



OPAction Newsletter

MARCH
2026



Voting Delegates Meeting

A virtual meeting of the Voting Delegates was held on Sunday March 1, 2026. See page 3 for the Membership, Treasurer, Scholarship and Website Reports.



Spring OPA Campout

Special Thanks to Michael and Ruth Tazair for organizing the spring campout.

Arrival: Thursday May 28

Depart: Tuesday June 2.

Flamboro Valley RV Park near Puslinch, Ontario.

See page 2 for details. Remember to register online after you've booked your campsite.



Up-Coming Events

- *Trout Fishing Derby
- *Retiree Rally
- *Campvention

See page 4 for when and where.



In Memorium

2025 saw the loss of many of our beloved campers. See page 4 for the list of those who've passed away.



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Election

2026 is an election year for FCRV. There are 2 individuals running for President; Shari Weber and Linda Hennie. Online elections will be in April.

International News

Membership Recruitment Efforts

All members are invited to join an online conversation on how to attract new members. Join on Discord under Membership Recruitment/#discussion.

Membership Dues Increase

As of March 1, 2026 annual membership dues have increased from \$35 U.S. To \$52 U.S. Online renewals only going forward.





Spring OPA Campout

When? Arrive Thursday May 29—Depart Tuesday June 2, 2026.

This campout includes a weekend so that working members can plan to attend.

Where? Flamboro Valley R.V. Park, 1158, Regional Road 97, Puslinch, Ontario. N0B 2J0. Sites # 112—#135 are reserved for us.



Cost? Credit card = \$72/night + tax
Cash or E-transfer = \$64.80/night + tax
+ Registration fee of \$13

Facilities? Sites #112—#135 are all pull-through sites with water and electric. Showers and dump station are available. Full service sites are available but not with the group, and cost extra. A pavilion will be rented on Saturday.



What's planned? On Saturday the pavilion will be rented for our Voting Delegates' meeting, a potluck supper and entertainment. Also we have the use of 2 large tents for social gatherings.

How do I Register?

First: Contact the campground directly online at info@flamborovalley.com to register. They will return your email with confirmation. Or phone the campground at 905-659-5053 and leave a message.

Second: Go to the OPA website at opafcrv.ca and register your intention to attend so that we know how many to expect.



Highlights of the Voting Delegates' Meeting

Sunday March 1, 2026

Membership

As of March 3, 2026

FCRV.....1397 (807 paying + 546 life)
Region 7..... 63
Ontario..... 51
Nova Scotia.....8
New Brunswick.....1
British Columbia.....2

OPA Roll Call

Executive Delegates.....8/9
Committee Delegates.....6/7
Chapter Delegates2/5

QUORUM WAS ACHIEVED

There are 5 chapters within OPA
Brantford Sundowners.....3 families
Meandering Mohawks.....6 families
Ruf'n' Redi.....6 families
Sarnia 4 T's.....5 families
Tri-County Travellers.....18 families

Treasurer's Report

As of March 1, 2026

Bank Balance.....\$15, 066.71
GIC Investments.....\$ 16, 731.87
Total Assets.....\$31, 798.78

Scholarship

As of May 1, 2025

Bank Account.....\$4,664.70
GIC Investments.....\$14, 651.56
Total Assets.....\$ 19, 316.26

Charitable status was regained once the annual reports were filed with the government.

Applications for Scholarships due JUNE 1

Contact Dave Skillings for more info

Website

Webmaster Dave Warrington has updated the website to include registration for both Spring OPA and Retiree campouts. All chapters are asked to share this information with your members and encourage them to register online for both of these campouts.

Format of Future Campouts

Based on the attendance at our Spring OPA campout at Flamboro Valley RV Park, a decision will be made whether or not to schedule future campouts during the week, when there's more availability and cheaper prices, or continue scheduling campouts that span weekends.





In Memoriam

Feb. 2025	Ralph Deline	Past OPA President Past President Ruf'n'Redi	Chatham
Mar. 2025	Terry Swanburg	Past Region 7 Director Past Ont. Prov. Director Past OPA President Tri-County Traveller member	Cambridge
May 2025	Pat Richardson	Meandering Mohawks	Burlington
June 2025	Noreen Smith	Past Can. Legislation Director Wandering Canadians	Guelph
Oct. 2025	Connie Reese	Past Ontario Teen Queen	Kingston
Feb. 2026	Fred Ticknor		



Up-Coming 2026 Events

April	Trout Fishing Derby	Springwater Conservation—Aylmer, Ont.*
May	Spring OPA Campout	Flamboro Valley Park, Puslinch, Ont
June	Retiree Rally	Norwich, Ontario
July	Campvention 2026	Huron, South Dakota
August	Thunder In the Valley	near Sparta, Ontario **
September	Fall OPA Campout	to be announced

*contact Lew Acre for info lewacre@gmail.com

** contact Shelley Scott for details myemmie1@gmail.com



Shari is Senior Consultant with Campground Consulting Group, helping developers evaluate the viability of new campground projects. She and husband, Craig, previously owned Geneseo Campground for twenty-five years, gaining extensive hands-on experience in park operations. Shari holds Lifetime Park Operator Certification and graduated from the Oglebay School of RV Park and Campground Management. She has served as President and Treasurer of the Illinois Campground Association and was honored with the National ARVC Chairman’s Award for her industry contributions.

In her community, Shari chaired the Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee and later served as Vice President and President of the board. Before purchasing the campground, she was Vice President of Community Banking at American National Bank.

Shari and Craig have long supported the Illinois State Association, currently support the Florida State Association, and FCRV, launching programs that promote fellowship. Their service has earned multiple honors including Hank Nathan Lifetime Achievement Award.

Platform Statement

FCRV stands at a pivotal time in its 77-year history. Our constitution states we were formed “to encourage people of North America and elsewhere to participate in recreational activities which protect, conserve, and defend natural resources set aside by the Government,” and “to promote physical fitness, self-reliance, sound camping and hiking skills, an appreciation of nature, and ecological dependence.” These founding principles define our purpose, yet over time we have drifted from this focus.

Today’s campers are eager to learn sound camping skills while actively protecting and conserving natural resources. Industry surveys by RVIA and KOA reveal a shift in camping culture: campers are diverse in age, ethnicity, and interests. While all generations show interest in camping and RV ownership, Millennials represent the fastest-growing group. Raised with technology, they rely on smartphones for information and inspiration. Growth and relevance depend on FCRV meeting their expectations while continuing to serve existing members.

Younger generations value meaningful experiences but have limited time and busy schedules, requiring efficient, rewarding getaways. Adaptation is necessary for survival but also presents an opportunity to thrive. Our messaging, programs, and policies must evolve to reflect changing family dynamics, time constraints, the role of electronics, and shifting camping priorities.

The commitment and dedication of all FCRV members and my experience in volunteer roles, prepare us to implement the necessary changes. Making our programs relevant, our chapters welcoming, and streamlining organizational processes will bring the fun back to FCRV.

Together, we will grow, endure, and ultimately thrive.



Chairman - 2017 National Campvention;
Team Leaders – 3 additional National Campventions
Chairman of 2013 and 2018 National Retiree Rally;
National Retiree Treasurer - 11 years

Linda and husband David have received several
National Awards including Hank Nathan Lifetime
Achievement Award in 2023

Additional Leadership Organizations -
Member - Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary since
1972; many leadership positions on local, State and
National levels, including 10 years as National
President of the Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary.
Platform Statement

Family camping has been a part of my life since
1961 when my parents joined NCHA and we began
our yearly vacations to the National Campventions. I
met my husband at the 1967 National Campvention
and, when we married in 1970, we received a
membership to this wonderful family organization. I
have seen NCHA/FCRV flourish from it's heyday in
the 1980's and 1990's and I have witnessed the
decline of not only our organization but many other
camping organizations.

My heart is in this organization and I feel I have the
ability to lead us back to the family organization I
know we could and should be. As you have heard
me say many times, ours is a member owned
organization and as such I believe the owners
should have accessibility and transparency
regarding information pertinent to the organization
they own. I want us to get back to camping with
family and friends. Do I realize we will not be the
large expansive group of the 1970s, of course. But I
do believe we can co-exist as owners and members
that still believe in the outdoors, conservation and
family.

With my experience as a legal secretary and the
leadership skills I have developed, I am certain I
have the qualifications, capabilities and ability to
lead this organization into the future. I look forward
to joining you in Huron South Dakota.



Resume

Linda Hennie - joined NCHA in 1961 with par-
ents;
became a member with husband upon marriage
in 1970, currently lifetime members
Family - husband David, 2 adult children, 7
grandchildren and 1 great grandchild,
Occupation -Legal secretary for 20 years; retired
1999.
NCHA/FCRV involvement - members of Day-
Hi-O
Trailseekers, Full-timers Retiree Chapter;
Quackers
Ohio State Directors - 8 years; Great Lakes
Regional Directors - 8 years; National Retiree
Directors - 6 years; National Parliamentarian- 6
years

