

CAMPING TODAY

THE VOICE OF FAMILY CAMPERS & RVERS

AUGUST 2026 ISSUE

04

A MESSAGE FROM LINDA HENNIE

Thank you for the honor of electing me as International President of Family Campers and RVers.

05

2026 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Our Scholarship Committee is very pleased and proud to share with you...

14

FOLLOW THE VINLANDFERTH PROJECT

The Vinlandferth Project is a Florida-based nonprofit veteran organization

[Printable PDF](#)



@officialfcrv

Table of Contents

Important Updates/Messages

- [From The President](#)
- [Scholarship Recipients](#)
- [From Your Trustees](#)
- [Welcome New Members](#)
- [Trustee Minute Notes](#)

Upcoming National Events

- [2027 National Events](#)

Event Schedule & Recaps

- [Event Calendar & Recaps](#)
- [The Treasures We Carried Home](#)

Camping Information & Tips

- [Summer Sun Dangers](#)

Wildlife & Conservation

- [Black Pine Animal Sanctuary](#)

From/About Our Members

- [Follow the Vinlandferth Project](#)

Past Camping Todays

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



Camping Today Staff

- Research Director: [Barb Turner](#)
- Chief Editor: [Linda Hennie](#)
- Proofreader: [Beth Muschinski](#)
- Proofreader: [Patricia Wittmeyer](#)
- Website: [Carl Fromholzer](#)
- Design and Layout: [Teresa Clanton](#)



Please send articles through the 'Camping Today' Submission Portal Page:

<https://fcrv.org/camping-today-submission-forms/>

National Officers

- President: [Linda Hennie](#)
- VP of Operations: [Linda English](#)
- Recording Officer: [Teresa Walorski](#)
- VP of Programs: [Ed Shaneyfelt](#)
- VP of Planning & Development: [Daniel Tinter](#)
- Comptroller: [Sandi Wingert](#)
- Immediate Past President: [Gerry Pfirsch](#)

Camping Today is a publication of the non-profit National Campers & Hikers Association, doing business as Family Campers & RVers (FCRV). Issue frequency is 12 (monthly) on line at www.fcrv.org. Publisher is Family Campers & RVers, 137 Crandon Blvd, Cheektowaga, NY 14225. National Office Phone #: 716-668-6242, fcrvoffice@gmail.com. Camping Today is supported through FCRV memberships. OWNER: National Campers & Hikers Association, doing business as Family Campers & RVers (non-profit), Bondholders, mortgage, and other security owners holding 1% or more of bonds, mortgages, and other securities: NONE. The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes has not changed in the last 12 months.



Share Your Story



Have you ever told someone else about a campout experience, a place you visited, a hobby you enjoy, etc.? Have you ever posted about your adventure on Facebook, Instagram or any other social media page?

If you posted/told someone about any/all/another of these things, you can write an article for Camping Today! If you are uncomfortable writing a story down, send us an outline at Camping Today, and we can expand your short story or outline into an article. Your story doesn't have to be only camping-related (i.e. Iceland Adventures). You could also plug your information into chatAI and see what pops up.

Please, please, include pictures with your submission.

Remember.....If you can TELL a story, you can WRITE a story! We want to hear about YOUR adventures!

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.

[Articles - Event Recap - Milestone](#)





Message From The President



Linda Hennie
International President

Hello, Fellow FCRV Members,

Thank you for the honor of electing me as International President of Family Campers and RVers. My family's FCRV journey began in 1959, and since marrying my husband, David, after meeting at the 1967 Campvention, we've been proud to serve this organization in many leadership roles. We remain committed to FCRV's mission and future.

I also want to thank Immediate Past President Shari Weber for her years of dedicated service. We appreciate her continued support as Membership Data Consultant. Shari will be monitoring the database as new members join and current members renew.

The National Office has been handling this task which requires commitment and attention to great detail. Shari has volunteered her time and energy into seeing that our membership is accurately recorded. Thank you, Shari, for your interest and willingness to serve our members in this important undertaking.

FCRV offers outstanding programs and opportunities for members of all ages. As we expand our outreach through social media and electronic communications, I encourage everyone to help showcase the fun and fellowship we enjoy by sharing your events with Camping Today.

FCRV is a member-driven organization, and your ideas matter. Camping Today will soon feature an "Asked and Answered" section, and I invite you to email your questions or suggestions to FCRV.president@gmail.com.

I look forward to serving you and sharing future updates. Until we meet around the campfire, safe travels and be well.

--Linda Hennie, International President





2026 Scholarship Recipients



2026 Scholarship Recipients

By Stan & Fran Vozar, Scholarship Directors

Our Scholarship Committee is very pleased and proud to share with you the 2026 Hank Nathan International NCHA/FCRV Scholarship recipients. Scholarship scores were tallied individually based on their Letter of Introduction, Letters of Recommendation (at least one from a member of FCRV), Grades and Transcripts, as well as their love for camping, community service, and time management.

The 2027 Scholarship Campaign will be announced in the December 2026 Edition of Camping Today.

Ian Burns

Herkimer County Community College
Herkimer, New York
Major: Undecided
\$2725.00
Affiliation: River Rovers

Natalie Carey

Oakland University
Rochester, Michigan
Major: Nursing
\$2700.00
Affiliation: Nature Nuts

Emily Crombie

University of Connecticut
Storrs, Connecticut
Major: Psychology
\$2400.00
Affiliation: CT Cardinals

Katie Kurburski

Western Governors University
Salt Lake City , Utah
Major: Masters Degree of Science. Nursing
\$2900.00
Affiliation: Traverse City Travelers

Madison Mitchell

Washington College
Washington, Maryland
Major: Business Management
\$2300.00
Affiliation: Campfire Cutups

Porter Slattery

Drury University
Springfield, Missouri
Major: Accounting, Finance, Economics
\$2500.00
Affiliation: Independent

Ella Vozar

Ohio University
Athens, Ohio
Major: Nursing
\$2700.00
Affiliation: Cuyahoga Patriots

Lindsey Vozar

Miami of Ohio
Oxford, Ohio
Major: Kinesiology pre-med
\$2800.00





What is the Job of a Trustee?

By a past Trustee

A Trustee is much more than an officer, they are a volunteer, leader, and fellow camper dedicated to making Family Campers the best it can be. Trustees are the elected officers of the National Campers & Hikers Association, d/b/a Family Campers & RVers, and are responsible for guiding the organization, representing it to the public, and overseeing its operations.

Each Trustee works closely with Regional, State/Provincial, and Program Directors to stay connected with members and ensure the organization serves its mission. Trustees devote an average of 15 or more hours each week attending meetings, responding to communications, supporting leaders, and promoting Family Campers. They do this without pay, often sacrificing personal and family time while covering many of their own expenses.

When Trustees wear matching logo shirts, it symbolizes a unified leadership team working together on behalf of the membership.

Trustees make decisions based on input from members and with the goal of strengthening Family Campers for everyone not for personal recognition. They deserve our appreciation and support for their commitment and service.

Please join us in supporting the 2026–2027 Board of Trustees: Linda Hennie, President; Linda English, Vice President Operations; Ed Shaneyfelt, Vice President Programs; Daniel Tinter, Vice President Planning & Development; Teresa Walorski, Recording/Corresponding Officer; and Sandi Wingert, Comptroller.





Welcome New Members



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

Muxlow, Randy	Muxlow, Diane	MI	Referred by: Chapter: Camping Nomads
Musial, Isabella		CO	Referred by: Chapter: Woodland Wookies
Hoagland, Zelia		NE	Referred by: Debbie Hoagland
McCormick, Keeley	Dobson, Jacob	NC	Referred by: Chapter: Raleigh Road Runners
Wahl, Susie		WY	Referred by: Spring Outing

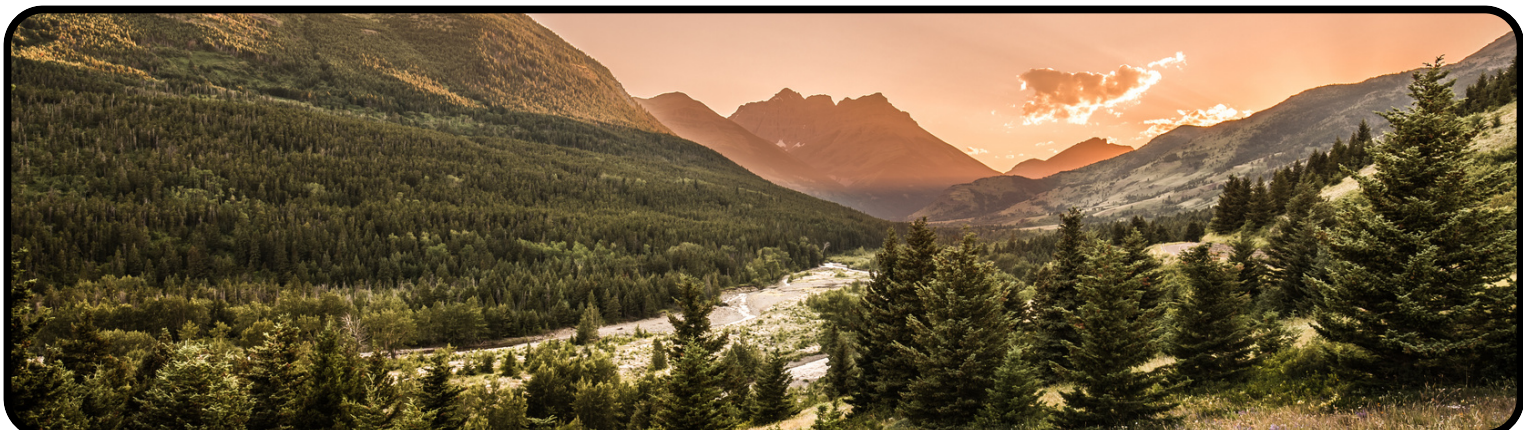


Trustee Meeting Notes



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](#).



2027 National Events

Upcoming information and registration for the 2027 national events will be released in the September issue of 'Camping Today'





Event Schedule & Recaps



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



The Treasures We Carried Home



The Treasures We Carried Home

By Teresa and Tim Clanton

What began as Gerry's Travel Along in Cheyenne, Wyoming, became far more than a caravan headed to Campvention 2026 in Huron, South Dakota. It became a journey of friendship, laughter, and memories that will travel with us long after the miles have faded.

Seventeen rigs began the adventure together, stopping at historic Fort Laramie, exploring Wall Drug and the Badlands, and adapting to changing weather with an extra night in Mitchell. Along the way, more friends joined the caravan until 24 rigs rolled into the South Dakota State Fairgrounds together a sight none of us will soon forget.

Once Campvention officially began, the adventure continued. Opening ceremonies welcomed campers from across the country, and as First Timers Chairs, we had the privilege of greeting 16 First Timers into the Family Campers & RVers community. A lighthearted treasure hunt, complete with duck whistles and the cheerful call of "WONO!", helped break the ice and create smiles that lasted throughout the week.

Campvention offered something for everyone. We were reminded that the greatest moments are often the simplest ones. Before long, it was time to fold chairs, pack rigs, exchange one last hug.



Click Image To Enlarge

As we reflected on our journey home, we realized the greatest treasure wasn't found at any destination. It was discovered in the friendships strengthened, the new friends welcomed, the laughter shared, and the memories created together. We went looking forward to a destination. We came home carrying a treasure.

"Until we meet again... somewhere down the road."



Summer Sun Dangers



Summer Sun Dangers

By Joe Boswell, International DASAT Director

Summer heat can quickly become dangerous, especially when temperatures and humidity climb above 90°F. Prolonged exposure to extreme heat can lead to heatstroke, a life-threatening condition that occurs when the body's temperature rises to 104°F or higher and can no longer cool itself.

Signs of Heatstroke

- Body temperature of 104°F or higher
- Confusion, agitation, slurred speech, or unusual behavior
- Hot, red skin (dry or heavily sweating)
- Nausea or vomiting
- Rapid breathing and racing heartbeat
- Throbbing headache
- Seizures or loss of consciousness

If someone shows these symptoms, seek emergency medical care immediately.

What to Do

- Move the person to a cool, air-conditioned area.
- Remove excess clothing.
- Cool the body with cold water, wet towels, ice packs (especially on the neck, head, and groin), or a cool shower if available.
- Continue cooling the person until emergency help arrives.

Prevention Tips

- Drink plenty of water, coffee, soda, and alcohol do not replace proper hydration.
- Wear lightweight, breathable clothing.
- Limit strenuous outdoor activities during the hottest part of the day.
- Take frequent breaks in the shade or air conditioning.

- Allow your body time to adjust when traveling to hotter climates.
- Be aware that some medications and medical conditions can increase heatstroke risk.
- Never leave children or pets in a parked vehicle.

Who Is Most at Risk?

- Young children and older adults
- Athletes and outdoor workers
- People with heart or lung disease
- Individuals who are overweight or not accustomed to extreme heat
- Enjoy your summer safely by staying hydrated, pacing yourself, and planning outdoor activities during the cooler morning or evening hours.



Source: Mayo Clinic

[Mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/heat-stroke/symptoms-causes-20353581](https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/heat-stroke/symptoms-causes-20353581)



Black Pine Animal Sanctuary



Black Pine Animal Sanctuary

By Angie Shaneyfelt, IN State Director

Ed and I traveled to Black Pine Animal Sanctuary on July 26, to deliver the Wildlife Grant that I received at the Huron Campvention. We met with Trey who is the operations manager. He took Ed and I on a short walk to see the improvements they are currently working on. Black Pines took in 10 foxes last year and are now in the process of building a fox (and small cat) habitat.

<https://www.bpsnactuary.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-Annual-Report.pdf>

The story regarding the 10 foxes is on page 7.



While on our walk we also got to see the enclosure they finished last year for Patronus (he loves his pool), that is also on page 7 of their annual report.

Check out page 8 of the report, donations by National Campers Hikers (from last year)!

The sanctuary was established to provide refuge to displaced, captive-raised exotic animals for the “rest of their lives” and to educate people about responsible animal care and conservation. This little organization has pulled at my heart strings since I first went there years ago.





Black Pine Animal Sanctuary



Some Fox facts from Black Pines Sanctuary Facebook page:

BPAS is home to 12 red foxes, but only 3 of them have red fur! Why is that you ask? Color mutations were bred into the red foxes so they would have unique colors and patterns, inevitably regaining consumer interest in the fur and pet trades. They may all have different colored fur, but the reasons they should NOT be pets are the same across the board.

Did you know that at 6 months old they begin to smell like skunk? Unlike skunks, there is no scent gland to remove. This musky smell is in their urine, feces, and oil glands on their skin. Visit us on a humid, windy day, and you'll know what we're talking about!

Many people know foxes dig, but did you know they're avid climbers, too? Owners struggle to keep them properly contained. Notice how each of our fox habitats has a roof next time you visit!

Although in the canine family, did you know foxes are not actually domesticated like dogs? Despite what breeders will tell you, domestication takes thousands of years. Being raised in captivity does NOT mean domesticated.

If you're considering adding a new furry friend for your household, please consider adopting from a local humane society! There are thousands of domestic animals waiting for their perfect family!

Thank you, FCRV/Wildlife Refuge & Conservation, for your grant to Black Pine Sanctuary.





Follow the Vinlandferth Project



Follow the Vinlandferth Project *By Barb Turner*

The Vinlandferth Project is a Florida-based nonprofit veteran organization building a full-scale, historically accurate replica of a 49-foot, 9th-century Gokstad Viking longship. A crew of 25–30 members, most of them military veterans, plans to sail and row the vessel from Denmark to Pensacola, Florida, following the historic North Atlantic route used by Erik the Red and other Norse explorers.

The voyage supports veteran mental health, teamwork, and resilience while honoring Viking history. The expedition will travel through Scotland, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland, and Newfoundland before continuing via the St. Lawrence River, Great Lakes, Chicago, the Mississippi River, and finally to Pensacola, with arrival planned for late summer 2027.

Camping Today readers may be especially interested because Dick Wisby, grandson of former National Director Jean Wisby, has been selected as a crew member. A lifelong enthusiast of Viking history and Norse culture, Dick recently traveled to Denmark to begin training for the expedition.

The project combines authentic Viking craftsmanship with modern navigation equipment, safety gear, and extensive crew training to prepare for the challenging Atlantic crossing.

Follow the Vinlandferth Project and Dick's journey at vinlandferth.com and on Facebook.

FROM DENMARK
to Pensacola...
BY OAR.

ARRIVING IN
PENSACOLA
SUMMER
2027

A crew of **25** men and women are preparing to row a replica Viking ship from Denmark to Pensacola next summer.

A MISSION BEYOND THE VOYAGE
Many of the crew are military veterans. This journey is about improving mental health, facing challenges together, and proving what's possible.

BUILDING MORE THAN A SHIP
When they land in Pensacola, the goal is to build Vinland Firth, a working replica of a medieval Viking village.

NO ENGINE. JUST OARS.
The 50-foot ship will be powered by teamwork and strength.

BRUTAL CONDITIONS.
Cold waters. Open ocean. Months at sea. No easy days ahead.

SAFETY FIRST.
Safety vessels will follow the ship, as they will have very limited GPS.

STRONGER TOGETHER.
This is more than a voyage—it's a mission of purpose, resilience, and hope.

LET'S WELCOME THEM HOME.
Pensacola, are you ready?





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



Generous Donors

Fuller \$500.00 Honor Roam'n Oaks chapter, MI
Von Rump \$250.00 Honor/Memory - Sue Von Rump
Rausch \$100.00 Honor - Ed & Angie Shaneyfelt
Ittel \$50.00 Honor/Memory - Ellis Ittel
Fowler \$100.00 Honor/Memory - Charlotte Fowler
Westerhouse \$100.00 Memory - Tom Westerhouse
Mackenzie \$50.00 - Memory Don Mackenzie
Grant \$25.00 - Honor - Christina Lucas(Daughter)
Nancy Edgar \$50.00 - Honor/Memory - Juanita Woolworth

Anonymous \$100.00 Honor/Memory - Dick Carey
Anonymous \$500.00 Honor - Amy DeCamp
Anonymous \$50.00 Memory - Ralph & Daisy Sulek
Anonymous \$100.00 Memory - Wayne & Eva Morgart
Anonymous \$500.00 Honor - FFCC chapter & its officers, especially especially Loretta Herbert

Lockett \$1,000.00	Anonymous \$500.00
Smye \$250.00	Anonymous \$100.00
Weber \$200.00	Anonymous \$100.00
English \$200.00	Anonymous \$100.00
Wingert \$200.00	Anonymous \$100.00
Newell \$100.00	Anonymous \$25.00
Lins \$50.00	Anonymous \$25.00
Walorski \$25.00	Anonymous \$200.00
Sardzinski \$25.00	Anonymous \$100.00
Sygrove \$100.00	Anonymous \$200.00
Hennie \$100.00	Anonymous \$68.00
Parke \$100.00	Anonymous \$100.00
Sygrove \$40.00	Anonymous \$100.00
	Anonymous \$25.00
	Anonymous \$25.00
	Anonymous \$100.00
	Anonymous \$100.00
	Anonymous \$25.00

2026 Tracker

\$6,958.00
2026 Total

Family Campers and RVers Donation Form

Tax ID: 16-0872172
501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization

Donor Information

- Name: _____
- Email: _____
- Phone: _____

An acknowledgement letter will be sent to the above email address

Donation Details

Donation Amount:

- \$25
- \$50
- \$100
- \$250
- Other: \$ _____

Payment by Check # _____ (made payable to Family Campers & RVers)

Optional: In Honor/Memory of

- Name: _____
 - Please notify:
 - Name: _____
 - Address: _____
-

Acknowledgment

Would you like to be acknowledged in our publications?

- Yes
 - No
-

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Thank you for your generous support! Your contribution may be tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Please retain this form for your records.