



# OPAction Newsletter

## Summer 2024



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### Retiree Rally 2024

Twenty-nine units were onsite at the Norwich Community Centre for the 48th Annual Ontario Retiree Rally from June 10 till June 14. See details and photos on pages 2—8.



### Fall OPA

### Bubba's Redneck Campout

Time is running out to register for this fun campout. Find out how on page 12.



### Campvention 2024

Fourteen Canadian families travelled to the Herkimer County Fairgrounds in New York for the Annual FCRV International Campvention. It was the 75th Anniversary of NCHA/FCRV and the 64th Campvention. See pages 9 & 10 for more details and photos.



### Blue Water Mixer

September 27-29, 2024 at the East Michigan Fairgrounds, in Imlay City, Michigan. "Send in the Clowns" is the theme. See page 13 for more information.



### Canada Day Campout at Attawandaron Scout Reserve.

Eight families gathered at the Attawandaron Scout Reserve over the Canada Day weekend to celebrate the holiday and to split & stack wood for the Reserve. See page 11 to find out who dropped by for a surprise visit.

### Campvention 2025

Lebanon, Tennessee is the next location for the annual FCRV Campvention. See page 15 for more details and prices.





**2024 Retiree Rally**  
**Monday June 10 to Friday June 14, 2024**  
**At the Norwich Community Centre**  
**53 Stover Street, Norwich, Ontario**



Twenty-nine RVs were on site for the 48th Annual Retiree Rally.



**Monday's Schedule**

Following Opening Ceremonies which included the singing of both the U.S. And Canadian National Anthems, 58 campers enjoyed a variety of card games. The evening ended with a selection of homemade squares provided by the Meandering Mohawks.



## Washer Toss Tournament

Thirty-two people participated in the tournament held Tuesday morning at 10:30 am., which was organized by Michael & Ruth Taziar.



First Place winners were Don Blenkinsop and Lynn Acre, shown left.

Second place winners were John Waite and Sharon Sandau, shown right.



## Nacho Supremo Lunch

Shown left: Lynn Acre, Karen Chatfield, Connie Skillings, Rudy Sandau & Sharon Sandau served a plateful of nacho ships topped with hamburger and shredded cheese. Hungry campers added other toppings such as sour cream, salsa, hot peppers, chopped tomatoes, onions, and lettuce.



## Norwich Volunteer Firefighter BBQ

On Tuesday evening at 5 pm, the aroma of sizzling sausages and juicy hamburgers drew the hungry campers to the parking lot, where the Norwich Volunteer firefighters cooked and served these tasty treats.



## Tuesday's Entertainment

The dynamic duo of "Two of A Kind" (shown above) had the campers tapping their toes, clapping their hands and even singing along. A few couples enjoyed a slow dance. Among them, (shown clockwise) Isabelle & David West, Sharon & Rudy Sandau, Duane & Charlene Jenner, Ruth & Michael Taziar and two goofy guys...Dale Cull & Lew Acre.



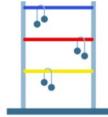
## Devotional Service

Lynn Acre led a brief Devotional Service on Wednesday morning which included two hymns, an object lesson and a collection for the local food bank. The collection totaled \$116 plus some non-perishable food items.



## Retiree Olympics

The Meandering Mohawks organized another successful year of Retiree Olympic Games. The competition was high and some “tie scores” had to be broken with additional events.



Above: Marilyn Rosenberger, of the Meandering Mohawks, presents Retiree Olympic First Place prize to Karen Chatfield and Second Place prize to Angela Cull in the Women’s Division.

Above: Marilyn Rosenberger presents First Place Prize to Don Lumley and Second Place Prize to Lew Acre for their scores in the Retiree Olympic Men’s Division.



Chrissy’s Catering employees stood by to clear away the leftovers.

On Wednesday night, Chrissy’s Catering from Tillsonburg delivered a delicious meal of roast beef, roast chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, mixed vegetables, garden salad and a variety of pie. Everyone brought their own place setting and nobody left hungry.



## Doppleganger

Wednesday’s entertainment once again thrilled the campers with their unique harmony and skilled instrumental offerings.





### Campfire Fun

Michael Taziar provided a propane fire pit which attracted several campers to gather around with their chairs. Don Lumley brought along his guitar and Rocky Lumley shared her homemade music maker...and before you knew it, a campfire party erupted with laughter, music & firelight.



### Breakfast Feast

Marilyn Rosenberger ( shown left ) with some help from her friends, provided a delicious breakfast casserole on Thursday morning. The bountiful meal was complete with juice, mini muffins and fruit salad.



### Bocce Ball Tournament

A good crowd gathered on the infield of the ball diamond on Thursday morning for a Bocce Ball Tournament. This event was organized by Wayne & Marilyn Roserberger.





**Bocce Ball Champions:** Wayne Rosenberger ( blue shirt) congratulates the First Place Team Members Dave Palmateer, Walter Meixner, Heather Rennalls & Michael Taziar. The Second Place Team Members were David West, Adele Waite, Arnie Gerum & Connie Skillings.



### Greeting Card Craft

Gerry Nuetel, shown standing in centre photo, supplied all the materials and provided instructions so that each of the ladies in attendance could create their own unique greeting card.



The Retiree Rally Golf Tournament was held at Creekside Golf Club just south of Woodstock on Thursday.



There was a 3-way tie for “lowest score”. Dave Skillings, Don Lumley and Jim Sampson drew cards to determine the winner. Shown above Lew Acre ( organizer of tournament) presents the prize to Jim Sampson.



Lew Acre presents the prize for “Closest to the Pin” to John Waite.



Lew Acre presents the prize for “Most Honest Golfer” (aka “highest score”) to Wayne Rosenberger.



## Guest Speaker Auxiliary Constable Garrett Scams and How to Prevent Them



On Thursday evening, Constable Garrett explained the two basic types of scams.

**The Romance Scam** is where someone contacts you online, for friendship, and then builds trust, followed by romance and eventually they ask for money to be e-transferred to them. These fraudsters usually have several “victims” in play at one time. If you suspect fraud, just refuse to communicate with them.

**The Emergency Scam** is where you receive a phone call from someone claiming to be the police or a lawyer, who says that your grandchild is in jail and needs money immediately, or you’ve been convicted of a crime and you need to pay money immediately or the police will show up at your door. They attempt to create panic and a sense of urgency. In this case, insist on taking a moment to think, to check out a few facts. Ask them to call you back. The truth is that the police will never demand money over the phone. This is a scam.

Red flags which signify fraud are when they ask you to send them gift cards, cash or “google cash”.

Report suspected fraud to [www.antifraudcentre.ca](http://www.antifraudcentre.ca) or call 1-888-495-8501

### **Prevention Tips:**

Never autosave your banking password. ( It’s ok to save other passwords, but never for your banking.)

Make sure that your banking password is different from any of your other passwords.

You could set an “alarm” on your phone or computer to alert you to any withdrawals from your bank.

Pay for your bills only through your bank’s webpage, NOT with an APP.

Check your computer for spyware and viruses regularly.

Only make online purchases from trusted websites.

Do not sign up for Equifax or Transunion.



## Friday Morning Farewell

A variety of fresh donuts from Tim Hortons and hot coffee from the committee were available on Friday morning to allow for campers to share a few more moments together before everyone headed home. The 2025 Retiree Rally has been tentatively booked for June 9 13, 2025.



**Campvention 2024**  
***“Remembering the Past and Celebrating the Future”***  
**Herkimer County Fairgrounds, Frankfort, New York**  
**June 23—29, 2024**



Fourteen RVs from Ontario travelled to Frankfort, New York to attend the 2024 Campvention. Region #7 hosted a Canadian Hospitality on Monday evening, which included our traditional maple leaf cookies and “Canada Dry” ginger ale. Those in attendance were Marilyn & Wayne Rosenberger, Dave & Lynn Pothier, Dave & Marion Warrington, Karin Reily & Betty Ann, Jack Smye, Jacquie & Dan Boisvert, Lynn & Lew Acre, Ron & Mary Brown, Dale & Angela Cull., Dave & Connie Skillings, John & Adele Waite, Faye & Terry Swanburg.



Monday evening’s entertainment was “Grit & Grace” a wonderful 4 piece band that soon had folks up dancing and singing along. Left: Dave Cull & Lew Acre continued their “Campvention Tradition” of dancing together. Faye Swanburg proudly displayed the red maple leaf as she danced in the aisle. Right: Numerous Door prizes were handed out each evening.





### FCRV's Got Talent

On Tuesday evening, FCRV's homegrown talent was showcased in a variety show. Ontario had 4 contributions of talent. They included solos by Jack Smye and Karin Brown Reily, a skit by Lynn Acre and guitar accompanied songs by John Waite. At the end of the show, all of the performers came to the stage for a final bow and each received a pin.



### FCRV "Past, Present & Future" Theme Parade

Friday morning found the Canadian attendees decorating Dale Cull's pickup truck and stringing t-shirts from past Campventions onto a pole. Our entry in the parade won "The Most Patriotic" award.



## Canada Day Campout at Attawandaron Scout Camp

Eight families, mostly from the Sarnia 4Ts and the Tri-County Travellers, gathered at the Attawandaron Scout Reserve near Grand Bend, Ontario to celebrate Canada Day. They were delighted by a surprise visit from FCRV International President Gerry Pfirsch, who was passing through southwestern Ontario on his way to South Dakota after attending Campvention in New York. International relations were strengthened and friendships were kindled during the campout as they worked, ate and celebrated together.

Left: Gerry Pfirsch's RV proudly displays the FCRV promotional banner.



Right: Campers are drawn to the ever-burning campfire beneath the majestic pines and oak trees.



Below: Campers posed for a photo with Gerry Pfirsch. Standing left to right: John Scott, Don Adamson, John Waite, Robert Chamberlain, Rudy Sandau, Brian Jefferies, Gerry Pfirsch. Sitting left to right: Shelley Scott, Joan Adamson, Mabel Douglas, Sharon Sandau, Lorna Jefferies, Karen Chamberlain.



Left: Gerry prepared pancakes and bacon for everyone in the Beaver Lodge.



Right: Everyone enjoyed the hearty breakfast.

Red shirts and smiles prevailed during a potluck Canada Day feast on Monday July 1. Campers are excellent cooks and nobody left hungry.

Shown in photo are Don Johnson, John & Adele Waite, Don & Joan Adamson, Brian & Lorna Jefferies, John & Shelley Scott, Rudy & Sharon Sandau, Robert & Karen Chamberlain, & Gerry Pfirsch at the head of the table.



Rudy Sandau, above centre, showed Gerry Pfirsch and Don Adamson inside the chapel which recently benefited from donations and work given by our chapters.

# Bubba's Redneck Campout

## Fall OPA 2024



Hosted by the Tri-County Travellers  
At Brigden Fairgrounds, 2435 Courtright Line,  
Brigden, Ont. N0N 1B0  
Friday Aug. 30 - Monday Sept. 2, 2024  
*Early Bird Day Thursday Aug. 29*

COST for campout: \$125  
(Payable in full when registering.)

Early Bird Camping + \$25



### ACTIVITIES

Bubba's Redneck Games (toilet seat toss, chuck the chock, Pass the Plunger),  
Bubba's Bingo, Bubba's Road-Kill Cafe BBQ, Ice Cream, Corn Roast, Church  
service, Voting Delegates' Meeting, Entertainment & Hospitality

**What to Bring:** Extension cords to reach electrical outlets, Redneck Attire, Laidback attitudes.

Fresh Water available. Dump site available. 30 & 15 amp services available.

There will be NO PENNY SALE this year so don't be bringin' yer stuff ta donate.

Register online at [opafcrv.com](http://opafcrv.com) and pay \$125 by e-transfer [opafinancial@gmail.com](mailto:opafinancial@gmail.com) or print and mail form below to Shelley Scott, 9348 Richmond Road, Aylmer, Ont. N5H 2R1 with a cheque made payable to Fall OPA 2024. Full refunds will be made to anyone who is unable to attend.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 1, 2024**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ Teens: \_\_\_\_\_ Youth: \_\_\_\_\_

Early Bird Day: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ Handicapped Parking? \_\_\_\_\_



Blue Water District  
International Mixer  
September 27—29, 2024  
Eastern Michigan Fairgrounds  
(2 blocks north of I-69)  
Imlay City, Michigan.



**“ Come One, Come All”**  
And bring a friend to  
**SEND IN THE CLOWNS & FCRV**



### Amenities

Power: Several 30 & 50 amp hookups  
Water: Water hookups available.  
Bring extra hose to reach.  
Free Dump Station on site.

**BONUS**

### **\*Bonus Offer\***

A free campout will be drawn for those registered by August 17, 2024.

If you register online with Rocky before August 17, 2024 you'll be eligible for the draw.

**Registration Deadline: Sept. 20, 2024**  
**Cost \$50 U.S. Total**  
Early arrivals begin on Wednesday Sept. 25 at an additional \$10/day  
Canadians please register online at [mibluewaterfcrv@gmail.com](mailto:mibluewaterfcrv@gmail.com) and pay with U.S. cash upon arrival.....  
Or mail U.S. check to Rocky Lumley, 3992 Brookstone Pl, Apt. #6, Port Huron, Michigan, 48060.





# *International Events*



53rd International Retiree Rally

*“Spring Has Sprung”*

National Peanut Festival Fairground

5622 Hwy 231 South

Dothan, Alabama, 36301

Rally Starts March 24—March 30, 2025

Early Bird Days: March 21, 22 & 23

Cost: 2 people in unit = \$330 U.S. Funds

1 person in unit = \$300 U.S. funds

Each “early bird” day costs \$40 U.S. funds

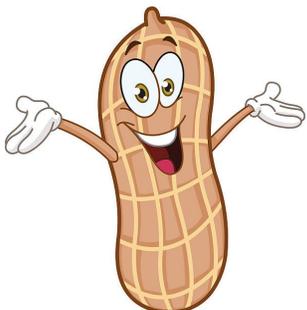
Registration Deadline: March 1, 2025. Late registrations pay extra \$35 U.S.

Included in the fee: full hook-ups, (30/50 amp services) Ice Cream Social, 2 dinners, live entertainment, sports, crafts, and a lot of fun.

Make checks payable to FCRV/NCHA Retiree Rally. (U.S. Bank accounts only) No credit card payments accepted. Mail checks to Mildred Pauwels, P.O. Box 193, Dana, N.C. 28724



The theme is “Spring Has Sprung,” and coordinators Steve and Diane Hitchens, are preparing many fun events for all to enjoy. You won’t want to miss this event. So put a “spring” in your step and “Leap” on over to Dothan for a Rally good time. Remember, you do not have to be retired to come to the Rally, you just have to be ready to have a good time!





CAMPVENTION 2025  
“*Spirit of Friendship*”

July 20– 26, 2025

James E. Ward Agricultural Center  
945 E Baddour Pkwy, Lebanon, Tennessee



	Registration	At Gate
One family in unit	\$350*	\$385
Extra family in unit	\$180	\$200

Early bird days: July 18-19, 2025...\$30/night  
To be paid cash/U.S. Check upon arrival

Registration Deadline: May 15, 2025

*\*Pay before December 31, 2024 to receive a \$25 discount. (\$325)*

This Campvention will be close to Nashville. Plan to come early to enjoy some of the highlights of the city.

