors

Captain Mandy Canales, Beaver Ambassadors 80-90
Big Sky FMCA 19
Lewis & Clark 1

Need 10 or 20 more

Seminars (80 – maybe more)

2 4 hour shifts over 4 days

Captain Jim & Pat Bushling, Rim Rock Roamers 30-40

Need 30 - 40 more

Trams (120)

2 4 hour shifts over 5 days

Captain Barb Phillips & Bud Holmes, Oregon River Ramblers
Assistant Captain Jim & Kathy McBride, Panhandle Gems
Lewis & Clark 1

Need more

Handicapped Activity Carts (150)

3 3 hour shifts over 5 days

Captain Beth & Harry Harrington, Win It NW 6
Assistant Captain Alma & Frank Marvin, Snake River Valley 12 – 16
Oregon Coaches for Christ 50
Lewis & Clark 3

Need 70-80 more

Games (6 i.e. 3 couples)

No captains needed...Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoon

Jim & Kathy McBride, Panhandle Gems and two other couples

Andy Balogh asked all Captains to provide their name, chapter, email address and cell phone number to him. He also mentioned that all volunteers must be registered for the convention.

A discussion was held on the site of the April Business & Planning Meeting. A suggestion was made to have the meeting at Thousand Trails Bend instead of Deschutes County Fair & Expo. Neil Radford made a motion that we go to the Deschutes County Fair & Expo for the April 2010 Business & Planning meeting. The motion was seconded. **Motion passed.**

Judy Keppler invited everyone to a round table discussion at 2:00 p.m. today.

The meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Kathie Balogh, Secretary