

THE CHALLENGERS' NEWSLETTER

October 2023



A message from President Bounds

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Welcome back Challengers! It was so good to see everyone and catch up on their summer travels and adventures.

Our October rally at Sun Retreats Crystal River was a huge success. We had a total of 17 coaches/trailers in attendance which included three (3) visitors.

Our Hosts, Paul and Lucy Levine and our Co-Host, Barb Krna did not disappoint. As always we had a lot of delicious food, fun outings and a little excitement thrown in with a Tornado touching down within three quarter mile or less from the Campground. We were truly blessed when it missed us and we were all safe. We were also well fed with the return of Chef Joel & Jane with our delicious Pancake and Sausage breakfast. No one left hungry! Thanks!

Did you forget to pay for your Saturday night meal? Please send a check of \$8.00 per person to the Levine's'. They bought the food with their own money. Please pay your share.

Mike Bounds, National Director gave members an update on the elections in Gillette, Wyoming over the summer. Look for details in the minutes of the meeting.

Our Wagon Master has completed our 2024 schedule and has sent it out to members. Please pick a month to sign up to Host. Each month needs 2 Hosts. This makes it easier to put on a nice rally and not exhaust our Hosts.

Mike and I explored a Campground in Homosassa called Chassahowitzka River Campground. If you like to boat, canoe, kayak or just camp; this is a place you want to explore. It was very old Florida and beautiful. The water was crystal clear. The camp sites were above average in space with 36 sites with full hook up, 50 amps. The current cost is \$64.05 per day. They still honor 10% Good Sam discount.

Our September Rally had to be cancelled due to a Hurricane hitting Cedar Key a few days before we were to begin our Rally.

Several of us attended the services for a past member, Dan Hoover, who passed away on October 7th. Diane was shocked to see us all there but was happy to see us even though it was a sad occasion.

Prior to the October rally Nancy Ragland, Wayne and Brenda Cassada, and Mike and I attended a four day Planning Workshop in Lakeland at Sun N Fun. The purpose of this workshop was to plan and discuss the upcoming SEA Rally in Lakeland. The SEA Regional Rally's theme this year is "Find Yer Treasure At Lakeland in 2024". Plan to get to your Halloween Shops near you to pick up your Pirate Items. Nancy still needs volunteers for Donuts and Coffee and our Chapter Fair. Visit SEAFMCA.ORG for updates and registration form for this rally.

Election of Officers for 2024 were held. The following were elected to the 2024 Board.

President: Linda Bounds Vice President: Wayne Bittner Secretary: Patti Corbett

Treasurer: Lucy Levine National Director: Mike Bounds Alt. National Director: Ray Stiver

Installation of Officers will take place at the December Rally

A message from your National Director

The November issue of the FMCA magazine has Member vote for proposed changes to the FMCA Constitution on pages 22 ,23, and 24.

I used the QR Code to cast my vote. It took me less than a minute.

Be sure to vote before the deadline of December 31, 2023.

You can also use the paper ballot on page 23 and mail your vote in.

ROUND TABLE UPDATE Mike Bounds

The Challengers met after the business meeting with quite a turn out. We discussed Sewer Vents, plastic, steel, and aluminum vent covers. Lock lubricants, Tire age and proper tire pressures along with other discussions.

Be sure to be thinking about topics to discuss at our next Round Table discussion in November.

December Rally

Our December Rally is going back to Paradise Oaks RV Resort in Bushnell and our Board is our Hosts.

We plan to have our Christmas Bingo again with some fun prizes, Christmas Cookie Exchange, Our annual fundraiser/Auction and a silent auction. Other fun things are still being discussed.

Your first time? What is a Cookie Exchange?? Plan to bake four (4) dozen of one recipe. Bring an extra container for your Christmas Cookies you get from the exchange. Why 4 dozen? The idea is to have Christmas Cookies to share with family and friends that visits during the Holidays. Share cookies with your neighbor(s) or your mailman or take a plate as a house warming gift to a Holiday Party. NO you are not expected to eat them all yourselves. However, nothing is stopping you.

Our Annual Fundraiser/Auction: Each person brings a nice gift that you would want to keep for no more than \$25.00 each. Wrap them pretty for Christmas. We then auction them off to raise money for a worthy cause that we vote on. Half will go to the group we pick and the other half goes to our Chapter to be used to pay for stamps, cards, paper, ink, folders, and other operating items. We are also trying to raise money to put on a nice 35th Anniversary celebration in March, 2025. All members are expected to participate and it's a lot of laughs. Roger is our Santa for the Auction. Wine or Liquor is ok to bring, but **NO FOOD ITEMS** for the Auction.



- ✓ To make changes to your FMCA Account go to membership@fmca.com. This also includes your *new address* and your *new email address*.
- ✓ Please NOTE: If you change motor homes, please contact FMCA and let them know.
- ✓ Challengers' has a Facebook page. The FMCA Challengers. Check it out!
- ✓ **FMCA DUES MUST BE IN GOOD STANDING** to remain a Challenger!
- ✓ **Yearly dues are now due through December 31st. \$20.00 per year. Mail to Barbara Stiver, Treasurer**



We continue to keep our Challenger Members' in our prayers.

Roger Bentson, Marianne Bittner, Brenda Cassada, Homer Corbett, Jim Costa, Pete Hoyos, Michele Huntington, Paul Levine, Cyndi McAdams, Norma Connors, and Ray Stiver. We send our condolences to Diane Hoover in the passing of Dan on 10-7.



Birthday Wishes go out to our July, August, September, and October Birthdays':

July

Lucy Levine 7/7
Wayne Cassada 7/11

August

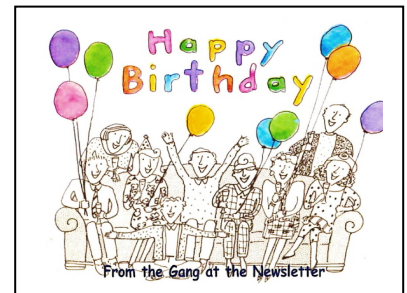
Angelo Liantonio 8/3
Wayne Bittner 8/12
Barb Krna 8/15

September

Nancy Ragland 9/3
Leona Kent 9/8
Cameron Bernard 9/14

October

Jenn Bernard 10/4
Mike Bounds 10/6
Homer Corbett 10/12
Brian Sindon 10/22
Marianne Bittner 00/29



July

Brian Sindon/Barb Krna 7/2
Paul/Norma Connors 7/8
Tom/Susan Dinsmore 7/16

August

Joel/Jane Kruse 8/28
Wayne/Brenda Cassada 8/29

September

Sam/Brenda Knight 9/2
Paul/Lucy Levine 9/15

October

Matt/Pauline Kucharczyk 10/5
Cameron/Jenn Bernard 10/20
Mike/Linda Bounds 10/20

Welcome Visitors
Welcome Visitors

Rudy and Kate Canfield
 Dave and Laurie Connolly
 Dell and Tracey James

Welcome New Members
Welcome New Members

Kevin and Cyndi McAdams



Upcoming Challenger Rallys'

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| | 2023 | |
| ❖ Nov. 7-12 | Sun Outdoors (Formally Compass) | Levine |
| ❖ Dec. 12-17 | Paradise Oaks RV Resort | Board |
| | 2024 | |
| ❖ Jan. 2-8 | Red Oaks Resort | Stivers |
| ❖ Feb. 7-10 | SEA REGIONAL, LAKELAND | Ragland/Bounds |
| ❖ March 5—10 | Sherwood Forest RV Resort | |
| ❖ April 14-21 | Hickory Point RV Resort | |
| ❖ May 7-12 | Frog Creek RV Resort & Campground | Bounds |



List your items here. Contact Linda Bounds. boundsld@gmail.com



These tables are hand made by Joel Kruse. Table folds flat and easily stores in your storage area.

↔ Each table is for sale at a bargain price of \$25.00 each.

All proceeds go to Challengers.

Challenger Shirts

Nancy Ragland has graciously agreed to take a onetime bulk order of Challenger Shirts from Space Shirts. If interested in purchasing, please contact Nancy.

Nicki0999@aol.com

Blue Collared \$35.00 Short Sleeve Tee Shirts \$15.00

Long Sleeve Tee Shirts \$18.00

Chaplain's Message by Dick Schauland

October of this year is a sad month for the Challengers as we realize the passing of Dan Hoover. But the sorrow is for us who remain, and not Dan who has gone on to Heaven. The Apostle Paul wrote "But I do not want you to be ignorant concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep." (1 Thessalonians 4:13-14)

I thought about this scripture after Dan passed away. When the Bible speaks of someone who has fallen asleep, it is referring to someone who has physically died. If the Bible uses the word dead or death, it is typically referring to spiritual death or a state of being separated from God. In this sense, a person could be physically alive and quite healthy, but dead – meaning they are separated from God.

Dan is a believer, and knows that Jesus Christ is his savior. He is in Heaven, physically well, pain free, happy and celebrating eternity. Dan has spiritual hope, the same as many of us do. But remember embracing spiritual hope doesn't stop our tears or the pain of loss. We are simply comforted with the thought that our believing loved ones who have fallen asleep are with the Lord Jesus and that we too shall join them someday.

The best news of all may be that Dan is only a few minutes ahead of us. Because you see, we find another beautiful promise in the Word of God. "Beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the

Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." (2 Peter 3:8) So as you remember Dan, hold on to your spiritual hope. And all the more – share your faith so others will have hope also. The Lord Jesus told us "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he (or she) that hearth my word, and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life." (John 5:24)

Dick Schauland, Chaplain