The Peach State Traveler

Year 29, Issue 10<sup>~</sup> FMCA PST Chapter Newsletter <sup>~</sup> October 2021

## 2021 Officers

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#### Future SEA (Southeast Area) Rally

www.seafmca.org SEA President–Patricia Voyna email: pfvoyna@marvsdiesel.com SEA Georgia VP – Chris Miskell email: <u>miskellrv@gmail.com</u> February 9-12, 2022, SUN n FUN, Lakeland, Florida February 7-10, 2024, SUN n FUN, Lakeland, Florida

#### **Future FMCA International Convention**

Winter 2022 – March 23-26, 2022, Tucson, AZ Summer 2022 – August 24-27 Lincoln, Nebr. Winter 2023 – March 15-18, Perry, GA Summer 2023 – August 23-26, Gillette, WY Winter 2025 – March 12-15, Perry, GQ Summer 2027 – July 14-17, Gillette, WY

\* = Contingent on successful contract negotiations.

#### <u>2021 RALLY HOSTS</u>

Wagon Master –

\*Weekend different from 1<sup>st</sup> weekend. \*\*Special rally due to distance from Atlanta ###Our Bylaws require members to host a rally. Ideally, three couples should be able to manage a great rally weekend.

#### November 5-7 TBD

Millers

**December 3-5** – TBD Officers

## 2022 RALLY HOSTS

Hi campers. We are trying to get our calendar ready for next years camp outs. All members are supposed to host or co-host a rally. I know some of you don't camp much or at all anymore but there are still a couple of luncheons you could host. This is what we need for next year.

Please let me know as soon as you can what months you would like to have.

Thx, Libba Gruba, 770-365-6111

January Saturday January 8 - luncheon

February Saturday February 5 - luncheon

March camp host & cohost Friday- Sunday March 4-6

**April 1- 3, 2022** – TBA

TJ and Ginny Cooke

May 6-8 Patricia Voyna is planning on doing depending on her FMCA duties. Carrabelle, Florida

June camp host & cohost Friday - Sunday June 3-5

July camp host & cohost Friday- Sunday July 1-3

#### August 5-7

Esposito hosting

September camp host & cohost Friday - Sunday Sept 2-4

October camp host & cohost Friday- Sunday October 7-9

November camp host & cohost Friday- Sunday November 4-6

#### **PRESIDENTS CORNER – October 2021**

By Wiley Bowman

Our nominating committee, headed up by Doug Ralston, has done an outstanding job nominating a very capable slate of officers, all of which have agreed to accept their elected positions if chosen by the membership. Paper ballots were distributed to all members who attended the October rally in Americus. If you did not attend this rally, you will be provided a ballot from Kenlyn via email. Please complete the ballot and EMAIL it back to Doug Ralston (<u>dralston@mriwoodstock.com</u>.) We need all members to vote as a quorum is needed to make this election official.

Current officers are responsible for the December rally. We agreed that a **luncheon** in the Atlanta area would be more appropriate than a weekend rally due to various illness and health issues of several members. Hopefully, a luncheon would allow members who have not attended a rally lately, to attend a luncheon in December. If you have a favorite restaurant in the Atlanta area, who has really good food and preferably a private dining room (no charge for room}, please call, text or email me at your earliest convenience. (<u>wileybow@gmail.com</u>.) Hope to have a definite location before the November rally at Twin Oaks near Perry, GA.

Here is the link to the new Facebook page to invite your friends and chapters. <u>https://www.facebook.com/SEAFMCA</u>

## NATIONAL DIRECTOR REPORT

By Marvin Voyna

## **SECRETARY REPORT- October 2021**

By Kenlyn Sawyer

The October 2021 Rally was held at Brickyard Plantation Golf Club and RV Park in Americus, GA from October 1 - 3, 2021. Hosts were Carole and Kenlyn Sawyer. Special appreciation goes to Alan and Debbie Simons for planning the rally but had to leave early due to a family emergency. There was a total of 8 people in attendance for the weekend. Names of those in attendance are at the end of this report.

The PST meeting was held on Saturday evening, October 2, 2021 at the Hays House at the RV park. President Wiley Bowman opened the meeting by thanking the hosts for the weekend.

President Bowman announced the nominating committee members to nominate the 2022 – 2023 PST officers (for 2 years): Doug Ralston, Jim Hollis, Terri Jones, Ron Castor and Kenlyn Sawyer.

The slate of officers on behalf of the nominating committee:

President – Terri Jones Vice President – Ron Castor Treasurer – Terry Carlyle Secretary – Kenlyn Sawyer National Director – Marvin Voyna Assistant National Director – Steve Matthews

Ballots will be distributed and collected for those in attendance. Ballots will be distributed via email to the PST members. Ballots will be counted and announced at the November rally meeting. Here are the upcoming rallies. Please contact Wagon Master, Libba Gruba to sign up for a 2022 rally. **Please contact your hosts** to **confirm your attendance.** 

November 5 - 7, 2021- Twin Oaks RV Park - Elko, GA - Miller

December 4, 2021 – Luncheon Location TBD - PST Officers

April 1- 3, 2022 - Location TBD - TJ and Ginny Cooke

May 6 - 8, 2022 - Location TBD - Marvin and Patricia Voyna

August 5 – 7, 2022 - Location TBD - Bill and Margie Esposito and Ron and Linda Castor

Secretary Report: Libba Gruba made a motion to accept the September Secretary and Treasury Reports as printed in September PST Newsletter. Nancye Glenn seconded. All approved.

MEMBERS: Beth Bennett; Wiley Bowman; Glenn; Gruba; Sawyer

## **RALLY REPORT – October 2021**

By - Carole and Kenlyn Sawyer

For the October rally, we returned to the Brickyard Plantation Golf Club and RV Campground in Americus, GA. Ed and Libba Gruba, John and Nancy Glenn, Beth Bennett, Wiley Bowman, Alan and Debbie Simons, Carole and Kenlyn Sawyer arrived on Wednesday and Thursday for the weekend. Thursday night's supper was at the 1800 Restaurant in town. Nobody went away hungry that night after heaping Mexican plates were served to all. Unfortunately, on Friday morning, Alan and Debbie Simons found out that their elderly cat was not doing well at home, so they had to leave early. We are grateful that they had planned the rally location and food for us prior to the rally. On Friday night, we went to The Station Restaurant in town for supper and several took desserts home. On Saturday morning, Carole's ham and cheese croissants were served for breakfast. We had the day free for football games, naps and visiting. Some drove to Plains, GA for ice cream and to see the celebrations for Former President Jimmy Carter's birthday. We met in the clubhouse called Hays House for a potato bar and covered dish for dinner. After dinner a short business meeting was held. The evening had time for many stories and fellowship. On Sunday morning, Goldberg's bagels and cream cheese were served for breakfast. Goodbyes were said until the next rally. We were glad to say goodbye to the gnats and to leave them in Americus. Signing off - see you in November in Elko, GA



SUNSHINE REPORT – October 2021 By Wanda Hollenbeck



## **Birthdays**

10-01 – Myra Stainback 10-09 – Donna Loudermilk 10-11 – Carol McCoy 10-13 – Bobby Moreman 10-28 – Margie Rankin 10-31 – Julia Newton



## **Anniversaries**

10-13 - John & Yvonne Cowan

## **TREASURES'S REPORT November 2019**

By: Terry Carlyle			
Beginning Balance	04-07-2021	\$2,271.31	65
Receipts:			
June Rally		11.00	
July Rally		25.21	
New Member		15.00	
Disbursements:			
Sunshine		15.82	
Ending Balance	09-30-2021	\$2,343.92	
REMEMBER EVERYONE MUST FILL OUT RALLY REPORTS			

JOPLIN, Mo. (KSNF) — A vehicle crashed into a railroad trestle near Racine, in southwest Missouri Monday afternoon.

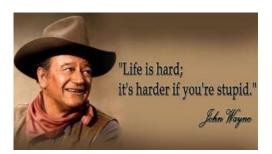


It was within sight of Seneca Rural Fire District's main station at Racine. Firefighters rushed into action getting the male driver and female passenger emergency assistance.

The driver, Sherman Ferguson, 83, and the passenger, Elaine Ferguson, 93, of Somers, Montana, both had moderate injuries and were taken to

the area hospital. Both were wearing seatbelts.

The clearance for the trestle is 9'9." The RV was a 13-feet tall 2013 Diplomat.



## Trivia

During the first quarter of the 20th century, new Americans arriving at Ellis Island were served Jell-O gelatin dessert as a treat to welcome them to America. Gelatin dessert was patented in 1845 and the Jell-O brand was created in 1897. The first flavors were strawberry, raspberry, orange and lemon.

## **Bumper sticker**

"Grumpy. It's not a mood ... it's a lifestyle!"

## Joke of the Week.

Reflections on our current times

• Half of us are going to come out of this quarantine as amazing cooks. The other half will come out with a drinking problem.

• This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog ... we laughed.

• I'm so excited – it's time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?

• Home-schooling is going well. Two students suspended for fighting and one teacher fired for drinking on the job.

• I need to practice social-distancing from the refrigerator.

• My body has absorbed so much soap and disinfectant lately that when I pee it cleans the toilet.



You could go nuts in this RV rental. If you want to turn some heads when you RV, try this Planters Nutmobile RV. The food company announced a contest where the grand prize is a two-night stay in

the Planters Nutmobile, a 26-foot RV-style vehicle shaped like a giant peanut. Inside the revamped Nutmobile are all the necessary amenities including a bed, couches, a dining table and a flat-screen TV. The contest winner was selected last Friday. They get to rent the unit for \$3.59 (the price of a jar of peanuts). It will be all set up for camping Oct. 1-3 along the waterfront in Duluth, MN.



recycled food transport USED FOOD HAULER "We're #1 in the #2 business" big school bus yellow pumper named the stool bus. Our Royal Flush, beats your Full House

## **Mother's Dictionary of Meanings**

**Dumbwaiter:** One who asks if the kids would care to order dessert.

**Feedback:** The inevitable result when the baby doesn't appreciate the strained carrots.

**Full Name:** What you call your child when you're mad at him. **Grandparents:** The people who think your children are wonderful even though they're sure you're not raising them right.

**Hearsay:** What toddlers do when anyone mutters a dirty word. **Independent:** How we want our children to be for as long as they do everything we say.

**Puddle:** A small body of water that draws other small bodies wearing dry shoes into it.

Show Off: A child who is more talented than yours.

**Sterilize:** What you do to your first baby's pacifier by boiling it, and to your last baby's pacifier by blowing on it and wiping it with saliva.

**Top Bunk:** Where you should never put a child wearing Superman jammies.

**Two-Minute Warning:** When the baby's face turns red and she begins to make those familiar-grunting noises.

Whodunit: None of the kids that live in your house.

# Creative mailboxes along the road

ByChuck Woodbury





Here is another installment of Mailboxes along the Road – unique, funny, outrageous and/or otherwise creative mailboxes the readers of RVtravel.com have spotted while traveling North America in their RVs (and sometimes without their RVs).

Marie Beschen took this in Beverly Hills, California, while she was walking around the neighborhood with friends. "I love taking pictures of unusual

mailboxes and this one struck my fancy," she wrote. Thanks for sending, Marie! Now send us some more mailbox photos!



Barry Haitt spotted this unusual creation – a motorcycle gas tank recycled as a mailbox. "I saw it while bicycling in a neighborhood in Marathon," he wrote.



We don't know who sent this, but we have a good idea the mailbox is owned by Airstream fans!



Frank Niehus sent us this photo. "We live in an air park so this is with the theme of the air park," he wrote. "If you're not familiar with an air park it's like a golf community but we have a community runway with our small airplanes in a hanger attached to or next to our house."



Rick Davidson snapped this photo in Brenland(?), Indiana – "corn country," he said. Well, that makes sense!

#### Trivia



#### Bishop applying lipstick

In the early days of television, the industry struggled to define its purpose. Then a small manufacturer of lipstick came along. In the year before Hazel Bishop began running TV commercials her profit was \$49,257. Three

years later her lipsticks earned her a one-year profit of \$10,100,682. Ad agencies were stupefied at what they'd thought was a promising novelty had become the most effective advertising medium in history. And money began to flow.

## **RV Fire Safety**

Check radiator and heater hoses monthly A pinhole-size leak in a radiator or heater hose can spray antifreeze on hot engine parts. Antifreeze contains ethylene glycol concentrate and water. When the water boils off, the remaining ethylene glycol can self-ignite at 782 degrees F. During your monthly fire inspection, check all hoses for firmness, clamp tightness and signs of leaking.

# Problem: "Poop mountain" forms in black tank

This reader question was answered by RV technician Chris Dougherty when he served as the technical editor of RVtravel.com.

#### Dear Chris,

We've been stationary for almost a month, so far. I've noticed what I think is a pyramid formed at the pipe base in the black tank. This has occurred twice in two weeks. I use one of those magic wands to clear it. We use probiotics in all tanks and Scott toilet paper. I use the flush king after every emptying. Any thoughts or suggestions? —*Alan* 

#### Dear Alan,

This is a common problem, and you're fortunate that you can actually see into your tank, as many RVers can't. The problem is a result of too little water in the black tank. This can be an RVer's error, or it can be a malfunction.

When it comes to sewage, water makes the world go 'round... and the sewage go down. For some people, they use no extra water in the holding tank because they are afraid to fill it up too quickly, especially if they're dry camping. Others, especially if they're on a seasonal site, leave the black tank valve open all the time, thinking everything will just drain, and it doesn't...causing a buildup of sludge. Some folks won't use chemicals, which can also do the same thing.

From the malfunction standpoint, the black tank system could have a leak. It could be as simple as a poorly sealing termination valve, or it could be more serious, like a cracked tank, or a failed pipe connection at the tank. If the tank has failed, there will be signs of leakage and odor. If your unit has an enclosed underbelly, there should be staining where the liquid has drained, and sometimes pooling which will weigh the underbelly enclosure down causing it to bow.

Finally, if the leak is in the valve, and this is the most common malfunction, it will be obvious when the cap is removed from the termination to dump the tank after use. If you are leaving your hose connected all the time, then there will be no sign of this, of course.

This is often caused by one of a couple of things: there is some stuff jammed in the o-ring part of the valve, the o-ring has failed, or the valve is in need of lubrication to make it close properly.

The best way to fix this is to service the valve, especially if it has been in use for a long time. To do this, disassemble the valve, clean the parts, replace the seals (<u>available on Amazon</u>), reassemble and lubricate using <u>Dow Corning 111 valve</u> <u>lubricant</u>.

Hope this helps!



My husband found this metal thing inside my washing machine. Figuring it came from the washer he spent a good hour on the web trying to figure out what it was so he could fix it... I knew what it was immediately. Washer is fine.



#### This "boaterhome" travels on land and water



Why tow a boat to the lake when you can drive it? That's the deal with the "Boaterhome." It's a boat, boat trailer and truck (actually a long, stretched van) all in one. Plus it's a head turner. It's guaranteed this most unusual RV will draw attention wherever it goes.

Creating a Boaterhome requires taking the cab of a Ford Eseries van and extending the chassis in order to accommodate the 28-foot boat. Inside, the boat/RV looks pretty much like any boat or RV — complete with bed, kitchen, bath and all regular amenities. So stay in a campground or moor at a boat dock. Here's what the website autoevolution.com says about this very unusual recreation vehicle:



The "boat" slides right out of the rear of the van, much like it would if it were on a traditional trailer.

"The Boaterhome is not a new invention. Records are sketchy, but it seems that at least two such companies made a product like this

one, with similar names. First, there was the Boaterhome made in Idaho, back in the mid-'80s, followed by the 1996 model Highwave Boatorhome 2000 made by Boatorhome Inc. from Ontario, Canada. The latter was first introduced at the Toronto International Boat Show and then, over in the U.S., at the 55th Miami International Boat Show. The reported price tag for it was \$180,000, which would be roughly \$312,000 in today's money, adjusted for inflation."

It's reported that there are only about 21 of the unusual vehicles in the world. They occasionally come up for sale. So keep your eyes open and if you want one, maybe you'll get lucky.

## A completely solar-powered motorhome. Is this your future?

By Russ and Tiña De Maris



Imagine driving your motorhome across the country. You never stop for fuel. You don't buy propane, gasoline, or diesel. Your rig doesn't pollute the atmosphere.

For a group of European students from the <u>Netherlands-based</u> <u>Eindhoven University of Technology</u>, they're not just imagining it, they're doing it. Is this your future as an RVer – a completely solar-powered motorhome?



They call it Stella Vita, "Life Star." Designed by a group that calls itself Solar Team Eindhoven, Stella Vita is putting a whole new spin on the thought of RV self-containment. It's

probably unlike any motorhome you've ever seen. The differences start right at the top. When underway, the rig's roof is a large solar panel field, 94 square feet of panels. But when in camp, the roof pops up, and allows for more panels to extend out, increasing the sun-catching area to 188 square feet. What can you do with 188 square feet of solar collection surface? The living quarters features electric living. Cooking and entertainment systems are all solar powered. In fact, with their emphasis on earth-friendliness, the designers have built in displays that indicate how much power is going where. That, they hope, will help users to think in energy-conserving terms in their own solar-powered motorhome.

Solar provides the driving force But the



But that power isn't just used for creature comforts. The team says those solar panels also provide the drive – a solar-powered motorhome with no need for external fuel. How far can you drive? Solar Team Eindhoven

takes off today for a trip through Europe. If their estimates hold true, Stella Vita will quietly motor its way to the southern tip of Spain, running up to 450 miles per day when Sol is good. Stella Vita is obviously a light vehicle. And it's a bit lighter on space than the average RVer is used to. The interior space for living is limited to just about six-and-a-half feet. But the space is "livable" for two, say the designers. The diminutive rig still offers a galley, sleeping space (with a bed), sofa, toilet and table. On a sunny day, the camper will be able to travel up to 453 miles. But it will take two to three days for it to fully recharge, depending on the weather.



Actual specifications about Stella Vita are a bit hard to come by. We'd love to know the rig's weight, battery storage capacity, and details on other important matters like fresh water supply, and more on that all-

important bathroom information. We'll work to get more information and fill you in.

Nevertheless, if this clever team can prove up Stella Vista now, imagine what the future might hold for other solar-powered motorhomes.

## Last year, there was a Mensa convention in

**San Francisco.** Mensa, as you know, is a national organization for people who have an IQ of 140 or higher.

Several of the Mensa members went out for lunch at a local cafe.

When they sat down, one of them discovered that their salt shaker contained pepper, and their pepper shaker was full of salt.

How could they swap the contents of the two bottles without spilling any, and using only the implements at hand?

Clearly -- this was a job for Mensa minds.

The group debated the problem and presented ideas and finally, came up with a brilliant solution involving a napkin, a straw, and an empty saucer.

They called the waitress over, ready to dazzle her with their solution: "Ma'am," they said," we couldn't help but notice that the pepper shaker contains salt and the salt shaker pepper."

But before they could finish... the waitress interrupted. "Oh -- sorry about that."

She leaned over the table, unscrewed the caps of both bottles and switched them.

There was dead silence at the Mensa table. Kinda reminds ya of the government, doesn't it?



RainX is a product that is highly recommended and should be on board every rig and applied to every windshield. Simply spray this stuff on your windshield, wipe clean and watch rain drops slide off of the glass like they are scared of you! I had a wiper motor fail once in a severe rainstorm in the North East. It grounded us for the night and we woke up to news that the storm was sticking around for the next few days. A fellow RVer at the campground we were staying gave me a bottle of RainX, hyped it and told me to apply to the windshield. We were able to drive through a terrible rain storm without wipers at all and I was amazed at how this stuff works! It's not recommended to push through without operating wipers but in a pinch, it worked wonders and I now apply the product before any trip as it cleans the window and works its rain repelling magic at the same time.





This RV looks like it might be in trouble passing beneath a low bridge, but we know enough about this European RV that its top half slides down, making for a much more road-friendly machine.



