



Roamin' Catholics Southwest Chapter Newsletter – November 2007

Public Web Page: <http://www.fmcanw.org/rcsw/>
Members Only Web Page: <http://www.fmcanw.org/rcsw/members.html>
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Message from Our President:

Our campout at Dockweiler Beach was great. We had several members that had not been able to be with us previously join us at the beach. It gave us a chance to know each other and to see what the Roamin' Catholics are all about.

Ben and Donna Avila assisted by Betty and Rich Goodin did a great job of making it a very pleasant week-end. The church where we attended Mass, American Martyrs, was beautiful. The dinner following was delicious, and the company was the best.

Our nominating committee had a wonderful report with nominees for all offices. Thanks to everyone that was involved.

Don't forget our meeting in Indio, January 9th at 3 o'clock, followed by our pot luck. We will be voting on and installing our new officers. The chapter will provide a main meat course and everyone else brings a side dish, desert, salad, vegetable, etc. Encourage any of your Catholic friends to join us for our dinner so they can see what we are about. I believe the Chapter Fair is on Friday this year, if you have any ideas to make our table more interesting and informative let me know.

Welcome to our new members: Nanette Caldwell, Shirley Smith & John Duhon.

I don't believe we have a priest as yet but I have faith that we will. I know several members had possible priests in mind that might be able to help us out. Please let me know if you have a priest that can come and say a mass.

God Bless, hope to see you in Indio Helen White, President

Secretary/Treasurer's Report - Dockweiler Rally, Oct. 27, 2007

Our meeting was called to order at 8:55 am on Oct. 27, 2007 by our president Helen White at Dockweiler R.V. Park in El Segundo, CA. We began with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the flag. There were 15 members present.

The Secretary's Report was read and accepted with one minor correction. It is also posted on the website, but was read as there were many new members present.

Helen asked Donna to report on the last RCSW rally to San Miguel Mission in San Miguel, California, where our members cleaned and raked the premises. The members stayed on site and were actually escorted on a tour into the condemned mission. Pictures were taken and were included in the Newsletter dated July 2007.

Helen then gave out RCSW envelopes to be used for church donations wherever we go on a rally. These chapter envelopes will help to get RCSW recognition in different areas. She then addressed the question of how we can acquire new members. She suggested:

1. The possibility of having 2 vice presidents, our one in southern Calif. And one in a more northern area of Calif.. This would allow for rallies to be planned in both areas, but open to the full membership. Up till now, most of our rallies tend to be more southern oriented and we have failed to attract more members further north.
2. New members would need our RCSW badges and window posters that up until now, Bob Gummorsol has made for us at \$10 a packet. We all decided that we do like the logo and the badges, but that we could make them ourselves and have them laminated at Kinkos or slip them into plastic windows. We are very grateful to Bob for his generosity in the past.

Helen then told us that Father Carney can't make it to Indio this year because it is becoming hard on him to make the drive. It was discussed that we might find a priest in or nearby Indio to say mass or masses at the rally. It was decided to form a committee to look into getting a priest. Chuck nominated Phyllis to head this committee and Corinne and Rita volunteered their input. Helen explained the financial importance of our Indio rally mass as our only source of income other than our dues.

Betty asked to give the Treasurers Report at this time. We have \$2,101.75 in our bank account. There is little or no activity except for rallies. The report was accepted as read. The books will be audited again in January at the Indio rally.

New Business: We need to nominate a slate of new officers to be voted on at our meeting in January. Vacancies are for 1) a president and 2) a secretary/treasurer. Corinne and Gary Robinson volunteered to cover the presidency and Don and Rita Edson volunteered to fulfill the secretary/treasurer position. All present approved and a slate will be sent out to all RCSW membership for approval and acceptance prior to the rally in January when they will be voted upon.

Vice President's Report: Ben welcomed all the new members and listed all those members who could not attend this rally due to death, illness, selling of motor home and distance problems.

Don Edson, one of the new members, suggested that we try to plan future rallies further in advance to make it easier to plan for and attend them. Everyone agreed that it would be a good idea to help improve rally attendance.

It was moved that we adjourn at 10:00 am due to the weather (it started to rain).

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Goodin Secretary/Treasurer

Addendum: We moved out of the rain and distributed FMCA prizes. A special prize of a \$25 gift certificate for a Ponchos' dinner for that evening was won by Phyllis and Chuck Hogue

Nominating Committee Report - Slate of Officers:

The Nominating Committee has come up with the following Slate of Officers for the next two-year period – 2008/2009:

President:	Gary and Corinne Robinson
Vice President:	Ben Avila
Secretary/Treasurer:	Tom and Rita Edson
National Director:	Helen White
Alternate National Director:	Phyllis Hogue

We will be voting at our meeting in January 2008 in Indio. Nominations can also be made from the floor at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Phyllis Hogue, Rich Goodin, Donna Avila (Nominating Committee)

Message from Co-Wagon Masters for October 2007 Campout:

Rich and Betty Goodin - A hearty thanks to Ben & Donna Avila for getting us all together for the Dockweiler State Beach rally. What great fun seeing old friends and meeting new members! We upheld our tradition for great foods once again, and between meals there was plenty of time for games or just kicking back and enjoying the surroundings. The highlight of the rally was the mass attended at American Martyrs Catholic Church, in Manhattan Beach. The large stained glass windows were magnificent and the service was inspiring to all. Thanks to everyone who joined us for this Rally. Hope to see you again at Indio for a continuation of the fun and camaraderie.

Ben and Donna Avila - Planning this weekend was a lot of fun. Our thanks to Rich and Betty Goodin for helping us with this weekend and making all the arrangements for Mass and the dinner. We talked with most all the members over the last couple of months and were happy that so many of our Chapter were able to attend. At Mass on Saturday Fr. John officiated and during the Homily had this quote which is worth repeating:

**"GOD LOVES ME JUST THE WAY I AM –
BUT HE LOVES ME ENOUGH
NOT TO LET ME STAY THIS WAY."**

We missed those that had a change of plans at the last minute: Darrel and Gerry Mohr, and Barlow and Phyllis Thompson. We encourage all members to invite potential members to our next Campout at Lake Skinner (or if they are FMCA members to join us at Indio for our meeting and potluck dinner). You may also send us the names and we will be glad to follow up with a personal contact and a mailer. We hope to see all of you in Indio in January.

Future Plans:

January 9-13, 2008 – Western FMCA Rally in Indio, CA - Wednesday, January 9 – 3:00 p.m. – Chapter Meeting – followed by a Potluck Dinner

February 24-28, 2008 - Pomona, CA – International FMCA Rally

April 24-27, 2008 – Hold the date!!! Roamin' Catholics Campout - Lake Skinner, CA – There will be time for our Potluck Dinner (special and delicious menus prepared by our members) our games (bocci ball, horseshoes, the washer game and card games) and just relaxing. Lake Skinner is close to Temecula, Wine Country for tours, a Casino, boating and fishing. Contact: Gary and Corinne Robinson (email: corgearg@earthlink.net)

Fall 2008 – Date to be decided at the January Meeting. Bring your ideas.

SMILES From Bob Hope...

On Turning 70 “You still chase women, but only downhill.”

On Turning 80 “That's the time of your life when even your birthday suit needs pressing.”

On Turning 90 “You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than the cake.”

On Turning 100 “I don't feel old. In fact I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap.”

On Going to Heaven: “I've done benefits for ALL religions. I'd hate to blow the hereafter on a technicality.”

**Highlights of our Weekend at Dockweiler
(This is from our Web Page)**

The plans for this weekend were a relaxed Friday and Saturday enjoying the beautiful beach and Mass and dinner Saturday evening. What great fun seeing old friends and meeting new members. We upheld our tradition for great foods once again, and between meals there was plenty of time for games or just kicking back and enjoying the surroundings. Some of the games we enjoyed were horseshoes, bocci ball, the washer game and Mexican Train - all of which brought out the competitors.



The highlight of the rally was the mass attended at American Martyrs Catholic Church, in Manhattan Beach. The large stained glass windows were magnificent and the service was inspiring to all. Then we gathered at Pancho's Mexican restaurant for dinner and making more memories. Sunday morning we had a relaxing breakfast and then all went on our way to our next adventure..



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

