

CAMPING TODAY

THE VOICE OF FAMILY CAMPERS & RVERS

MAY 2025 ISSUE

05

YOUTH PROGRAM

Learn about the many youth opportunities within our organization.

06

FCRV NATIONAL ELECTION RESULTS

There were three positions up for election.

19

CAMPVENTION 2025 UPDATE

There are some fairground rules we have to follow.

Printable PDF



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Table of Contents

From or About Our Members

- [From The VP Programs](#)
- [Youth Program](#)
- [FCRV National Election Results](#)
- [FCRV Awards](#)
- [Welcome New Members](#)
- [Trustee Minute Notes](#)

Upcoming National Events

- [Retiree Rally 2025 – Dothan, Alabama](#)
- [Campvention 2025 – Lebanon, Tennessee](#)

Event Schedule & Recaps

- [Event Calendar & Recaps](#)

Camping Information & Tips

- [Dear RV](#)

Past Camping Todays

- [2022-2024 Online Archive](#)
- [1989-2021 DeWayne Johnston Historical Archives \(pdfs\)](#)



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Camping Today' Submission Forms

['Camping Today' is currently scheduled for release on the 15th of each month.]

[All content must be submitted by the 1st.]

Contact FCRVOFFICE@gmail.com if you have any questions or problems submitting material.

[Click on the hyperlink below for the type of 'Camping Today' submission you'd liked to send.](#)

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- International Camping Club
- Non-Profit Member Owned
- National & Local Events
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From The VP Programs

From the Vice President Programs

By Ed Shaneyfelt

Hi, I am Ed Shaneyfelt , your Vice President Programs. I am responsible for most of the programs that are involved within FCRV.

With society changing through the years, we need to change some of the programs with it. My goal this year is to try to have all the programs updated or re-written if needed. The programs that I oversee are: Adult Activities, Campers Actively Moving Program (CAMP), Communication and Security, Conservation, Disaster Awareness Safety and Training (DASAT), Teens, Veterans, and Youth. There are openings in the Communication and Security, Teens, and Veterans programs.

I will be sitting down with my program directors one-on-one to try to get the programs updated. I am starting with Conservation first. One of the changes that has been made already is that the poster contest can be submitted by anyone who wants to compete. We are doing away with state/province winners only. This means we could have four from one state in the same category. Another change has been in the Youth "Camping Is" contest. It is also going to follow the same format that it will be open to all participants.

This year at Campvention we are trying something different with the tour day on Wednesday. This means that some of the activities for the programs might be doubled up on other days. We will have the adult games in the morning and afternoon on some days. One of them being the Teens versus Adult softball game. We might need help with equipment needed for some of the sports or activities.

Even if you can't or don't want to participate, please go and cheer on the ones that do.

If you have any questions about any of the programs or would be interested in filling one of the open positions, feel free to contact me at FCRV.Programs@gmail.com or look for me at Campvention at the Trustee Showcase on Wednesday at 4:30. The Trustees will be manning their tables for members to ask questions they may have.

Until next time,
Ed



Youth Program

Youth Program

By Barb McHale, National Youth Director

Our youth have many opportunities within our organization to show their personalities, develop character, learn about conservation, and enjoy wildlife. We can recognize our outstanding young active members through The Youth of the Year award. This is a national contest based upon a child's participation in both FCRV and non-FCRV related activities during the previous year (May 1 – April 30). The award is judged on the all-around participation of the entrant. The nominated child's parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) must be FCRV members. You can find the nomination form on the youth program page of the FCRV webpage (<https://fcrv.org/>).

The youth of FCRV also have an opportunity to express themselves through art in defining what camping means to them in the "Camping Is" contest. The contest is divided into 6 age groups; 0-2 years, 3-4 years, 5-6 years, 7-8 years, 9-10 years, and 11-12 years. The 0-2 and 3-4 year olds will have a coloring contest with an official entry form unique for each year. This year's coloring page can be found in this month's Camping Today as well as on the FCRV webpage (fcrv.org). The other age groups will have a poster contest. **Beginning this year, ALL entries created should be forwarded to the national level.**

Each entry turned in should be identified as "Camping is..." so as to not be confused with Conservation Poster entries (which have different rules/ages). The child's identifying information is written correctly and legibly on the back left corner of the poster/coloring page. Be sure the following information is included: Name, First and Last, City and State/Province, Birthdate in mm/dd/yyyy

format, Age as of July 1 in the contest year, Local chapter name if applicable, along with Field Director's or State/Provincial Director's certification of FCRV membership.

At your spring campouts, please encourage participation in the contest by having poster board, markers, crayons and copies of the coloring page available at the campout. Perhaps set aside some time at the campout for the children to create their posters or complete the coloring page. If your state/province has a program or schedule, adding the poster making to the schedule can help increase participation. **We would like all entries created to be forwarded to the National Campvention.**

I hope you take the time to encourage your youth to participate in both the "Camping Is..." as well as the Conservation contest. While the "Camping Is..." is limited to 12 and younger, the Conservation Poster Contest is open to all ages. So while the youth are artistically expressing themselves, you should be too! Also, please consider completing a Youth of the Year nomination by July 1st.



FCRV National Election Results

Election Results

By Shari Weber, 2025 Nominating Committee Chair

There were three positions up for election for the 2025 - 2027 term. Those positions are Vice President Planning & Development, Comptroller, and Vice President Operations. This year the candidates for Vice President Planning & Development were Amy DeCamp from Ohio and Daniel Tinter from Connecticut. Sandi Wingert from Colorado ran unopposed for the position of Comptroller and Linda English from Michigan ran unopposed for Vice President Operations. Daniel Tinter was elected and is now Vice President Planning & Development-elect, and Sandi and Linda are continuing in their positions. All three will be installed at the general membership meeting at Campvention in July. Your support of these newly elected Trustees along with the rest of the team of Trustees is appreciated.

Finally, I would like to again thank the 2025 Nominating Committee for their work in developing the slate of candidates. Hats off to Carolyn Downey from Connecticut, Rick Boatwright from Colorado, Rudy Sandau from Ontario, Reg Price from South Carolina, Rhonda O'Neal from Illinois, and JeAnne Selby from North Dakota



Congratulations!

FCRV AWARDS

Thank you!

By Teresa Walorski, FCRV Recording/Corresponding Officer

I just want to send a shout out to all our volunteers in the FCRV Organization. We are all busy, but you take the time to help others and make this organization fun.

Most recently, I had the opportunity to get together with a team to go over the award submission. So, thank you to: Robin Siefker, Carolyn Downey, Kim Paton and Ken Weeks, Sherry McGuire! You all ROCK!

Welcome New Members

Family Campers & RVers would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest members:

Gulaskey, Raymond	Gulaskey, Tammy	KS	Referred by: Marty Mashak
Coniglio, Cassandra		FL	Referred by: Family
Dean, Christine		TX	Referred by: No Reference
Hunsaker, Mark	Hunsaker, Joyce	UT	Referred by: No Reference
Callahan, Patrick		MI	Referred by: Tim Callahan
Santos, Connie		CO	Referred by: Liz Rhea
Kassay, Peter	Kassay, Carol	NC	Referred by: RV Show: Raleigh RV Show
Dotson, Dan	Dotson, Cyndie	UT	Referred by: Frank Soderborg
Mumford, Steve	Mumford, DeeDee	WI	Referred by: Janet Cushing
Klaiber, Jim	Klaiber, Paula	FL	Referred by: Old Members Rejoining
Bryant, Daniel		NC	Referred by: Herman & Louise Bryant
Hayes, Sara	Zuckerman, Eric	CO	Referred by: Internet: Facebook

Trustee Meeting Notes

These notes are now being stored in the Virtual Office by National and sent via email to the executive and advisory boards. These notes can and are encouraged to be shared throughout the organization. The archive and single page notes are set up as a shareable link that is viewable by any 3rd party.

A history of past minutes can be found [HERE](#).



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Retiree Rally 2025 - Dothan, Alabama



Steve & Diane Hitchens
Rally Coordinators

Join in on the discussion at the 2025 Retiree Rally
[Facebook group](#)

Click the link above or scan the code below.



Retiree Rally Recap

By Steve and Diane Hitchens, Rally Coordinators

Well, the Spring has Sprung! It's all over, and I hope you are all back home safely. We had a wonderful time seeing our old friends and meeting new ones. First thing I want to say is THANK YOU, everyone. We could not have done it without all your help. Anything we needed done; someone was there to help. Thank you to all the Chairs and Co-chairs. You kept your parts running without a hitch!

The Parking Committee, Joe and Sandi Wingert and Jim and Dora Lewis said they parked over 58 rigs and there were several of us that stayed off grounds. We had a pretty good turnout. They did a great job marking the area, meeting everyone at the gate and ushering them to the right spots!

Retiree Rally 2025 - Dothan, Alabama

The Door Prize Committee did a wonderful job. Pat and Dave Crow took over at the last minute for Denise Hudson because she couldn't come. I have been praying her back is better and she'll be up and around soon. Thank you Dave and Pat and the Missouri helpers handing out the prizes!

The Publicity Chair was Barb Turner. Thank you so much for all the pictures you posted and keeping us informed about things to do in Dothan and keeping all the Chairs informed on what was going on. She constructed the Rally Google photo album which was shared through her FCRV news emails:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/3LZUbFZCPfUha1D7>

Chaplain Bill Buggeln had two great bible lessons while we were there. He also did the devotionals every morning. Also, Bill and Dianne were in charge of the Hard Hat and Red Hat meals. They did an excellent job getting food and speakers.

Reba Ray was in charge of Entertainment! That would be a very hard job to do and stay in our price range but she did an excellent job. Seemed like it got better every night! She also did the program book! Getting everything scheduled seems like a very difficult job.

Leon and LaNelle Ishmael are the King and Queen Coordinators. They did a great job getting the program together for the crowning of the new King and Queen, Paul and Beth Standiford, Congratulations, Paul and Beth. Thank you, Leon and LaNelle!

Roger and Karin Snyder were the Chairmen for the lap robes, pop tabs, bread tabs and food pantry. They collected 70 afghans/lap robes.

They collected \$138 and food items for the food bank. Twenty-four pounds of pop tabs were collected along with lots of bread tabs. Congratulations to Brenda and Reg Price for first prize in collecting both pop tabs and bread tabs. Thanks to Karin and Roger for coordinating all the donations. Keep up the good work everyone. They say they will do it again next year! Start collecting now!

Donna Powell and Marla Mantia were in charge of the Pet Parade. Heddy Servant was their helper. Everyone had a great time and I think the animals had a good time too! Thank you, Donna and Marla, for organizing the Parade!

Richard and Frances Jackson were in charge of the Flea Market. They did a great job organizing and setting up the 15 vendors. There were a lot of things to choose from to buy! Thanks to Richard and Frances and all the participants!

Shari and Craig Weber and Ray and Carol Yates were the chairpersons for Games. They did an excellent job keeping everything running smoothly! They even made up their own version of Corn Hole! So creative. Thank you guys for your hard work!

Kip Cushing did a wonderful job again this year with the sound. I think he's a magician with how he can make things happen! Thanks for all your help, Kip, with the sound, Variety Show, Choir and making us all sound great!

Phil and Joanne Rich and Emil and Millie Pawles were in charge of the Registrations. They did an excellent job getting the people registered and having everything organized! It went very smoothly!

Retiree Rally 2025 - Dothan, Alabama

Thank you to all that helped with the goodie bags also!

Thanks to Dave and Linda Hennie for all the great food! I think they did a wonderful job picking the caterers this year! We all had plenty to eat even including seconds!! Thank you too, to Dave for being the MC of the Rally. He kept the show on schedule and running smoothly every day.

Speaking of running....thanks to Mark Brayman for running our C.A.M.P. Program. I'm not sure how many showed up to walk, but I know the people that camped a long way away from the building sure got their steps in!

I also want to thank Vern Failor for being our information person. If you needed to know anything he was there! He was also our mailman, making trips to the post office every day! Thank you to Jan Cushing. She kept us all "found" by keeping the locator board current. Ron Ray and John Winslow were our Security Team. Didn't we all feel safe and secure? A big thank you to them!!

A special thank you to Barb Dodson. She was my "go-to" girl. Whenever anyone needed help doing anything, she was there. She helped me keep my head on straight! Reba and Linda helped in that department, too! Never having done anything like this before, I sure had plenty of questions!

I hope I didn't miss thanking anyone. If I did, I'm sorry. Really everyone should get a big thank you. We certainly couldn't have done it without you!

I sure had a great time seeing everyone and being able to put on a rally. I hope everyone had a great time, and please come next year! I've already heard some great ideas Ken and Betty Andrews, Harlan Nigh, and Lori Springer have running around in their heads! Come see how they put it all together!!



Retiree Rally 2025 - Dothan, Alabama

Retiree Rally Sound, Variety, Choir, Book Exchange Recap

By Kip Cushing

People really missed a good Rally this year. The program book was just right on timing events throughout the week. There were only one or two events that were close in a timeline. A big change was moving the Variety Show to Wednesday afternoon. Donna Powell started off with two patriotic songs that the audience joined in on. Paul Standiford and Richard Jackson sat behind a campfire and told us stories and jokes that had everyone laughing. Beth Standiford displayed her guitar skills and singing talents with two or three great songs. And not to be outdone, "Chantilly Lace" was performed by the secret talent master Paul Wollinger. Who knew? Even with such wonderful previous talent, I was unable to contain myself and sang two songs as well.

Another group of fine singers, our FCRV Retiree Choir, were not going to be deterred with an accompanist backing-out at the last minute. Leave it to the phone wizardry of Barb Turner and YouTube adding a mic and speaker, and we pulled off two new tunes I selected without a hitch. The talented choir singers (9) enhanced the Memorial and Sunday Services with such great songs as "On Eagles Wings:", "You'll Never Walk Alone", and "Old Rugged Cross". We sang most songs acapella and two with YouTube accompaniment. We hope to find a keyboard player by next year. The Retirees have a keyboard and stand available so if you are a keyboard player, give me a shout; we can use you.

All you readers sure filled the 8' table used for the always popular Book Exchange. Take one, leave one, changed into leaving 10 take 2. Twenty of you bought books, and the money went to the Wiregrass Food Bank. The two boxes I loaded up at the end to haul home: some were dropped off at Goodwill. Being a steward of a "Little Free Library", I left the other box full at Little Free Libraries on the way back to Wisconsin.

Our venue had a wonderful sound system we were able to use. I was able to plug into their main amp and do the music for our Parade of States and pick up the guitar sound when Beth sang for her Variety Show presentation. My little battery powered amp, headset microphone and speaker system were used extensively for many events, from Card Bingo, Hard and Red Hat luncheons, Seminars, then outside for washer toss, Corn Hole, and Ladder golf, 16 events in all.

I hope to see y'all in Mineola, TX next year, bring your secret talent, your voice for Choir, and some books to exchange. Have a Great Summer camping season and keep those suffering from the floods and tornadoes in your prayers, for those of you who pray.



Retiree Rally 2025 - Dothan, Alabama

Spring has Sprung Pet Parade

By Donna Powell, Pet Parade Chair

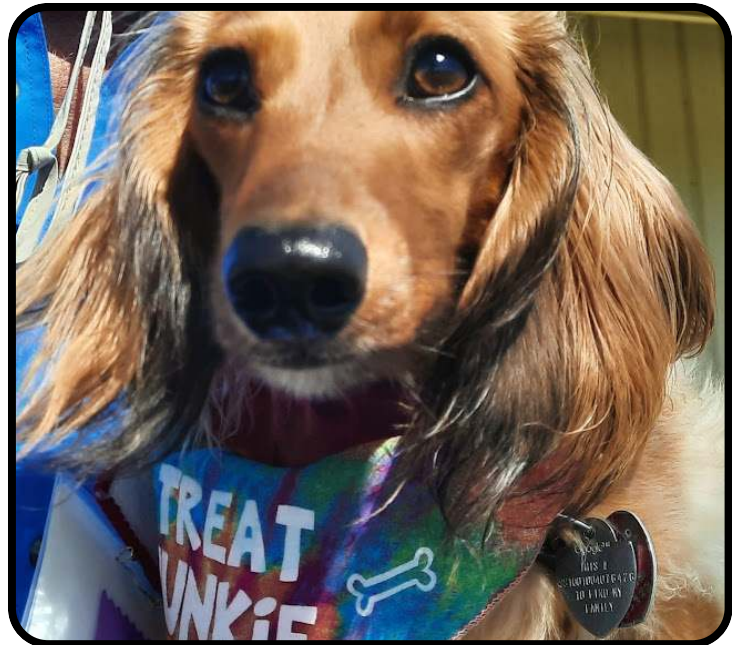
We had the best weather and a beautiful day for our pet parade. Marla Mantia (TX) and Heddy Servant (CO) were great helpers! Delbert Powell, my husband, and Kip Cushing (WI) helped with the bench and tables that we needed for the parade. Thanks for the use of your portable PA, Kip! We had 10 dogs and 2 cats!

As I called their number, the owner and pet walked past the judges. I read whatever information each owner had given to me. After the second walk through, the judges chose the winners!

Pictures provided are courtesy of Barb Turner. Thank you, Barb!

- 1) Theme winner- Max (MO); owner-Sandy Toliver
- 2) Owner/ Pet look alike- Charlie (WI); Philip and Deb Keeku
- 3) Best trick- Abbey (MO); owner- Pat Crow
- 4) Best behaved- Bella (KS); owner- Becky Andrews
- 5) Best of show (dog)- Izzy (LA); owner- Rita Letellier
- 6) Best of show (cat)- Lad (WI); owner- Kip Cushing

All the winners received a gift bag and certificate. All dog and cat participants received a participation award and a treat bag. The owners had several items to choose from for themselves. My helpers and I had an enjoyable time doing the parade! Until the next Retiree Rally, Adios!



Retiree Rally 2025 - Dothan, Alabama

King & Queen Coordinators Recap

By LaNelle & Leon Ishmael, Coordinators

We would like to congratulate Beth and Paul Standiford for being elected our 2025 FCRV International Retiree King and Queen. The Royal Court (past Kings & Queens) was active during the week. They helped serve the meals and ice cream. On Wednesday they enjoyed a meal together at Golden Corral.



Flea Market Recap

By Richard & Frances Jackson, Flea Market Chairs

On Saturday, March 29th Set-Up started at 7:30am, and the Market took place from 9 to 12am. Tables were arranged for the market the evening before. We appreciate the volunteers who helped with moving tables and chairs.

Sixteen vendors used 19 tables with 2 chairs per table available. A large variety of items were available for sale from artisan crafted jewelry, wood, paper and fiber objects as well as skin and home care products, camping items, FCRV T-shirts, and booths to sign up for 2026 FCRC Retiree Rally and 2025 FCRV Campvention. We greatly appreciate all of the vendors who participated as well as everyone who came to shop.



Retiree Rally 2025 - Dothan, Alabama

Door Prizes Recap

By Pat Crow, Door Prize Chair

Coming in at the last moment to chair the door prize committee at the retiree rally in Dothan, I was a little worried. So sorry that Denise Hudson was unable to make the rally, but she should know that her hard work beforehand paid off. Everything ran smoothly, and Vern Failor was wonderful to work with. The ticket system works well, assuring that those that bring a gift will receive a gift. We don't want to discourage anyone from bringing gifts, but I was somewhat confused about people who brought more than one gift. Do they then receive 2,3 or 4 gifts because they brought extra and their names are on the tickets? That is what we did. We received a lot of wonderful door prizes, and I think it went well.



Parking Recap

By Joe & Sandi Wingert, Parking Chairs

We parked over 58 camping rigs that came for the rally. We set out signs and flags to identify the entrance the campers would be using. The Festival personnel provided a printout of the sites to help identify what utilities were available at each site. This enabled every camper to get full hook ups.

Food Bank, Lap Robes, Plastic Tabs, and Pop Tabs Recap

By Karin Snyder, Chair

Another Retiree Rally in the books...ending with 70 afghans/lap robes. Thank you to all that used their talents to create the beautiful pieces!! These were donated to multiple organizations...we will spread the wealth!! (Donations made to Westside Terrace Nursing Home, Command Sgt. Major Bennie G. Adkins State Veterans Home, Child Advocacy Center, Extendicare Nursing Home, and Wiregrass Hope.) You all made this possible!! Thank you for making this happen!!

We also collected \$138 in monetary donations and some food items that were donated to Wiregrass Area Food Bank.

Then, of course, pop tabs were collected...24.8 lbs in weight which were donated to the Ronald McDonald House in Birmingham, Alabama. Bread tabs were also collected and were donated to Danielle Cares for Chairs which is an organization that provides wheelchairs to those in need!! If anyone saves items for their church or an organization, please let me know. It would be great to help as many people as we can!!

First place in both categories of pop tabs and bread tabs was taken by Brenda & Reg Price!! Way to go!! So, everyone please save those items for next year and ask your family and friends to do the same!! We will have 1st place again next year!!

Thank you to all that donated to the above collections...it is much appreciated and was donated to help out people in need!! God Bless!! Hope to see you all in Mineola, Texas next year!!



Retiree Rally 2025 - Dothan, Alabama

Rally Entertainment Recap

By Reba Ray, Entertainment Chair

Tuesday night we had Brian Belkamps's One-Man Swamp Band from New Orleans. He sang a variety of music, played different types of harmonicas, guitars and accordion. It was entertaining and interesting. He is a self-taught musician.

Wednesday night was Southern City Lights Band from Helflin, Alabama. They played a variety of music. They have been playing together for about 5 years. People were able to dance to their music. The band was enjoyed by all.

Friday night was Gillian's Island Band. They did a great job in entertaining for the King & Queen Ball. The band was a husband-and-wife team along with a drummer. Everyone seemed to enjoy the music.



Red Hat and Hard Hat Recap

By Bill & Dianne Buggeln, Chairs

We had a wonderful meal at both events catered by Toasted Yoke in Dothan.

Hard Hat had scrambled eggs, bacon, hash brown casserole and biscuits. Also, we had a good speaker.

Red Hat ladies had different types of wraps, salad and potato salad. They also had a speaker from the Peanut Festival folks.

Had a wonderful time and had good reviews from both events.



Registration Recap

By Millie Pauwels and Joanne Rich, Co-Registration Chairs

We had 73 registered, including 7 First Timers, – 73 registered but due to cancellations 58 and 5 off grounds attended.

There were games, crafts, 2 meals and one ice cream social where votes for the King and Queen were collected.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone back in Mineola, Texas next March. Thanks to everyone who came and supported the Retiree Rally.



Retiree Rally 2025 - Dothan, Alabama

Retiree Rally Games Recap

By Shari Weber, Games Chair

Co-Chairpersons were Craig & Shari Weber Yard Games, Carol & Ray Yates Table Games Helpers Jerry Rozelle, Richard Roberts, the many scorekeepers and umpires are appreciated. There were lots of games to play in Dothan. Many participants showed great sportsmanship along with good competition and loads of fun.

Frog Races - 32 racers plus audience. 1st Place: Dennis Hein, Kansas. 2nd Place: Phillip Keeku, Wisconsin.

Card Bingo - 60 players 23 \$1 winners.

Euchre - 8 players. High Score, Pam Lewis, Florida, Most Lone Hands, Paul Wollinger, Wisconsin. We had 3 people who were new to the game.

Ladder Golf - 26 players plus audience. 1st Place Men: Jim Klaiber, Florida, 1st Place Women: Beth Coleman, Missouri, 2nd Place Men: Bill Newell, Texas, 2nd Place Women: Dora Lewis, Connecticut. All players received a \$0.50 merchandise certificate for C.A.M.P. credits.

Washer Toss - 20 players plus audience. 1st Place Men: Mark Brayman, Connecticut, 1st Place Women: Kathy Tannehill, Missouri, 2nd Place Men: Jerry Tannehill, Missouri, 2nd Place Women: Karen Kramer, Missouri. All players received a \$0.50 merchandise certificate for C.A.M.P. credits.



Retiree Rally 2025 - Dothan, Alabama



HELLO
SPRING



Cribbage - 8 players, several observers and people new to the game. No prizes awarded.

SkipBo - 6 players, many who were new to the game. No prizes awarded.

Mexican Train - 15 players. 1st Place Dora Lewis, Connecticut, 2nd Place Rita Newell, Texas

Five Crowns - 24 players. 1st Place: Jerry Rozelle, Indiana with 82 points, 2nd Place: Pat Beasley, Alabama with 88 points.

Corn Hole - 20 players plus audience. No boards so we drew chalk outlines and threw bean bags. 1st Place Men: Phil Keeku, Wisconsin, 1st Place Women: Deb Keeku, Wisconsin, 2nd Place Men: Mark Brayman, Connecticut, 2nd Place Women: Beth Coleman, Missouri. All players received a \$0.50 merchandise certificate for C.A.M.P. credits.

Bean Bag Baseball - 63 players plus audience, umpires, & scorekeepers, 7 teams played in the single elimination. 1st Place Team Dora Lewis, CT, Roger Snyder, IL, Craig Weber, FL, Joe Wingert, CO, Wayne & Lois Zuhoski, NY, Anne & Mark Brayman, CT. 2nd Place Team Carol & Ray Yates, GA, Jerry & Kathy Tannehill, MO Beth Coleman, MO, Paul Wollinger, WI, Debbie & Ken Bence GA, Tommy Garner, GA.

Campvention 2025 - Lebanon, Tennessee

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[Click here for event info & registration](#)

[Join in on the discussion at the 2025 Campvention Facebook group](#)

Click the link above or scan the code below.



2025 Campvention Notes - **Update**

By Ed Shaneyfelt, Chairman

As Chairman of Campvention 2025, I am looking forward to welcoming everyone to Lebanon Tennessee. Come and see what we have planned for you. Are you still thinking about coming to Lebanon Tennessee in July? We have room for you so make plans, get your registration in and come. We have some fun things planned for the week and a light day planned on Wednesday for you to go sightseeing. You can find tour opportunities in Camping Today. We have our normal activities planned and good entertainment. Something else that has changed this year is the Parade, it will not be judged this year. We are having most Hospitalities on one night. Wear a funny outfit to Tuesday evening's entertainment of Let's Make A Deal. You could win something fabulous or get a zonk.

There are some rules that we have to follow:
No balloons of any kind are allowed on the property inside or outside of buildings.

Glitter, confetti, open flame candles, tape, tacks, staples, or similar are not allowed in or on the building walls.

No fireworks or campfires

No Alcohol can be visible at any time. Make sure that it is always in a cup

In closing, I hope to see everyone in July.

Nearby accommodations:

Hotels near the campvention fairgrounds are within minutes of the grounds. These rates were valid on May 7, 2025. Days Inn \$57/day, Ramada Inn \$61/day, Quality Inn \$65/day, Travel Inn \$75/day, LaQuinta Inn \$79/day, Holiday Inn Express \$103/day, Comfort Inn \$106/day, My Place \$109/day, Fairfield Inn \$111/day, and Hampton Inn \$129/day.

There are also companies renting RVs that can be delivered to the fairgrounds. Cruise America RV Rental (cruiseamerica.com) 615.784.4334. Units rent for between \$155 and \$194/day. Music City RV (musiccityrv.com) 615.784.3862 has rentals ranging from \$129 to \$278/day.

Campvention 2025 - Lebanon, Tennessee

Announcement

The currency exchange between the United States dollar & the Canadian dollar is at 1.45 causing our Canadian family members to pay over \$500 for the Campvention 2025 fee of \$350. Due to this the trustees have offered a special price for the upcoming campvention for those Canadians who have not yet registered.

Your Board of Trustees

Let's make a Deal - New

By Ed Shaneyfelt

We have a wonderful evening planned for you to play just like the show on television. The prizes and money might not be as extravagant as you see on T.V. but we will still have some nice prizes. Don't forget we will also have those dreaded Zonks. Make sure you come dressed up to hopefully get a chance to play.

Ed Shaneyfelt will be your host for the evening.

Opening Flag Ceremony - Update

By Connie Black, Flag Ceremony Chair

Plans are underway for the Opening Flag Ceremony for Campvention 2025. States, provinces, and chapters that plan to participate should bring a 3' by 5' flag, flagpole and flag stand. Flags will be displayed all week near the stage. The US Flag, Canadian Flag, and the FCRV Flag will be displayed on stage. State, province, and chapter flags will be displayed on the floor.

Opening Flag Ceremony Rehearsal will take place on Sunday from 3 - 3:30 PM at the stage. Flag bearers should bring their flag, flagpole, and flag stands to the practice. The time of the Closing Ceremony rehearsal will be in the Program Book and will take place on Friday.

Adult Games - New

By Kathy Collier, Games Chair

This year we will be playing ladder golf, corn hole, washer toss and bocce. Bocce will be played in assigned teams of four. The others will be played as singles or doubles. For doubles, sign up with someone, or I can pair anyone who needs a partner. Doubles is any two adults. This is for adults 20 and up. Please sign up in advance. To be honest, it's easier for me. If you can't make it, due to scheduling conflict, or anything. no worries. I'll adjust the sheets. If you miss the sign up, show up. Again, I can adjust.

We need supplies! The more the merrier. Plenty of supplies means we can keep things moving. Please let me know if you have and can bring ladder golf, corn hole, or washer toss. While we need all 3, the club does not own ANY corn hole games, and we will need those the most. Ping me on Facebook, Discord, private message, text or email. Heck, if ya have my number, even call me! Please bring games to the game field the morning of the game as per the schedule, then pick up after the games are done. Games will be left at the field, so you know where they are. Please, please assemble ladder golf.

See you in Tennessee!



Campvention 2025 - Lebanon, Tennessee

Adult And Family Center - **New**

By Craig Weber & Brian Fuller, Center Co-chairs

Many events are being planned for you at the 2025 Campvention. The Adult and Family Center has a lot of room, plenty of tables and chairs and Air Conditioning. We are planning several events including Card Bingo, Euchre Tournament, Line Dancing, Balloon Volleyball (bring your flyswatters), Five Crowns Competition and finishing on Friday afternoon with Bingo. The Center will be open for you to play games we make available or bring your own, work Jigsaw Puzzles or just sit and relax in the Air Conditioning. Look forward to seeing you in Lebanon, Tennessee.



Golf Cart Rentals - **Update**

By Rick Walorski, Golf Cart Chair

Do you want to rent a golf cart for your Campvention Cruising Pleasure?

Please contact Dixie Hooper 615-624-8720 with Mikey's Motors to rent a four-passenger golf cart for Campvention 2025 week. Or click <https://www.mikeysmotors.com/rent-a-make-xrentals>

\$400.00 weekly rental for a four-passenger gas cart.

\$50.00 delivery/handling/pickup fee

\$43.88 Tax

\$493.88 Total Rental Fee (if paying with cash or check)

14.82 3% Credit Card Fee

\$508.70 Total if paying with a credit card

Your Campvention Team has selected Mikey's Motors in Murfreesboro to supply the golf carts for the Campvention Trams and Core Teams (parking, security, etc). They have extended the 4-seat cart price to our membership.

Program Book Shout Outs - **New**

Deadline June 15, 2025

Here is your chance to give a shout out to our members. Chapters can highlight upcoming events, individuals can highlight special celebrations, or Regional, State/Provincial directors can make special recognitions. You can do this in the 2025 Campvention Program Book!

Shoutout prices are:

Blurb 2 lines (132 characters maximum) \$5

Blurb 4 lines (264 characters maximum) \$10

For all shoutouts, please use the following link:

<https://fcrv.org/campvention-program-ads/>

For questions, please e-mail

fcrvoffice@gmail.com



Campvention 2025 - Lebanon, Tennessee

C.A.M.P. at Campvention 2025 - New

By Mark Brayman, & Donald Lanoue

Greetings everyone and happy spring,

The Campvention C.A.M.P. Committee (Campers Actively Moving Program) has been busy planning this summer's array of activities. Our hope is that you will participate in any or all of the opportunities listed. From simple on-grounds strolling (including a perpetual option, see below) to local area exploring on foot, via a bicycle/e-bike or in a canoe or kayak. Pickleball will return again after it's highly successful kickoff last summer in New York. This should be your year to give it a try! Disc Golf was again "tossed" into the schedule; perhaps we can get even more interest in Tennessee? These two activities will be available on-site providing easy access for everyone's enjoyment. Let's get moving this July with FCRV.

If you have questions before Campvention regarding the following activities, please reach out to mark.t.brayman@gmail.com/.

PLAN AHEAD FOR THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

PADDLING: within the nearby Stones River Greenway is one option that we have been researching. We have reached out to a local outfitter regarding rentals and trip support. Once we can confirm the details, we will update anyone interested. Please note that this year's organizers don't have any local knowledge of the area so if anyone does, please reach out. It would be appreciated.

BICYCLING & E-Biking: Stones River Greenway offers the most convenient "bike trail" near Campvention, and we plan to visit and ride there. We are also looking into other options. Please note that this year's organizers don't have any local knowledge of the area so if anyone does, please reach out. It would be appreciated.

DISC GOLF: This activity is intended to introduce all attendees to this fun outdoor sport. If you've ever tossed a frisbee or considered it, this activity is for you. No experience necessary! Equipment provided; however, if you own a set of disks or a portable target/basket, please bring them along to Campvention. The scramble play will be similar to regular golf. Participants will play as teams with each member tossing one disc at the same target.

The team will then toss from the spot of the best toss and so on till a team member lands inside the target. This way everyone can enjoy the game regardless of ability. This also makes for a great ice-breaker since we usually play with teams of ten. By the end of the round (9 baskets), you will have discovered some new friends and had lots of fun.

Note: If there appears to be enough interest, there may be an opportunity to travel to a nearby public course where we can really test our skills.

PICKLEBALL: A game for ALL ages and abilities! If you're just interested or a veteran player, add this activity to your Campvention schedule. The committee has a limited amount of equipment, (We have enough for two courts). The on-grounds event location is currently being determined which should accommodate more courts. Please bring gear (paddles and balls) if you have them, and any additional nets would be appreciated!

DAILY: Fairground morning WALKING: Starts 8am at a TBD location. All are welcome to join this group walk as we get our day started together. In addition, just to change things up a bit and if you want more opportunities to stay fit, a PERPETUAL walking/running route through the fairgrounds is planned. (This honor system activity allows attendees to follow a designated route at their leisure. A sign-up ledger location will be posted near the information center where you can indicate your daily progress. This activity takes place from 8am-8pm and will extend from Saturday (second early arrival day) to noon on Friday. Consider this a challenge to keep moving with the FCRV C.A.M.P. program at your own pace.



Campvention 2025 - Lebanon, Tennessee

Seminars Planned for Campvention - **New**

*By Pat Wittmeyer, Campvention Seminars
Chairman*

Seminars begin on Monday morning, when we will have our national VP-Operations, Linda English, and Past National President, Shari Weber, do a session on the updates which have been incorporated into the national Field Manual. They will also cover how to access the field manual which is contained at www.fcrv.org. This would be a great session for anyone who holds a volunteer job within FCRV to attend and learn about our current practices within the organization.

Later on Monday afternoon we will have a presentation by Niki Palmer, from Skymed, a firm which provides a variety of medical transportation services for members while on the road, including international transportation. Later in the week, Wednesday, Skymed will do another session in the morning and will include breakfast for attendees.

With FCRV Marketplace taking place on Tuesday morning, our seminars resume in the afternoon, with a lunch program from MASA. Some options with MASA include Emergency Transportation (Ground and Air), Patient Return, RV/Vehicle Return, along with a new plan which includes selections for domestic and international coverage. During lunch they will share information with attendees regarding the services offered through their program.

The next session taking place will be on Tuesday afternoon and will feature a square dance instructor who will present an overview of square dancing, then break attendees into groups of eight to learn actual steps like Do-Si-Do and Grand Allemande.

Wednesday will begin the day with a continental breakfast from Skymed for those who may not have been able to attend Tuesday's session. Since Wednesday is scheduled for sightseeing trips, there will be no seminars scheduled for the rest of the day.

Thursday will start with a focus on FCRV Conservation and Wildlife Programs. National Wildlife Chairs Tom and Cheryl Martinez are working with the Seminars team to bring in an animal guest or two for a late-morning seminar. The animals will then move into the Ambassador Circle luncheon. Then our National Disaster Awareness and Safety and Training (D.A.S.A.T.) Director Joe Boswell will run a seminar on Thursday afternoon entitled "After the Dust Settles" and will focus on what to do in the aftermath of a challenging event, whether natural or man-made.

Conservation Directors Mike and Carol Burns will present a conservation-based session after lunch on Friday, and Joe Boswell will have a second D.A.S.A.T. presentation after that titled "Counting to Ten", which will feature information on how to react and respond to a crisis in a calm and effective manner.

All seminars are scheduled to take place in the ED Building, East side. Chairs will be provided, and the building has air conditioning. Additional content about each seminar will be included on a special seminar page in the Campvention Program Book.



Campvention 2025 - Lebanon, Tennessee

Campvention Tour Opportunities - Repeat By Shari Weber

There are four tour opportunities planned for Wednesday July 23, 2025 at Campvention in Lebanon. Below are links to each tour which include descriptions of the tour, the cost, and time of the tour. You will need to make individual reservations for the tours. For example, if you plan to go on the E-Bike tour and someone else is going with you, you will use the link twice to make the reservations as pricing is for individuals. There is no opportunity to select a quantity for the tour. Be sure to pay attention to requirements for the tour. The E-Bike tour minimum age is 13 and Jack Daniels the minimum age is 21 (there are tastings included) and you will need to have a government issued ID.

<https://fcrv.org/campvention-tours/>



Additional tour Opportunities - Repeat By Shari Weber

There are two tours we were unable to set up this way although they are still available to plan on your own. They are as follows.

[Nashville's Dark Secrets: Murder & True Crime Walking Ghost Tour \\$34.95 per adult.](#)

Hear the scary past of Nashville through the experiences of a LOCAL! Our ADULTS ONLY TOUR is a must for anyone who loves ghosts, history, and especially true crime.

Prepare to be captivated by the dark history of Music City. Our knowledgeable guides will lead

you through the blood-stained pages of Nashville's past, recounting stories of murder, betrayal, and revenge that have left an indelible mark on the city's psyche. From infamous serial killers to unsolved mysteries, each stop on this tour will send shivers down your spine.

We'll take you to the locations where these heinous acts occurred, allowing you to stand on the very ground where the perpetrators and victims once walked. Along the way you'll hear about the investigations, the suspects, and the lingering questions that still baffle criminologists and historians to this day.

[Outdoor Escape Room from \\$75.00 per group \(up to 6\)](#)

One part scavenger hunt, one-part escape room, and one-part urban crawl. Can you escape your city? Search for real-world clues, solve puzzles, and discover your city with an experience you will never forget!

Follow the storyline around town as you find clues and use them to crack codes. Then enter solutions on the app to find out where to go next. Clues can be anywhere - murals, statues, landmarks, and more!

Plan about two hours of playtime, depending on your experience level and how much time you spend exploring along the way. Difficulty level is adjustable - take as many or as few hints as you'd like!

Please Note: When planning your adventure, keep in mind that shipping can take up to 7 business days.

Follow the storyline around town as you find clues and use them to crack codes. Then enter solutions on the app to find out where to go next. Clues can be anywhere - murals, statues, landmarks, and more!

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Please Note: When planning your adventure, keep in mind that shipping can take up to 7 business days.

Campvention 2025 - Lebanon, Tennessee

Volunteers Article - Update

By Rick Walorski, 2025 Campvention Volunteer Coordinator

Participating as a Volunteer at Campvention is rewarding! Rewards include working with optimistic, good-natured people. Our membership is made up of individuals, couples, and families. We have Veterans, Retirees, and Working campers. Oh, and we have pet owners, too! We are just a bunch of Happy Campers! The FCRV International Campvention is your chance to broaden your relationships with Fellow Happy Campers! Campers know that they get more out of their Campvention experience by signing up for volunteer activities.

Parking Volunteers needed for 2025 Campvention in Lebanon Tennessee If you plan to arrive either on Friday 18th or Saturday 19th, please consider working a shift with the parking team. Joe Wingert is this year's Parking Lead. You can contact Joe at joe.wingert@gmail.com.

Tram Driver Volunteers needed for 2025 Campvention in Lebanon Tennessee Most members know that driving the Campvention trams is the best way to renew old acquaintances and make new friends. Members from A to Z have already expressed interest in driving the trams through their registration forms. Austins and Zukoskis are looking forward to seeing you on the Trams! Look for the Tram Driver Schedule and Sign-up Sheet at Campvention Registration in the Gentry Building. The Tram Driver Schedule and Sign-up Sheet will be moved to the Information Office in the Cox Building when Registration Closes.

Pet Parade Judges Needed for 2025 Campvention. The Pet Parade is one of the most entertaining highlights of our FCRV Campvention every year! We need volunteers to be judges for our 2025 Pet Parade. Contact Linda DeCamp Ldecamp45371@gmail.com if you are interested.

Volunteer Sign-up Sheets at Campvention Registration. As always, you will be able to find lots of Volunteer Opportunities at the Campvention Registration tables when you arrive in Lebanon Tennessee. Enjoy the camaraderie by working with a team of people with the common goal of making the Campvention experience enjoyable to other members. The Volunteer Sign-up Sheets will be moved to the Information Office in the Cox Building when Registration Closes. If your team needs volunteers for your activities, please contact me (Rick Walorski) with an email to Walorskihome@comcast.net.

Looking forward to seeing you all this year in Lebanon Tennessee for our 2025 International Campvention. Happy Camping!



Gift Baskets Raffle - Update

By Betty Andrews, Basket Chair

We're counting down the days until we gather in Lebanon, TN this July for another fun-filled Campvention adventure. One of the most anticipated parts of the evening is the Gift Basket Raffle—a favorite among attendees. The more baskets we receive, the more excitement and prizes to go around!

Here's How You Can Help:

As you begin prepping for your summer camping trips, consider making the basket donation a group effort:

- Ask each member of your group to bring a small item to contribute.
- This is a great way for everyone to participate—even those who may not be able to attend in person.
- Think about themed baskets, such as state-made goods, camping accessories, or handmade crafts.
- Please include only new, unopened items to ensure a great experience for the winner.
- Don't forget to place a 3x5 card inside with your name and address so the winner can send a thank you.

Let's make this year's raffle the biggest and best yet!

Have questions or need more info? Feel free to reach out to Betty Andrews at UBetUKen2@gmail.com.

We can't wait to see you at Campvention 2025!

Campvention 2025 - Lebanon, Tennessee

Pet Parade - Update

By Amy DeCamp & Lou Tiley

Get Ready to Strut Your Stuff! Bring your cherished pets to our 2025 FCRV Campvention Pet Parade on Tuesday, July 22 at 10AM to the Community Stage. This is your chance to show off your amazing companions and celebrate the joy they bring to our lives. Prizes will be awarded for:

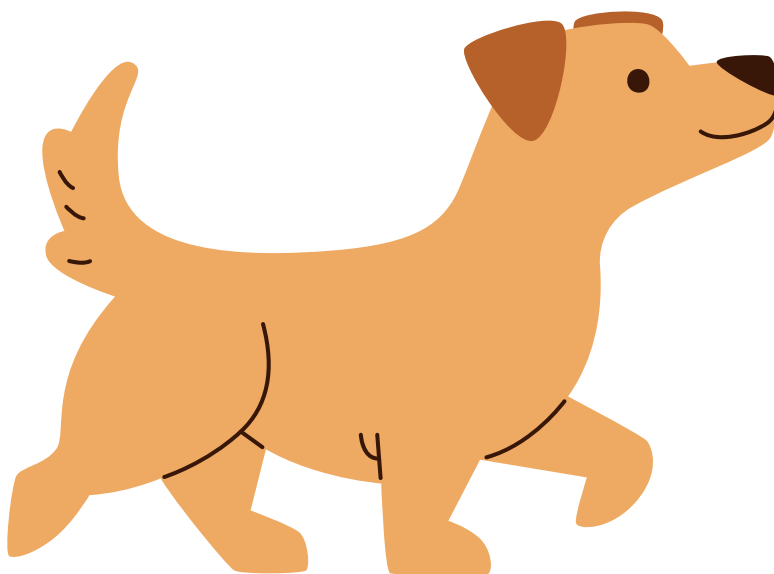
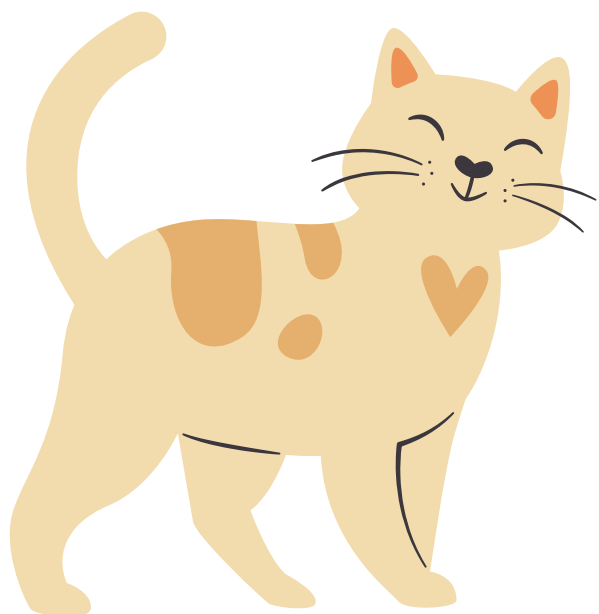
Most Unique
Biggest Personality
Best Pet Owner Look-alike
Cutest Trick
Judges' Favorite

Registration forms will be available at the event, or you can pre-register online at the following link <https://fcrv.org/campvention-pet-parade/>. Registrations must be submitted by Monday, July 21, 2025.

All pets must be properly leashed or contained, and owners are responsible for ensuring their pets are up to date on vaccinations and flea/tick prevention.

Don't miss this opportunity to showcase your pets and join in the festivities!

Looking forward to seeing all of you!



Campvention 2025 - Lebanon, Tennessee

Entertainment Announced - Repeat
By Connie Black, Entertainment Chair

Monday night entertainment - Jeffery Steele

Jeffrey Steele is an American country music singer and songwriter. Along with recording his own material, Steele has become a prolific Nashville songwriter, having co-written more than 60 hit songs for such artists as Montgomery Gentry, Tim McGraw, Faith Hill, LeAnn Rimes, Rascal Flatts, Billy Ray Cyrus, and others.

Between 1990 and 1996, Steele was the lead singer and bass guitarist in the country music band Boy Howdy, which recorded two albums and an EP on Curb Records, in addition to charting seven singles on the Billboard country music charts. After Boy Howdy disbanded, Steele embarked on a solo career, recording seven studio albums (one of which was not released). He also charted four singles as a solo artist, with the highest-peaking ("Somethin' in the Water") reaching No. 33 on the country charts in 2001.

Wednesday night entertainment - The Eldorado Band

The Eldorado Band is a rockin' country band with powerful vocals, blazing guitars, honky-tonk piano, and a tight rhythm section.

In January 2007, bassist César Sánchez and guitarist Nano Paramio formed the band Eldorado. The band drew inspiration from 1970s classic rock groups Bad Company, Deep Purple and Led Zeppelin. After distributing some demo songs, the group was picked up by producer Richard Chycki, who has worked with Aerosmith, Dream Theater, Gotthard, and Rush.

Friday night entertainment – Sweetn3

Sweetn3 is one of Middle Tennessee's top "go to" Classic Rock and Roll Cover Bands. Sweetn3 loves the music they cover and it shows on stage, which is why they are so popular among the rock and roll crowd.

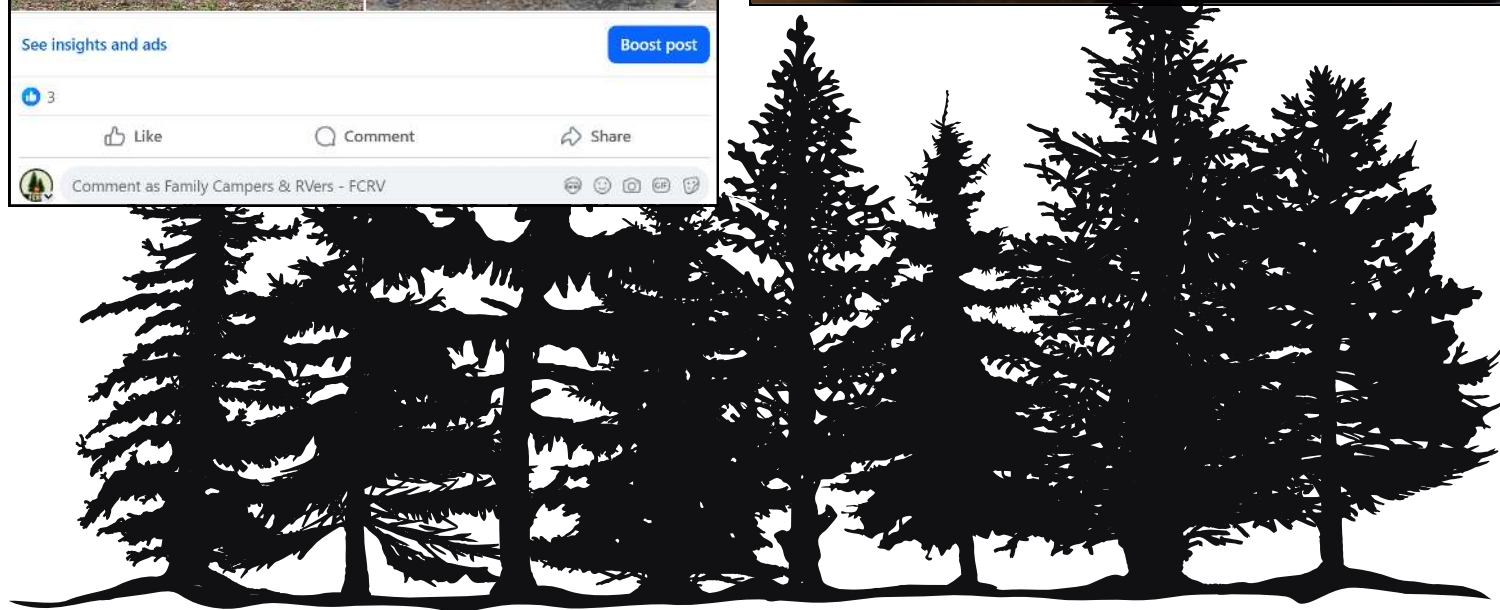
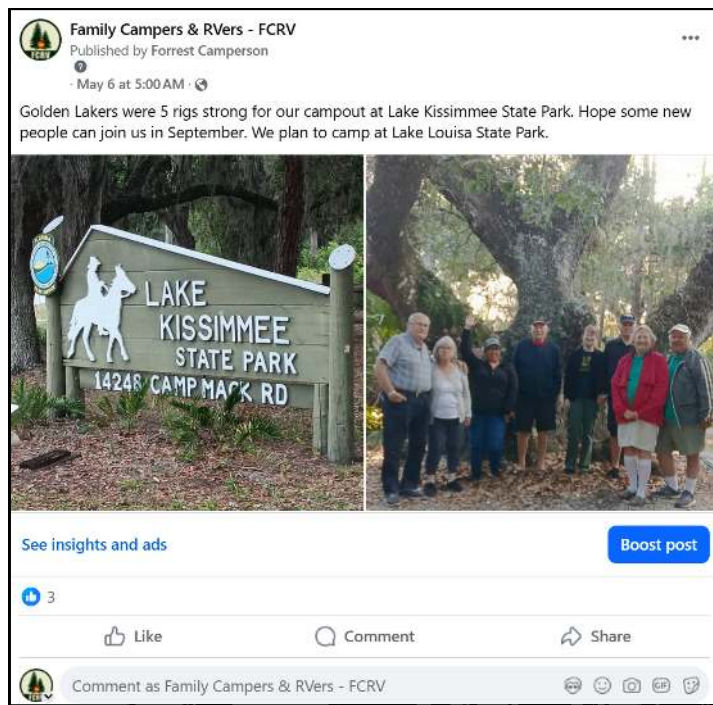
Sweetn3 covers bands like The Allman Bros, David Bowie, Chili Peppers, Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin, Joan Jett, Janis Joplin, Van Halen, Sheryl Crow, Heart, The Who, Yes, ZZ Top and many more. Even though their main focus is classic rock, they occasionally drop other music genres in their sets like folk, jazz, soul and country, and they're not afraid of taking on requests either.



Event Schedule & Recaps



[\[Click Here For Full Event Calendar\]](#)





Do you have questions about your RV, accessories, best practices, etc? Submit them to Dear RV and our staff will attempt to answer them. The answers are based on years of camping experience, but we don't guarantee that the answers will apply to your specific unit or situation. If someone submits a question and you can add to our answer OR have a better answer, please submit below with information about the original question. Your submission will be reviewed for possible publication in a future Dear RV Q&A. So, send us your questions and we will send you an answer. Remember, all submissions are anonymous. Us here at Dear RV! Question(s) or comment(s) for Dear RV.

Submit here: <https://fcrv.org/dear-rv/>

Dear RV

How do I clean out my black waste water tank so the sensors work? Always shows 1/3 full and sometimes 2/3 when not that full.

This is a subject that every RVer struggles with at one time or another. Oftentimes we learn our rig and just know when the tank is full. This is not a good solution as we end up overfilling the tank or dumping way too soon. So, some of the things I do are. If I am going to have full hookups at the next campground, I add ¼ tank of water to the tank, and as I travel this will slosh around helping to clean the tank. Another thing that will help is a good tank cleaner. Add to the tank filling the tank according to directions. After soaking for the required time, flush the tank and repeat if necessary. I use a product made in Arvada, Colorado. Another thing I recommend is to use a good tank treatment that digests the paper and waste. Always flush the tank well after dumping. This will go a long way in helping your sensors to work.

Hope this helps.

Thanks for asking Dear RV

Dear RV

How often do we need to check our roof?

I recommend that you check your roof at a minimum every spring and fall. Just a rule of thumb. Oftentimes one will find a joint that needs to be sealed in the spring from the winter temperature changes causing cracking of the caulking.

If you are in a campground and your rig comes in contact with tree branches, it is important to make a quick check to ensure that you do not have any roof damage from the tree branches rubbing across the roof. Give it a quick check and avoid water damage. It is well worth the time.

Thanks for asking Dear RV



Personalized garments; drinkware; clings; decals; kitchen & bath items. You can choose from our large graphic collection or use your photos or designs.

For FCRV branded items:

https://stores.inksoft.com/fc_rv/shop/home

For other items:

<https://stores.inksoft.com/marshallcreations16/shop/home>

Call or text: 410-533-0038

Marshallcreations16@gmail.com

