

Eastern Area Motorhome Association



Spring 2016

JOHN REYNOLDS, PRESIDENT

Jayne and I have just returned home from the 93rd Family Reunion and Motorhome Showcase in Perry, Georgia. It was a terrific event, and even the weather cooperated this year. It was the best weather I have ever seen in Perry. Only rained two evenings. There were 2,186 family coaches and about 250 display coaches. While there I spoke to Jim Weiss from Campers Inn (they were the major dealer in 2015 at GEAR). He told me this was one of the best shows he has attended lately. There were three nights of great entertainment. Everyone I talked to had a great time. There were two buildings with vendors, and most of the vendors that I know that are coming to GEAR tell me they had a very good show and are looking forward to GEAR 2016.

GEAR 2016 is in Lewisburg, West Virginia, October 5-9, 2016. On April 12 our registration goes live, this year we will be offering 50-amp full hookups, 30-amp full hookups, 30 amps only, and dry camping. They are all priced differently. With only a limited number of full hookups it would be wise to sign up early. Remember, being a chair, co-chair or committee member does not guarantee you a spot. Campers Inn has already committed to bringing 20 coaches.

Richard and Cindy Roberson have offered to lead a bike ride on Green Briars River Trail. If interested, please contact them at 301-602-3183.

In Asheville last year we did a golf cart rodeo. It was a great success, and we plan on doing the rodeo again this year.

Now that spring has sprung it is time for us to get our motorhomes out and start attending rallies. I still have 4 chapters who are having anniversaries this year who have not responded to the emails I have sent asking about any celebrations they are having.

The 94th Family Reunion and Motorhome Showcase is taking place August 3-6, 2016, in West Springfield, MA. Register early due to limited sites.

Eastern Area Motorhome Association Officers

<u>President</u> John Reynolds, F171042



<u>Senior Vice President</u> William Mallory, F256138

<u>Central Regional Vice President</u> Jerry Cohen, F259701

Southern Regional Vice President Chris Holtzman, F388492

Northern Regional Vice President Thomas Hoffmeier, F361811

Western Regional Vice President Dennis Ducharme, F402669

<u>Secretary</u> Garnetta Mallory, F256138

<u>Treasurer</u> Berkley Alexander, F290051

Immediate Past President Otho Tew, F152425 So for now Jayne and I wish you all safe travels and we hope to see you down the road. And, remember, "It's all about having Fun."

WILLIAM MALLORY, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT GARNETTA MALLORY, SECRETARY

Trip to Perry and More

We attended the Perry FMCA Family Reunion. There were a few things we planned to accomplish, but we were not volunteers. This gave us time to attend seminars, go to entertainment, take our time visiting vendors. The last time we were strictly participants was Brunswick, Maine, in 2000. It was nice being able to observe as rally "participants."

We had a great time at the Gourmands dinner on Tuesday night. Crashed a Monaco International pizza party on Wednesday. (Actually Wilt and Barbara had invited us.) Attended some really good seminars: How to Make RV TV Simple, Fantasy Tours, How to Use Your Smart Phone for Travel, and more. One of the reasons we started volunteering was I found the seminars were repetitive from rally to rally. We found the seminars in Perry offered a welcomed variety of topics. Entertainment was very good.

The local law enforcement presented a very educational demonstration with "drug canines." It was entertaining watching these canines work. Unfortunately only 1% of the drugs being transported on our highways is being stopped.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you in Lewisburg, WV, in late April for our planning meeting. This is a very significant GEAR, our 25th. Garnetta and I are proud we have been a part of GEAR for 15 of those 25 years.

Keep it between the ditches and have safe travels.

Bill Mallory Senior Vice President <u>4windsacres@gmail.com</u> 859-338-1366 Garnetta Mallory Secretary g34748mallory@gmail.com

JERRY COHEN, CENTRAL REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

I hope everyone has made it through the cold weather in the North and East. We have been in Florida since Christmas and in Key West for a month, relaxing in the warm sun. We attended the Family Reunion in Perry, Georgia, and were glad to see many of you there. But for those of you who it is still too early to use your motorhomes, now is the time to have them serviced and made ready for spring and summer travels.

Mark your calendars for GEAR to be held October 5-9, 2016, in Lewisburg, West Virginia.

Safe Travels,

Jerry Cohen Central Regional Vice President jerryacmllndjrry@aol.com 757-641-1804

CHRIS HOLTZMAN, SOUTHERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Welcome to a new year in the Southern Region of EAMA. So far this year it has been cold, wet and just plain dreary. But things are beginning to wake up, trees are beginning to bud and things are being turned green with pollen. 2015 was a very active year for the chapters in the Southern region, most being very involved with GEAR and lots of rallies. Nancy and I had a chance to visit all our chapters but two. One thing for sure, you never meet a stranger and you do not go away hungry from any rally.

Had a couple of visits from our Northern friends over the winter on their way to FL. Had the Northern VP, Tom and Helen Hoffmeier, spend a couple days with us, and Doug and Terry Heinemann from the Ives Runners chapter in PA spent a few days with us. Always glad to have these people stop by on their way to FL.

In February we visited with the Coastal Tarheels chapter in Four Oaks, NC. It was a very cold and wet, snowy weekend, but a great rally. The Raleigh Oaks Campground in Four Oaks is a top-of-the-line facility. They really went out of their way to make us comfortable with the use of their facility. We had eleven coaches in attendance. Thanks to Larry and Sharon Howard for a great rally.

In March Nancy and I traveled to Florida, then to Perry, GA, for the Family Reunion. Many of the Southern Region chapters have volunteer duties around the campground. Then, back that up with a rally with the Carolina Pelicans in Hilton Head, SC, and afterward, home for Easter. Happy Trails to everyone and be safe.

Chris F. Holtzman Southern Regional Vice President nholtz6524@aol.com

TOM HOFFMEIER, NORTHERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Spring has arrived and all are looking at making sure our RVs are ready for travel this season. Time to check the year of your tire manufacture and to make sure all other equipment has been serviced and checked out so we all have safe traveling this year. Remember, if you do need to replace tires, the Michelin Advantage Tire Program is in effect, and we also have the FMCAssist Medical Emergency and Travel Assistance Program included with your dues.

I have begun contacting the chapters in my region to schedule visits to their gatherings. I hope to visit as many as possible. The chapters have been redistricted within the Eastern Area in order to make visitation by the Regional VP more convenient.

My wife and I are getting ready to head back North as I write this. We have spent most of the winter in Florida but are looking forward to getting home to see friends and family.

Tom Hoffmeier Northern Regional Vice President hoffth@epix.net 717-442-1087

DENNIS DUCHARME, WESTERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Winter is almost over, Betty and I hope you have survived the winter months. It is time to de-winterize the motorhome and get ready to begin hitting the road to our favorite rally spots. If you would please email me your rally schedule to DDuch21603@aol.com or mail them to me at 2147 Alexandria Dr., Lexington, KY, 40504, so we can make plans to attend one of your rallies.

I know the Family Reunion at Perry, GA, was a big success and was enjoyed by everyone who attended. Be sure to look for information about the GEAR event that will be held in Lewisburg, WV, in October 2016. You will not want to miss this rally.

Safe travels to everyone, and Betty and I look forward to seeing you sometime this year.

Dennis Ducharme
Western Regional Vice President
DDuch21603@aol.com
859-338-3548