



## Association Officers

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Chaparral  
Colorado Columbines  
Cowboy Ambassadors  
Cuatro Estados  
GMC Mountainaires  
High Plains Drifters  
Pikes Peak Rollers  
Rocky Mountain  
Rocky Mountain Coaches for Christ  
Rocky Mountain Monacos  
Smokey Bear  
Southern Colorado Majestics  
Western Slope Rovers

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Nevada Gypsies  
No. Nevada Prospectors  
Red Rock Rovers  
Rex-A-Haulics  
Salty City Ramblers  
Utah Eagles  
Vegas Vagabonds

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Arizona  
Arizona Sun Chasers  
Desert Roadrunners  
Desert Rovers  
Frustrated Maestros Rocky  
Mountain Rockers  
GMC Saguaro Jetset  
Saguaro Vagabonds  
San Tan  
Southern Arizona  
Sun Country Road Runners  
Tucson Drifters  
Tumbleweeds  
Weekenders



## VISION STATEMENT

**Through its character, behavior and actions, RMMA and the Rocky Mountain Area will be seen as the preeminent area and area association within FMCA and will present the organizational and functional model that all other areas will look to for leadership and guidance.**

## NEWS FROM RMMA

Greetings, Everyone! I hope everyone is enjoying their winter, and for those of you who stayed home, I hope the weather is starting to warm up for you.

We have been very busy this winter. We started the New Year out with the Arizona chapter in Quartzsite, AZ, and then went on to Yuma. While in Yuma we had lunch with some of the Salty City Ramblers. We then attended the Western Area Rally in Indio, and then we went back to Quartzsite, AZ, for the RV Show where we worked the FMCA booth. Most of your RMMA officers participated in that event and worked very hard explaining FMCA benefits to prospective members and answering questions for current members. Altogether we picked up over 100 new family members, plus some commercial members. While there we also had a great lasagna dinner with the Red Rock Rovers chapter. It is always fun to see everyone and we look forward to next year.

We then headed to Pomona, CA, for FMCA's 79<sup>th</sup> International Convention. It was one of the best conventions we have attended in years. We had 3,213 coaches in attendance, which included 2,332 family coaches and 881 commercial coaches. The Chapter Fair was great fun, and some of the Rocky Mountain Area chapters that attended even managed to meet some prospective members. Thanks for participating. A great big thanks also goes to those of you who volunteered at this convention. We appreciated all of your help, and I hope you had fun along the way. We had great comments about the entertainment, and the seminars were well attended. With great weather and great entertainment, we couldn't go wrong!

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAMBLE NEWS** – Plans are coming together for our 25<sup>th</sup> Rocky Mountain Ramble, October 15-18, 2008. Our theme this year is "Black Tie & Blue Jeans" with nostalgia from the '50s and '60s. There will be water and electric at each site for the first 525 registered, 3 breakfasts, crafts, quilting class, red hat tea, ice cream social, games and contests, entertainment, sock hop, chapter talent night, golf tournament, commercial exhibits, coach displays, chapter fair, pet parade, car show, seminars, chapter newsletter and chapter member participation contest and more! We are excited about this one folks!! **Online and phone**

**registration is now open, so register early. Congratulations to Bruce and Jane Battey for being the first to register!**

I know many of you have your October meetings scheduled in Farmington. If you want us to try and schedule a room for your meeting or get-together, let Virginia Hamilton, Region 2 VP, know as soon as possible. Her contact information can be found on the back page.

**MESSAGE FROM YOUR SECRETARY – CAROL CHRISTENSEN**

Greetings from sunny Arizona! I am so glad to finally be out of the Colorado snow. Unfortunately, I had to miss out on the Western Area Rally in Indio, CA, and working the FMCA booth in Quartzsite, AZ, due to my husband having surgery in December. The good news is we're here now and were able to attend FMCA's 79<sup>th</sup> International Convention in Pomona, CA, last week. We saw many familiar faces from the Rocky Mountain Area...but not nearly enough. So much time, effort and money is spent putting on these big conventions I would like to see more of you supporting this wonderful organization whenever possible.

The weather in Pomona couldn't have been better and the entertainment was terrific! I enjoyed learning new crafts, meeting new people, and attending some great seminars (something I don't have time to do during our Ramble).

A special moment for me in Pomona was to meet Becky Abegglen from FMCA's National Office. Becky & I work together preparing the Rambler and she's such a big help!

If your summer plans are taking you to the St. Paul, MN, area this year, plan to attend the FMCA 80<sup>th</sup> International Convention, July 14-17. I know you'll have a grand time!

**MESSAGE FROM YOUR REGION 3 VICE PRESIDENT – HARRY MONTGOMERY**

Don't miss out on our next Rocky Mountain Ramble (October 15<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup>). We are in the process of planning the best Ramble yet. For entertainment this year, we have a great lineup in the works. Our current plans are as follows:

**Wednesday Evening**                      The return of **Barnaby**. If you attended the Ramble in Farmington a few years ago, you might remember Barnaby. He had the audience roaring with laughter. One of the memorable items was getting Duane Pindell to climb under the stage looking for something.

**Thursday Evening**                      We are planning a **Sock Hop**. This will be preceded by a great **Car Show** in the midway during the afternoon. During the HOP, we are planning on ice cream and cake for everyone.

**Friday Evening**                      It currently looks like we will have the premier **Variety Show Band** from Albuquerque. This band consists of 10 musicians and they have great sounds from all the ages.

**Saturday Evening**                      Our second annual **Chapter Talent/Skit Night**. What a great evening of entertainment and fun we had in '07. We expect that '08 will be even better. We strongly encourage all chapters to get started with the planning for this event this year. Get your talented folks together, create a 15-minute (or less) skit and participate. It's great fun.

Also this year, we will be returning the **Bean Bag Baseball** and the **Bean Bag Toss** games. This is your chance to win a medal. Last year, the National Officers and Past National Officers put a team together for baseball and walked away with the Gold Medallions. I am sure that some of our folks would like to get a team together and beat the Nationals.

Again we will be having our annual **Golf Outing**. All you golfers get registered early and plan on joining us at the Riverview Golf Course. Prizes will be awarded, and lunch will be served.

And, last but not least, the **Ice Cream Social**, **Pet Parade**, **Three Breakfasts**, and an **Optional Dinner**. All meals will be served by FIVE STAR CATERING, a great "local" caterer.

## **MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAPTER FAIR CAPTAIN – JUDY JARDINE**

The Rocky Mountain Ramble will be held October 15 - 18, 2008. We will be returning to McGee Park in Farmington, New Mexico, to celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> Ramble with a theme of "Black Tie & Blue Jeans." Chapter officers - what better time to promote your individual chapter benefits to non-chapter members! Last year, first-time attendees and non-chapter members flooded the Chapter Fiesta room, and many new members were signed up for our chapters. We have a fun theme to work with so let's plan on increasing the number of chapters represented this year. More details will be coming out soon, but it is not too early to begin planning your table. If you have any questions, call Judy Jardine at 480-981-5840 (home) or 480-818-1308 (cell).

**CHAPTER RECRUITMENT** – Did you know FMCA will help your chapter with recruitment? Here are the two options for chapters to consider:

**OPTION 1** – FMCA will assume up to \$125 of the cost of postage for a recruitment mailing. The process is easy. Just send FMCA your material (from one to three pieces front and back), copy ready, for mailing to a specified targeted area. FMCA will take care of printing the number of copies needed and will work with you to keep it within the \$125 allowance if desired. To be eligible for this chapter benefit the following year, your chapter must track responses to the mailing and provide the results to the Chapter Services Department.

**OPTION 2** – FMCA also offers the opportunity to promote your chapter and FMCA in a local newspaper. Your chapter can place an ad in a local newspaper to invite interested motorhome owners to join your group or to attend a meeting. Just send a copy of the ad to FMCA along with a paid receipt for the ad, and your chapter will receive a reimbursement check of up to \$125 one time per year. If you are interested in doing this or have any questions, contact FMCA Chapter Services and they will help you every step of the way.

**CHAPTER SEARCH INITIATIVE** – FMCA began a new initiative to help non-chapter members find a chapter also. New members **who have not joined a chapter after being an FMCA member for 6 months** are being sent an e-mail directing them to the chapter segment on the FMCA Web site. Once there, non-chapter members can identify specific chapters they would like to know more about. Their request is then sent from FMCA to the chapter contact for the chapter(s) identified with a copy to the Area VP. When I receive the copy of the request, I always follow up with the chapter contact to make sure they have responded to the non-chapter member. Chapter contacts, as you receive the names of the interested members, I would appreciate it if you would send them a quick response and include your chapter's rally schedule and a welcome to join you at one of your rallies.

## **FLYING J UPDATE**

Flying J has revised the Real Value Card Program. The old program was outdated (one-cent/gallon standard discount, maximum discount with restaurant or merchandise purchase was 2-1/2 cents/gallon). The new program does require a restaurant or merchandise purchase, but the lowest discount with the new program (3 cents) is more than the maximum discount with the old program (2-1/2 cents). The new program went into effect February 1 as far as earning discounts for March; however, the old program's one-cent discount was still in effect for the month of February. Also, there are per-month gallon limits with the new program...100 gallons gasoline and 300 gallons diesel per month. The previous program had a limit of 1,000 gallons, which no one really reached. Flying J has been trying to educate cardholders during February. This month (March) is when you will see the change. Monthly purchases determine the fuel discount level for the next calendar month of your fuel purchases. If you fail to purchase fuel in the following month, your earned fuel discount will apply to the calendar month of your next fuel purchase. Flying J is interested in our members' feedback so if you have any, let FMCA or me know. You can review the changes on line at: <http://www.flyingj.com/programs/rvclub.cfm>.

**SPECIAL REQUEST** – I would appreciate it if each chapter could send me a short description of their chapter. It only needs to be one paragraph. It can include the area you cover; what type of activities you have at your rallies, etc. At the present time, I send a letter to all new non-chapter members welcoming them to the Rocky Mountain Area, and I also include a list of all the chapters with contact names. I would like to include each chapter's description on this list. I would also like to include this chapter information on our Web site.

You can e-mail me the information at: [arein1@gmail.com](mailto:arein1@gmail.com). If you have any questions on this, feel free to contact me. I appreciate you helping me with this endeavor.

**RMMA Executive Board Information** – It was brought to our attention by a member that we were not including the contact information on any of our officers in the Rambler. As a result, we now are including this information in the Rambler. Sorry for the oversight! If any of you have any suggestions on how to make the Rambler "better," don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you!!

**Congratulations to the following Chapters who have anniversaries in January and March:**

15-year Anniversary – High Plains Drifters, January 9, 2008

25-year Anniversary – Desert Roadrunners, March 26, 2008

15-year Anniversary – Weekenders, March 27, 2008

**Dates to remember –**

FMCA's 80<sup>th</sup> International Convention – July 14-17, 2008, St. Paul, Minnesota

25<sup>th</sup> Rocky Mountain Ramble – October 15-18, 2008, Farmington, New Mexico

FMCA's 81<sup>st</sup> International Convention – March 16-19, 2009, Perry, Georgia

FMCA's 82<sup>nd</sup> International Convention – July 20-23, 2009, Bowling Green, Ohio

That's all for this time. I hope everyone has a great Spring and I look forward to seeing you at FMCA's International Convention in July in Minnesota, if not before.

Until next time – be healthy and safe!!



Allen Rein  
President, Rocky Mountain Motorcoach Association



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