

CCFMCA *Spot-Lite*

Volume 58 Issue 5



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CCFMCA - Home of the 2021 Robert L. Richter Communications Excellence Awardee

Photograph: Great Smoky Mountain National Park (Tennessee and North Carolina) is also America's most visited national park.

In Tribute of our California Chapters "Game Guy" and Friend

John Frank Jones

9 MAY, 1950 - 10 JULY, 2022



John Frank Jones passed away in July.

In 1983, he and his wife moved to California with their family

and spent several months in California living in a 19-foot Travel Trailer while in Chula Vista, CA. After a period of time the family moved to Diamond Bar, CA. There he began 31 years of teaching woodshop and architecture at Diamond Bar High School. He found teaching very rewarding and his students enjoyed learning subjects that would grow into careers. After retiring from Diamond Bar High School in 2012, he would later return to do part-time vocational teaching.

Upon full retirement he spent more time with his growing family. John and Carol then purchased a motorhome and would go camping a couple of times a month. They made many new friends and acquaintances. John's love of games led him to become the "Game

Guy" with their camping groups such as our California Chapter FMCA (CCFMCA).

John and Carol frequently got together with neighbors and camping friends to play bean bag baseball, blongo a ball game, and the numerous new card

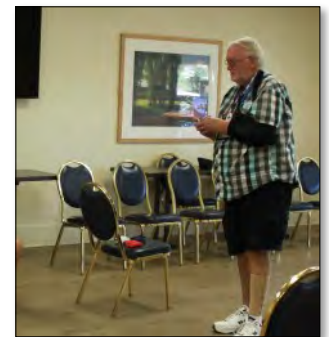


games he would pass on to the RV chapter members.

While with the CCFMCA, John and Carol established the California Chapter Riders, also known as the CC Riders. Surely just a group of plain fun filled "60s Rock and Rollers". This was a new activity to be enjoyed at our rallies for those who attended and brought their bicycles or electric pedal power and even animal tow carts.

In 2016 John and Carol moved to their current home in Costa Mesa, CA to be close to their grandchildren.

John impacted numerous people's lives and will be missed by his family, friends, and the California Chapter FMCA, when comes to providing new gambling adventures for the RV group.





Copper-Ridge-Sunset-Panorama-North-Cascades-National-Park

Rallies:

- Rocky Mountain Area Rally, October 25-29, 2022, Tucson, AZ
- 33rd Annual FMCA Western Area Rally January 2023: January 11-15, Indio, California contact information.

For the upcoming 33rd Annual FMCA Western Area Rally we are still in need of the following Rally Captains:

- ♦ Assistant Commercial Exhibitors Captain: Contact Senior Vice President Dave Franke - (909) 973-1051
- ♦ WHMA Booth & Prizes Captain: Contact Southern Vice President Jesse Bassford - (909) 438-6893
- ♦ Assistant Greeters Captain: Contact Central Area Vice President Rick Ammerman - (951) 538-6435
- ♦ Day Pass / Locator Cards Captain: Contact Northern Area Vice President James McDaniel - (925) 818-7718
- ♦ Contact President Bob Golk - (661) 599-3548 for the following positions
 - * Donations Captain
 - * Potluck Organizer
 - * WMHA Nominating Committee Chairperson

- FMCA's 106th International Convention, March 15-18, 2023' Perry, GA

Treasurer, Website, Database Coordinator



Tracy Lenocker

Since our last Spot-Lite edition there have no changes in our treasury balances or website updates with the chapter being on summer break from rallies.

Treasurers Last Report as of 6/29/2022

- General Account = \$16,683.50
- Rally Account = \$14,107.90

CCFMCA's website has our chapter's information. Most notably, current newsletter and minutes of the recent Board or General Membership Meetings. Also, the current board members names are listed.

- The approved amended Bylaws and approved amended Standing Rules are posted on the website for your reference.
- The website has had some updates, and there will be a few more as we attend more rallies and get more photos and other things to share.
- The database has been updated. A few former members no longer have a motorhome and therefore cannot be regular members of our chapter. Their membership will continue until the end of the current year. A few former members wish to be on the email list for the newsletter, so a separate list is maintained for those few. There is also a classification called Family Associate member for a person who does not own

From the Presidents Travel Log



Leonard Wahlquist

Hello Everyone!

Beth and I had a busy summer with trips to Texas and



Washington for two of our grandson's graduations. Then I even had a chance for a four-day fishing trip with my two sons and their families in Washington up in Neah Bay and brought home a freezer full of salmon and halibut.

I am at a loss for words with the passing of our club member John Jones. He was known for the CC riders and, of course, our beloved "Game Guy." He will be sorely missed, and our hearts go out to Carol and their whole family.

After a two year Covid sabbatical the 33rd Annual FMCA Western Area Rally is a GO! The Western Motor Home Association, President Bob Golk, kicked off negotiations on a WMHA contract with the new Riverside Fair Grounds Facility Management. See the WMHA column on page 6.

I plan to attend a WMHA rally organization meeting in Hanford, to discuss plans to see where CCFMCA can help, prepare and assist. I will have more information when we meet at the Launch Point, Lake Elsinore rally. According to Beth, our Trail Boss, the theme will be Halloween. I look forward to reuniting with our group at this new rally destination.

"Time is like a river; you cannot touch the same water twice, Because the flow that has passed will never pass again. Enjoy every moment of your life." Author unknown

From CCFMCA National Director



Sonny Gillespie

Hello to all CCFMCA, I am reporting that FMCA's 105th International Convention concluded in Lincoln Nebraska. I have stayed in contact with our FMCA office members, even though I could not attend, and provide you the following FMCA news.

Treasurer, Website, Database Coordinator

(cont'd)

a motorhome. That membership category is with FMCA, and more information and benefits are available from FMCA Headquarters.



COVID-19 Portal Link: <https://covid19.ca.gov/>.

Your actions save lives. Keep California healthy. Items listed in the above website.

FMCA ADS

- FMCA is proud to announce a new partnership with Battle **Born Batteries**. Bringing FMCA members exclusive discounts on industry leading lithium-ion deep-cycle batteries along with all the components necessary to get your power system up and running. [Battle Born Batteries | FMCA](#)



- What Is **GFI Notify**? **GFI Notify** is a system of detecting power loss. When that happens, up to three contacts are notified by email and text within 6 minutes of that outage. Remedial action can be promptly taken.



- LIG Solutions** can help you review your health coverage options or answer any questions you may have regarding health Insurance - contact the team at LIG today! Check out our member discounts section to learn how to access this exclusive member benefits program.



SOLUTIONS
MEMBERS • COMMUNITY • MARKETS

The FMCA Mile Marker: It's All About Camping . . . But Where? Thanks to the recent RVing boom, securing a campsite is sometimes difficult. Fear not, intrepid traveler! Numerous online sources can help you find a spot. Most have apps, too, to make the info gathering even more convenient. Here's a sampling of sites:

Have your heart set on camping in Yosemite or elsewhere? Visit [Absolutecamp](#) and indicate which park or campground you're looking for. You'll be notified by text when a spot opens up, which, if you act quickly, you can reserve from a link in the text.

[AllStays](#) maintains info on 37,000-plus campgrounds in the United States and Canada - national, state, county, and city facilities; independent campgrounds; military parks; and more.

Visit [Campendium](#) and type in the search box to see immediate campground suggestions. Get info about sites at commercial RV parks, state and national parks, and national forests, along with free camping options.

At [Campground Views](#), find and embark on virtual tours of RV parks and campgrounds across the United States. Enter a city or destination; select criteria of interest; and read about available facilities.

Find and book camping and glamping sites via the [Campspot](#) search engine. Type in a location, a date range, and the number of guests; it provides a list of facilities, including campground fees.

[GoCampingAmerica](#), a campground database produced by the National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds, helps RVers find campgrounds and nearby attractions. The "Plan Your Route" feature enables you to input a starting point and destination to reveal campgrounds along the way. The database is also searchable from [GoRVing.com](#).

Find available campsites in the United States, Canada, and other countries and book directly from [Hipcamp](#). National, state, regional, and Army Corps of Engineers parks are included. This site also encourages campers to "leave it better" upon their departure.

[Reserve America](#) calls itself "the go-to community for outdoor recreation activities in North America." It hosts a catalog that includes public and private campgrounds, along with tips, trip suggestions, and other options for fishing, fall leaf-peeping, and more.

[Spot2Nite](#), an online reservation platform built by RVers, provides access to immediate campground bookings at more than 500 private campgrounds and thousands of RV spots across North America. It works with five property management systems.

[The Dyrt](#) offers resources and connections to a community of campers, plus blogs, forums, and more. Search 40,000 campgrounds, check an online map, review a campground, and read what others have to say.

[Boondockers Welcome](#) is a network of over 2,900 host locations where travelers are invited to spend the night, share their stories, and save their money for the real adventure. Their annual membership gives members unlimited access to overnight stays at any one of their Host's locations.

- *In order to stay with a Boondockers Welcome Host, you must own a qualified self-contained RV that can dry camp for the duration of the stay. A qualifying

FMCA ADS (cont'd)

self-contained RV must have inside cooking facilities, toilet and water tank.

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RV AC Filter Replacements

Find the RV Air Filter that fits ...

Why waste your money on a thin foam replacement filter when you can buy a brand new RV AC filter replacement that works better and costs less? Our MERV 6-rated RV Air Filters create a barrier against airborne contaminants while cleaning your coach's interior air, and all available in a variety of sizes designed to fit the most popular RV air conditioners. Click to link to locate

Click on the link and select your air conditioner type , or scroll further down the web page to search for your exact AC grill match: [RV AC Filter Replacements | RV Air Filters, the Best AC Air Filters](#)

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Recalls**CONSUMER ALERT: GOODYEAR ISSUES RECALL FOR SELECT TIRES USED ON RVs**

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company is conducting a voluntary recall for Goodyear G159 Tires, size 275/70R22.5, manufactured between 1996 and 2003.

While there is no safety defect in the G159 275/ 70R 22.5 tire and few, if any, remain on the road, Goodyear - in cooperation with NHTSA - is initiating a voluntary recall of the tire to address risks shown to occur when the tire was used in an underinflated or overloaded condition on Class A Motorhomes. For further information, click [here](#) for a copy of the letter Goodyear is sending to customers related to the recall. To learn more visit <https://www.goodyear.com/en-US/tires/goodyear-G159-recall>.

THE SPOT-LITE EDITOR



John Seguin

Summer has closed and the Fall season has arrived. Temperatures will still up on the thermometer but will start going down - hopefully! This cooling will provide an enjoyable travel time with the CCFMCA calendar restarting this September through November. So keep in touch through the following ways.

CCFMCA communication methods:

1. Emails - Instances will occasionally arise when there is a need to communicate with chapter members instead of waiting for the next Spot-Lite edition (i.e., every two months).
2. CCFMCA Spot-Lite - The chapter's bi-monthly Spot-Lite newsletter highlights previous rallies, including maintenance information, Chuckwagon Vittles, FMCA National News, etc. Any President or Board of Directors updates and information on future rallies.
3. CCFMCA Website - The third communication effort is through the chapter's website. COVID Forms are still required, so fill them in and forward them to the Wagon-master.

Membership & Hospitality News



Carol Jones



With great sadness, I inform our CCFMCA group of the unexpected passing of our beloved "**Game Guy**," **John Jones**. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

- **Wayne Leavitt**, one of our former members, passed away due to complications from a fall. Our sympathy goes out to Ruby and their family.
- **Robert "Rick" Ricordati** passed away while in hospice care. He worn many hats in FMCA organization, Western Area Elks Chapter, serving as Western Area President, CCFMCA Chapter President (2001-2003), volunteering in many International and chapter events. Our prays are with Cindy and the family.



- * Services at Bobbitt Memorial Chapel, Friday, Sept. 16th. at 10am, interment at Mt View Cemetery at 11:30am

Please keep me informed of any of our members that need get well wishes or cheering!

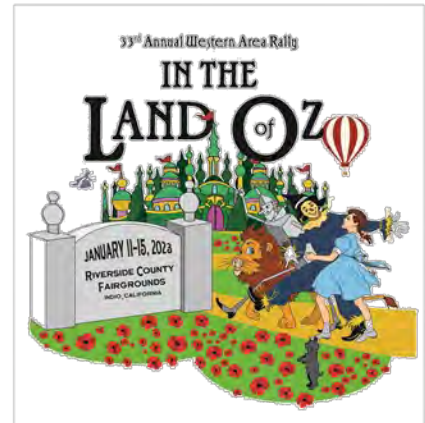
NEW MEMBERS: Nothing to report on new members.

BEST WISHES TO ALL OF OUR CCFMCA MEMBERS!

958 Dahlia Ave, Costa Mesa, CA 92626, Ph #:909-859-9648



As we are all aware, the WMHA Rally "In The Land of Oz" is back and scheduled for January 11-15, 2023 (Indio, California)! For two years we haven't had an Area rally. We've been through COVID and its variants, and a fairgrounds that was a treatment facility and testing center for COVID.



But now, we are negotiating a contract with a new facility manager. The facility is ready to go, working on the "Goat Heads," and making some of its own enhancements. Everyone working on organizing this Rally is pushing hard to ensure that it will be a great time.

What is new in this contract...nothing. All the areas you're used to seeing and using are back; Fullenwider, Taj Mahal, Queen's Gallery, and the Junior Exhibit

Buildings. All the events are back too...1st Timers Briefing, Chapter Fair, Ladies Luncheon, evening music and the Maestros. Above all, the Vendors and Seminars are requesting to participate as we speak. Everyone is returning.

With the theme being The Land of Oz, I can see a parade full of Dorothy's, Lions, Scarecrows, and Tinmen. Music by the Maestros, decorated floats and golf carts, and plenty of candy being tossed to the parade-goers.

For those that live in California, and neighboring states, this is the closest Area rally you can attend. While cost of fuel is higher than we want, our WMHA Indio Rally equates to having a large-scale rally in our back yard.

By the time you read this, registration should be open.

Sign up, attend, and enjoy. You won't regret your decision!

Dave Franke, F443367, Senior Vice President WMHA <https://wafmca.com/2023-western-area-indio-rally-update/>



2022 Wagon Master-Rally and Even Comments



Dede Hermon, Wagon Master; dede-k6ddz@gmail.com

November's rally should be a fun time! Many of our members have visited Sun Outdoors San Diego Bay and returned with rave reviews. It is probably the newest and most upscale resort on our list. It has been open for over a year, with a bicycle path to the Chula Vista Living Coast Discovery Center only a half mile away. And within a couple of miles, there are many opportunities for shopping, dining, and walking through the marinas.

- October 13-16, Launch Point, Lake Elsinore, CA
- November 17-20, Sun Outdoors, San Diego, CA

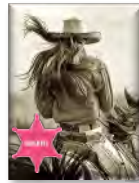
In the following newsletter, I plan to have the registrations available for 2023. So far, March, September, and November are left unconfirmed. I am waiting on 2024 pricing or contracts from the chosen resorts.

- January - FMCA West event in Indio (On Your Own)
- February - Newport Dunes
- March - yet to be confirmed
- April - Golden Village Palms (Hemet)
- May - Bonelli Bluffs
- June/July/August - Summer Time—No Rallies
- September - Not yet to be confirmed
- October - Caliente Springs
- November - Not yet to be confirmed

It has been a long time since we've all been together. I look forward to seeing everyone again in October!

My email is DedeK6DDZ@gmail.com, and I am always happy to respond to requests for information.

From the Sheriff



Kathie Seguin

Hello Everybody - Falls is coming, so be aware of those "Wanted Posters" for none wearing CCFMCA "BADGE Offenders". Do you re-

member names of those folks you have not seen in awhile? Our badges help us recall our fellow RVers - they're important. So wear your *Badge* to avoid the "Wanted Poster" fines (\$\$\$) to the "Sheriff". Even though I have not been to the rallies lately I feel folks are taking advantage of the Sheriff's absence. So, wear your badge, smile and say "Hello" when meeting members.

Badge Sheriff

Trial Boss / Co-Trial Boss Note!



For RV trail herding, remember the chuck wagon vittles and RV campsite is free. Also, trail herding documents are on the CCFMCA website under a [Trail Boss Documents](#) header tab. But for any Trial Boss information contact your Wagon Master - Dede Hermon at dedek6ddz@gmail.com or phone 909-878-3456.

2022 CCFMCA Rally Calendar



Roundup Note

For the **Trail Bosses and Co-Trail Bosses** signing up to round-up the RVs for the road, there is free chuck wagon vittles and RV site fees. For roundup information contact the Wagon Master - Dede Hermon at dedek6ddz@gmail.com or phone 909-878-3456. *Trail Boss and Co-Trail Boss* documents can be located on the CCFMCA website under a [Trail Boss Documents](#) header tab.

January 2022	<i>No Rally</i>		
February 17 - 20, 2022 GPS: Lat: 33.746974 Lon: -116.077188	Banning Stagecoach KOA Banning, CA 92220	Trail Boss:	Full Hookups: 2,337.53ft
<i>Canceled</i>			
March 17 - 20, 2022 GPS: Lat: 33.746974 Lon: -117.051259	Newport Dunes RV Resort Newport Beach, CA 92660	Trail Boss:	Full Hookups: 0.56ft
April 21 - 23, 2022 GPS: Lat: 33.746974 Lon: -117.051259	Golden Village Palms RV Resort Menlo Park, CA 94025	Trail Boss:	Full Hookups: 4,522.31ft
May 19 - 22, 2022 GPS: Lat: 33.746974 Lon: -117.794188	Bonelli Bluffs RV Resort San Dimas, CA 91773	Trail Boss:	Full Hookups: 1,099.08ft
June, July, August 2022	<i>No Rallies</i>		
September 27 - 30, 2022 GPS: Lat: 33.746974 Lon: -116.077188	Banning Stagecoach KOA Banning, CA 92220	Trail Boss:	Full Hookups: 2,337.53ft
<i>Canceled</i>			
October 13 - 16, 2022 GPS: Lat: 33.746974 Lon: -117.010896	Launch Point 32040 Riverside Drive Lake Elsinore, CA 92530	Trail Boss: Co-Trail Boss:	Full Hookups: 951-471-1212 Elev: 1,269.69ft
November 17 - 20, 2022 GPS: Lat: 32.638862 Lon: -117.102259	Sun Outdoors San Diego 825 E Street Chula Vista CA 91910	Trail Boss: Co-Trail Boss:	Full Hookups: (619) 489-3950 Elev: 68.90ft
December 2022	<i>No Rally</i>		

Revised: 7/05/2022

Rally Registration



November 2022 CCFMCA RALLY
 November 17-20, 2022
 Sun Outdoors - San Diego
 825 E Street, Chula Vista CA 91910
 1-619-489-3950
<https://www.sunoutdoors.com>

GPS Coordinates Lat: 32.638797", Lon -117.102488"

THURSDAY	SATURDAY
2:00 Arrive, Settle, Relax 5:00 President's Welcome Gathering 5:30 Happy Hour & Munchies (BYOB), Potluck/Heavy Hors d'oeuvres	10:00 CC Riders 5:30 Happy Hour & Catered Dinner
FRIDAY	SUNDAY
10:00 CC Rider's 5:30 Dinner on your own	11:00 Check out
* Meetings, games and other activities will be added to the agenda which will be emailed to members prior to the event.	

Registration must be received by: October 18, 2022

*****CUT HERE *****

Last Name _____ First Name(s) _____ FMCA# _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Cell Phone (____) _____ Email _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone (____) _____

Handicap Parking? Yes ___ No ___ Placard # _____ Your First CCFMCA Rally? Yes ___ No ___

Coach Model _____ Length _____ License # _____ # of Slides Left ___ Right ___ Rear ___

Parking \$ 95.00 (FHU) Wed (opt) ___ Thurs ___ Fri ___ Sat ___ #nights ___ @ \$95.00 = \$ _____

Registration Included: 1 Catered Dinner Number of Persons ___ @ \$ 25.00 = \$ _____

Clubhouse @ \$10.00 \$ ___\$10.00___

Ref: #2022-10-13

TOTAL \$ _____

VOLUNTEER: Set up _____ Serving _____ Clean up _____

Please send this reservation form and check, payable to CCFMCA to:
 CCFMCA, c/o Dede Hermon, PO Box 2849, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

CCFMCA RV Maintenance Window

Brake, Bearing, And Axle Maintenance

By [Dave Solberg](#)

While there's fortunately not a ton of work required to keep your RV's braking system in shape, understanding the basics of brake, bearing, and axle maintenance will help prevent potential issues. It's important to do periodic inspections to know what is happening to the brakes and inside the hubs. We'll go over a few different procedures depending on your type of RV, such as trailers, tow vehicles, and motorhomes.

Trailer Maintenance

1. Brakes Typically, many trailers have electric brakes designed into the axle's hub that are activated by a brake controller inside the tow vehicle as the brake pedal is applied. Most larger trucks will have a brake controller built into the dash and electrical system, while smaller units will need one installed.



Trailer brakes should be visually checked at least once a year. Spring is an excellent time to give them a check and make sure they're still operating correctly after a long winter.



Most trailer brakes will have a magnet and brake pads that push against the drum. First, inspect the brake pad to ensure enough material is available to stop the rig. Many axle manufacturers such as Dexter recommend replacing the shoes if they are less than 1/16" thick.



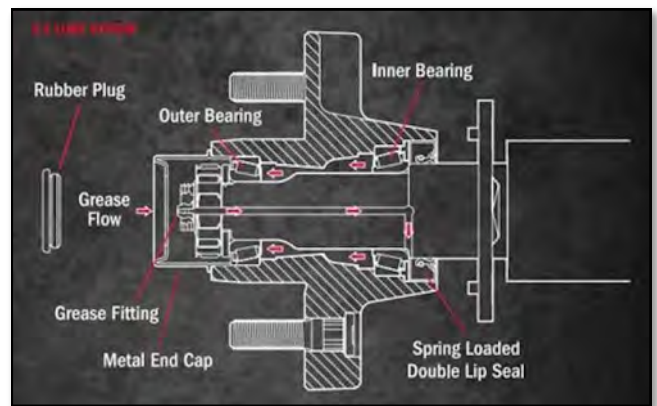
The drum surface should also be inspected for scratches or grooves. If there are slight grooves, the drums can be "turned," which is a process of grinding or cutting the metal smooth. However, this can only be done to a certain thickness and needs to be done by a professional. Since this process requires DIY skills, tools, and a place to work on your rig, the average RVer will probably just take it to a service center. To help you decide if you want to tackle the process yourself, check out [this video](#).

You can regularly check the braking resistance and manually apply the trailer brakes with the brake controller a few times a year. Start driving with the trailer connected at 10 miles per hour in an open parking lot. Apply the

brake controller manually without pressing the tow vehicle brake. You should feel resistance, and the higher you set the controller, the more resistance there should be. If you don't feel resistance, you can check to see if electrical power is getting to the magnet in the hub. This can be done with a multimeter or break force meter, but if you don't have either, here's a bit of a hack. Place a compass next to the hub and apply the tow vehicle's brake as it is connected to the trailer. Watch for the compass to spin. If the magnet is energized, the compass will go wild. If not, there is no power going to the magnet.

2. Bearings Over the years, there have been significant advances in bearings used in trailers and the way we lubricate them. Dexter has a great product called EZ Lube with a grease fitting on the outside that channels grease through the shaft to the inner bearing and pushes it through to the outer bearing. This applies new grease and pushes out any contaminated or overheated grease. However, they still recommend repacking the bearing every 12 months or 12,000 miles.

The main thing to remember is that as the wheels turn



going down the road, the bearings are exposed to extreme heat and friction, and they must be lubricated no matter what type you have. Periodic inspection is a must, and good practice is to use an infrared sensor to check the temperature and understand what is happening behind the hub.



It is not uncommon to see temperatures reading 20-30° higher than ambient. However, if there is a spike, you know the bearings are starting to dry, and you'll need to have them looked at before you find yourself on the side

CCFMCA RV Maintenance Window

Brake, Bearing, And Axle Maintenance (cont.d)

of the road!

3. Axle Maintenance There is virtually no maintenance required on a trailer axle, but there are a few essential weight considerations and jacking procedures. Axles have specific weight ratings known as Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR). This rating tells you the maximum weight that an individual axle can hold. It's essential to have your rig weighed to ensure you are not exceeding the Gross Axle Weight Rating or Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR). Otherwise, the excess weight can make the axle bend and cause tire wear and braking issues. Most tow vehicle brake systems have a wear indicator that will start to squeal as the pads get low. You can also see an accumulation of brown brake pad dust on the rim. Less than ¼" of brake pad is typically when they should be replaced. It's also essential to inspect the rotor for grooves.



Most axle manufacturers do not recommend placing a jack on the axle or braces to fix or replace a tire as it could bend the axle. RV manufacturers have specified jack points on the frame for this purpose.

Tow Vehicle Brakes

Most trucks today have sealed bearings that cannot be lubricated or visually inspected. Instead, they need to be replaced when they start to grind. Typically, this is at very high mileage, but you need to check the brakes occasionally, and there are quite a few opinions on how often. Some say every six months, while others say you should check during every oil change or tire rotation. It

all depends on the amount of driving/towing and the weight or severity of braking.

Most truck manufacturers recommend changing the brake fluid every three years as condensation can build up in the system. This is not an easy procedure, but a brake fluid tester



like this one can help determine the moisture level and quality of brake fluid.

Motorhome Brakes

Motorized vehicles utilize a hydraulic fluid braking system that pushes the brake fluid through tubes to extend the brake pads to the rotors at the individual wheel positions.



Larger units such as "diesel pushers" have air braking systems. It is crucial to inspect the pads for appropriate and safe thickness yearly.

Most chassis manufacturers recommend checking the braking system once a year. As you can see above, it's not an easy DIY job! Also, most larger chassis manufacturers, such as the Class A gas and diesel models, do not recommend rotating tires unless there is extensive wear, so once a year is a better schedule.

These also have sealed bearings, so they have no inspection or lubrication recommendation.

Check your chassis manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedule for specific details regarding your brakes and bearings.



CCFMCA RV Maintenance Window

Backing Up and Pulling Through: How to Park Your RV By [Amanda Bungartz](#)

Backing Up and Pulling Through: How to Park Your RV



Learning how to properly drive an RV is an extremely important milestone in RV ownership. It's also equally important to know how to stop driving an RV and park it. Unlike a car, there are a few extra things you need to do in order to secure your rig. And while [some parking elements](#) will vary depending on whether you have a motorized or towable RV, there are a few universal things all drivers should keep in mind, regardless of your rig.

ing an RV and park it. Unlike a car, there are a few extra things you need to do in order to secure your rig. And while [some parking elements](#) will vary depending on whether you have a motorized or towable RV, there are a few universal things all drivers should keep in mind, regardless of your rig.

RV Parking Vocab Before you head out, familiarize yourself with these common RV parking terms. This way, if someone offers to be your spotter, you'll know exactly what they mean.

1. **Pull In / Pull Through:** A campsite that has both an entrance and an exit, so you can more easily pull into the space to park and then drive straight through it to leave.
2. **Back In:** This campsite has only one entrance/exit, and it's situated in a way that you must either back in to park or back out to leave.
3. **Blind Spot / Blind Side:** When a portion of your RV is obstructed and can't be seen from the rear or side view mirrors. This typically occurs on the passenger side—as the driver turns left, the passenger side (right side) disappears from view.
4. **Spotter:** Someone who gets out of the tow vehicle or RV and stands behind the rig to help direct the driver as they park. (If you're the spotter, be sure to know the [five basic hand signals](#) for proper RV parking.)
5. **Jack / Stabilizer Jack:** A device that's designed to extend from the RV's frame to the ground in order to support the rig and hold it steady.
6. **Boondocking:** Often called wild camping or dry

camping, this refers to RVing without being connected to water, electricity, or a sewer system. Some common boondocking locations include parking lots at Walmart, Cracker Barrel, Cabelas, and Costco, as well as most Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land. [Read our article](#) about how to boondock.

7. **Moochdocking:** RV camping on [a friend or family's property for free](#), including parking in their driveway, on the street, or somewhere on their land.

Always Check Your Site Once you've reached your campsite or final destination, always get out and survey the area before you pull into your parking spot. If you booked a specific site at a campground or RV park, the website or manager usually tells you how large the site



is and what size RV it can accommodate, but it doesn't hurt to check for yourself before trying to pull in. Sometimes a low-hanging branch, large rock, or fallen log can shorten the space or reduce the size of the site. If you're towing a trailer or fifth wheel, you'll want to make sure your tow vehicle also fits in the site and isn't sticking out into the road. Take note of any uneven surfaces, including potholes, ruts, slopes, or mounds. You should avoid these when trying to park and instead look for even, smooth ground.

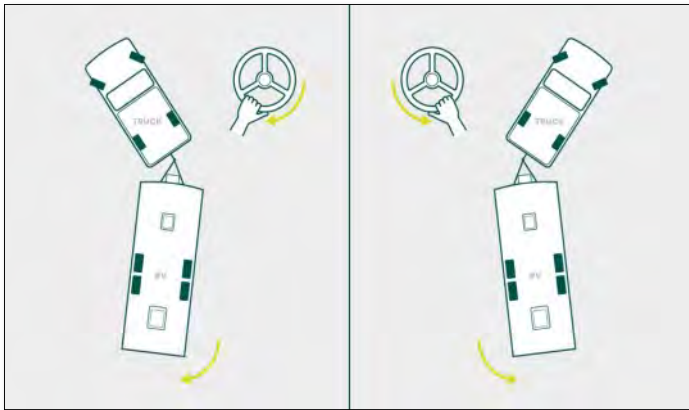
If you're staying at a campground with hookups, note the location of the pole, as this may dictate where and how you park. Unless you have extra long power cords, you may need to back in or pull forward to get as close to the hookup pole as possible. And lastly, make sure you have enough space on either side of your RV to allow for any slide outs or a fully-extended awning.

How to Properly Park After surveying your site and figuring out the best place to park, slowly ease into your spot. Regularly check all of your mirrors, especially if you are backing in. If you're using a spotter to help direct and guide you, keep the windows rolled down and the radio off so you can hear and communicate better. You might even want to use walkie talkies, headsets or connect your cell phone to your tow vehicle's Bluetooth and communicate with the spotter that way. As an extra precaution, have your spotter place brightly colored cones on the ground to help with visibility.

CCFMCA RV Maintenance Window

Backing Up and Pulling Through: How to Park Your RV (cont.d)

One of the most common RV parking mistakes is turning the steering wheel too much. Go slowly and allow yourself to make small corrections as needed. And if you need to start over and try again, that's okay. One simple technique to help with parking both towables and motorized RVs is to keep your hands on the lower part of the steering wheel (as opposed to the 10 and 2 positions typically used when driving). This way, when your spotter tells you to go left—sometimes referred to as the driver side—you simply have to turn the wheel to the left.



If you have a fifth wheel or a travel trailer, be mindful of the direction of the towable when you back into a space. As you back up, your trailer and your tow vehicle will form a V-shape. The more dramatic the turn of your wheel, the sharper the V-shape will become. Again, keep your turns small and adjust as needed.

Leveling and Stabilizing

Once your RV is in place, the parking process isn't over—you need to make sure your rig is level and stable. No one likes to sleep off-kilter or sit at a sloping table. Some RVs (usually class A motorhomes) come equipped with an auto-leveling system. If that's the case, all you need to do is push a button and hydraulics will automatically adjust your RV to get it level.

If your RV does not have an auto-leveling system, then you'll need to make sure to bring a few extra items. For motorized units, you'll need a bubble level to check that everything is actually straight, and blocks to place under the wheels for balance. For towables, in addition to the bubble level and blocks, you also need to bring wheel chocks. The chocks are critical since towables don't have

their own transmissions or parking brakes.



After leveling your RV, you need to stabilize it (yes, [there is a difference](#) between leveling and stabilizing). Stabilizers (or stabilizer jacks) either automatically drop down from inside the frame of the RV, or are manually added and adjusted to fit in between the RV frame and the ground. Even if your RV comes with jacks, you may want to add a few extra for a more solid, sturdy feel. Be careful not to put too much weight on each jack—once it has touched the ground, stop lowering it and let it hold. Forcing the jack into the ground may cause it to break or the RV to be unlevelled.

While we hope this gives a basic overview for how to park your RV, it's important to note that each rig is different, so double check your owner's manual or any rental instructions.



Amanda Bungartz

Amanda is the partner editor at [Togo RV](#) and [Roadtrippers](#).

CCFMCA RV Maintenance Window

Backing Up and Pulling Through: How to Park Your RV (cont.d)



BASIC

PARKING SIGNALS

Parking at a convention or rally can be a tricky undertaking with the number of families attending these popular events. The basic parking signals below are furnished to assist you in arriving at your final parking space in a safe manner. Instructions below are for drivers, as well as for the parking team directing you to your parking location. It is hoped these uniform signals will allow for confusion free parking at our events. *SAFE AND HAPPY TRAVELING.*






FOR THE DRIVER

These signals are usually given from the left rear of your coach. Never move the coach unless the parker/spotter is in plain view. When the parker/spotter needs to leave the preferred high-visibility left side of the coach to determine whether the other side is clearing, the **STOP** signal will be given. If at any time you do not understand the hand signal or additional directions are needed, wave your hand out the driver's window and signal the parker/spotter to approach for conversation.

FOR THE PARKING TEAM

The parker/spotter giving directions to the driver must possess a very good understanding of the degree of maneuverability of the coach and visualize an imaginary path of the rear wheels

that lead to the desired parking spot without hitting anything. Be wary of low-hanging limbs, overhead wires, utility connections, and sharp corners on walkways or patios. Always be in the field of vision afforded by the driver's left side mirror that will permit observation of the rear of the coach. If you need to leave the high visibility left side of the coach, give the **STOP** signal to the driver.

 <p><i>Move rear of coach to the left, as seen in mirror.</i></p>	 <p><i>Move rear of coach to the right, as seen in mirror.</i></p>
 <p><i>Slowly (when parker is pumping palms down like patting a dog).</i></p>	 <p><i>Come straight back.</i></p>
 <p><i>Distance to go (palms apart indicating how far).</i></p>	 <p><i>Closed forearms indicate STOP.</i></p>

CCFMCA RV-Food-Gating

Shrimp Boil Foil Packets

Shrimp, smoky sausage, buttery corn, and zesty lemon, this Shrimp Boil Foil Packet is one of our all-time summertime favorites. This is the perfect campfire meal for your next camping trip or backyard BBQ.



Who doesn't love a campfire foil packet? Foil packet meals are quick to prepare, easy to clean up, and can be cooked directly over a campfire or BBQ.

Just assemble your ingredients, seal them inside using aluminum foil and parchment paper, and place them over your heat source. Campfire, charcoal, propane grill, whatever!

There are hundreds of different foil packet recipes out there, but a good old-fashioned Shrimp Boil is one of our all-time summertime favorites. So let's get into it.

Ingredients For Shrimp Boil Foil Packets

The key to this recipe is to use ingredients that finish cooking at the same time. We decided to include shrimp, pre-cooked andouille sausage, zucchini, and corn on the cob. We've seen other recipes call for potatoes, but they never finish cooking in time unless you pre-boil them (which defeats the purpose of this easy, no-mess meal!).

Shrimp: We used medium, tail-on, deveined shrimp. The fresher the better. We recommend stopping by your local seafood purveyor and buying by the pound rather than picking up whatever size is available in a frozen pack. You'll have less waste.

Precooked Andouille Sausage: This recipe is for precooked sausage. Trader Joe's carries a really nice smoky and spicy one that we used for this recipe. If all you can find are uncooked andouille sausage, no worries! Just cook it yourself ahead of time.

Zucchini: ¾ inch thick half moons are a perfect size. You can use summer squash here too or a blend of zucchini and summer squash.

Corn on the cob: We cut our corn into 2" long sections and then cut it in half down the middle. You want it big enough to pick up and nibble on, but small enough that it will cook along with everything else.

Garlic + Butter: Is there any better flavor combination in

the world? The answer is no.

Old Bay Seasoning & Cajun Spice Blend: We used a mix of Old Bay Seasoning and Cajun Spice Blend. The Old Bay is non-negotiable, it's the quintessential flavor of summer seafood and an absolute must for this recipe. The Cajun blend adds depth and some spicy heat.

Parsley: A taste of freshness, flat-leafed parsley really compliments all the complex flavors going in this recipe. It also brings some much needed green visuals to the meal!

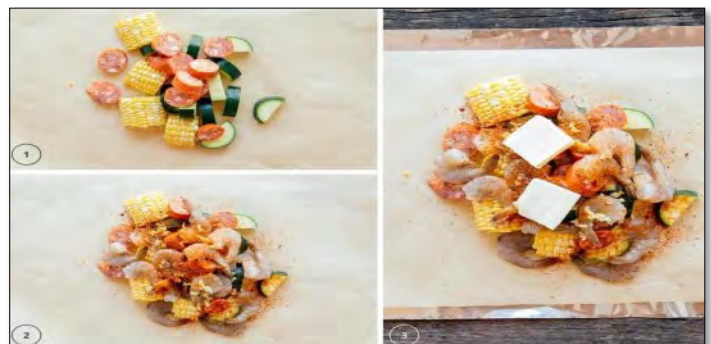
Lemon: Summer seafood? Yeah, you've got to have a wedge of lemon on the side, right?

Essential Equipment For Foil Packets

- ◆ **Aluminum Foil:** We use Heavy Duty aluminum foil for our foil packet recipes. It's easy to work with, holds up to the heat of the fire, and doesn't shred when handled with gloves or tongs.
- ◆ **Parchment Paper:** If you want to avoid cooking in aluminum over high heat, line the inside of the foil packet with parchment paper. Everything cooks the same, just without direct contact with the aluminum. It also keeps the foil clean, so it can be more easily recycled.
- ◆ **Heat Resistant Gloves:** These heat resistant gloves make working around a campfire or backyard grill so much easier. Pick up a pair of these and never get burned again.

How To Make Shrimp Boil Foil Packets

The first step is to make sure you have a fire and/or coals going (or set up your propane grill). The point is this meal comes together super quick, so you don't want to be waiting around for your heat source to be coming up to temp.



Roll out 18" inches of aluminum foil. Then roll out 16" inches of parchment. You want the parchment paper to be a little smaller than the foil.

CCFMCA RV-Food-Gating

Assemble your ingredients in the center of the parchment paper (*fig 1*). Start by layering the ingredients that will take the longest to cook on the bottom like the corn and zucchini. The bottom will receive the most heat, which will speed up the corn and zucchini cook time. Then add the sausage and shrimp. Finally, add the garlic, butter, and spices on top (*fig 2-3*). It's okay if it's sort of a messy pile.

To seal the packets, bring the two short edges of the aluminum foil together and fold together to form a seam. Then roll the ends in towards the middle, so you have two seams on the edges with a long one running down the side.

Place this packet over your fire pit grate or grill. We find that placing the packets on a grate over the coals allows us more control of the heat and keeps everything clean. If your fire has died down a lot, you can also try placing the packets directly on to the embers.

You'll hear it once the liquid starts to steam and the packet will puff up. During testing, we flipped ours once or twice to cook both sides, but in hindsight, I don't really think it was necessary. Anyways, flip if you want, or don't.

After about 8-10 minutes, take it off the heat and let the packets cool down for a minute.

If you're delicate about how you open the foil, you can easily shape it into a bowl to eat out of.

Add a handful of chopped parsley, a squeeze of lemon, and you're done!

TIPS AND TRICKS

While there are a lot of options for ingredient substitutions in the recipe, the key is to have everything finish cooking at the same time. So be aware of the types of ingredients and the size you are cutting them.

Line your packets with parchment paper if you don't want to cook directly in the aluminum.

Rolling out too much aluminum foil is better than realizing you didn't roll out enough. We are the worst at this!

Be aware if you're using Cajun seasoning that already contains salt or if your butter is salted before adding any more salt to this recipe.

Shrimp Boil Foil Packets

This foil packet shrimp boil is a quick and easy way to make a flavorful dinner over the fire. Give this one a try

before summer gets away!

Prep Time: 5 minutes; Cook Time: 10 minutes; Total Time: 15 minutes. 2 servings.

Ingredients

- 1 ear of corn, cut into 8 pieces
- 1 medium zucchini, sliced thick
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- ½ lb. uncooked shrimp
- 2 andouille sausage
- 1 teaspoon Old Bay Seasoning
- 1 teaspoon Cajun seasoning
- 4 tablespoons butter
- Fresh parsley, chopped

Instructions

1. Tear an 18" piece of heavy-duty foil for each packet, along with a 16" sheet of parchment paper for each. Layer the parchment paper on top of the foil.
2. Divide the corn, zucchini, minced garlic, shrimp, spices, and butter between the two sheets of foil.
3. To form the packets, bring one of the short edges of the foil to meet the other, then crimp around all edges to seal.
4. Cook the packets on a grill (or the grill grate over your campfire) for 8 minutes, flipping occasionally.
5. Remove from the grill and let cool slightly. Open the packets carefully - they will be full of hot steam. Top with fresh parsley and enjoy.

Nutrition (Per Serving)

*Calories: 520kcal; Carbohydrates: 23g; Protein: 31g; Fat: 34g; Fiber: 4g; Sugar: 7g.

*Nutrition is an estimate based on information provided by a third-party nutrition calculator.



CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE FAMILY MOTOR COACH ASSOCIATION (CCFMCA) INC.

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Applicant must be a member of the Family Motor Coach Association (FMCA), or must have applied for or be applying for membership in FMCA simultaneously with this application to be eligible for membership in CCFMCA. Please provide your FMCA number here: F _____

As members, we / I agree to abide by the provisions of the Family Motor Coach Association Inc, "Code of Ethics" to foster a wholesome public image for all family motor coach owners.

Last Name*: _____ First Name*: _____ and _____

Address*: _____

City*: _____ State*: _____ Zip Code*: _____ + _____

Phone*: _____ Cell Phone*: _____

e-Mail Address*: _____

Motorhome Brand: _____ Length: _____ Slide-Out(s): Yes ___ / NO ___ Number: Left ___ Right ___

- Our fiscal year is January 1st through December 31st. Annual dues are \$15.00 (due January 1st each year).
- An initiation fee of \$25.00 is charged for two (2) people or \$15.00 for one (1) person joining CCFMCA. This covers the cost of badges, postage and materials. Annual dues are \$15.00. Those joining between October 1st and December 31st will have their dues applied to the remainder of the year and the following year.
- Additional Badges are \$10.00 each (names): _____

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

- Would you like to list your e-mail address on the roster? YES ___ NO ___ . **Note:** The e-mail roster is available only to chapter members.
- Would you like the Spot-Lite (newsletter) sent to you by e-mail? YES ___ NO ___ . **Note:** If you choose to receive the Spot-Lite by e-Mail, you will: Receive it sooner than USPS, in color, save CCFMCA cost of printing and postage cost. Please visit the CCFMCA website: www.ccfmca.org.

Please make check payable to CCFMCA and return both the *New Membership Application* and your payment to:

Carol A. Jones (CCFMCA Membership)
958 Dahlia Ave
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

	2 PEOPLE	or	1 PERSON
INITIATION FEE:	\$ 25.00		\$ 15.00
ANNUAL DUES:	\$ 15.00		\$ 10.00
EXTRA BADGES:	\$ _____		\$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED:	\$ _____		\$ _____

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE FAMILY MOTOR COACH ASSOCIATION INC.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The Membership Renewal is ONLY \$15.00 per coach. Please update your information in the New Membership area where **Red Asterisks** indicate. Please make check payable to CCFMCA and return both the *Membership Renewal* and payment to:

Carol A. Jones (CCFMCA Membership)
958 Dahlia Ave
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

RENEWAL FEE:	\$ 15.00 / Per Coach
TOTAL ENCLOSED:	\$ _____



FMCA EVENT WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY FOR EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 (All Events for 2022 or Single Event)

Area or Chapter Name: _____

Check As Applicable: Single Event _____ All 2022 Events _____

If Single Event: Place of Event: _____ Date(s) of Event: _____

The FMCA Area or Chapter listed above (the "Sponsor") is scheduling an event or events. As a condition to attending an event, each attendee hereby acknowledges, certifies, and agrees to the following:

- 1. The undersigned attendee agrees to comply with Covid-19 protocols required by applicable government bodies, the Sponsor, and/or venue mandates. Failure to do so may result in the attendee being asked to leave an event and may result in the forfeiture of any registration fee.
2. Regardless of adherence to mandated protocols, requirements, and recommendations, there is a risk of Covid-19 exposure whenever an individual enters a public space, a building with other people, or is in a crowd of individuals. By attending an event, the undersigned attendee is assuming the risk of Covid-19 exposure.
3. Knowing the foregoing risk, the undersigned attendee accepts sole responsibility for any exposure to Covid-19 and resulting health conditions that may occur as a result of attendance at an event.
4. The undersigned attendee hereby releases and holds harmless Family Motor Coach Association, the Sponsor, and its respective officers, directors, and staff from any and all responsibility for illness, death, or other losses arising from exposure to Covid-19 at an event.
5. The undersigned attendee acknowledges that FMCA Assist does not cover Covid-19.

THE UNDERSIGNED ATTENDEE HAS READ AND UNDERSTANDS THE ABOVE WAIVER AND RELEASE, UNDERSTANDS THE RISKS POSED BY COVID-19, AND SIGNS THE WAIVER AND RELEASE VOLUNTARILY.

Attendee's Name (print): _____

Attendee's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Attendee's Name (print): _____

Attendee's Signature: _____ Date: _____

FMCA Chapter & Area Covid Waiver, Rev 8, 10/21



CCFMCA Organization

FMCA Web Site: www.fmca.com

FMCA Business: 808-543-3622

Western Area FMCA Web Site: www.wafmca.com
California Chapter FMCA Web Site: www.ccfmca.org

CCFMCA Officers



President:

Leonard Wahlquist - 951-218-5643



Vice President / CCFMCA National Director:

Sonny Gillespie - 951-492-0787



Secretary:

Denise Loxton - 818-800-7717



Treasurer:

Tracy Lenocker - 909-337-0315



Wagonmaster:

Dede Hermon - 909-878-3456



Immediate Past President:

Carl Gardenia - 951-490-2270



CCFMCA Alternate National Director:

Beth Smith - 951-217-0276

Appointed Officers



Membership / Hospitality

Carol Jones -



Webmaster & Data Coordinator

Tracy Lenocker



Badge Sheriff

Kathie Seguin



Spot-Lite Editor

John Seguin

Game Guy

Vacant

Historian

Vacant

Send all changes to the Webmaster and Database Coordinator at the address below:

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tracy@lenocker.com; 909-337-0315