

NEWS DRIFTS



September 2023
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August Rally @ RV There Yet? Campground August 10 - 13th ... 'Salmon Fest'

Based on the pictures and comments received, the First Annual Salmon-Fest was a success. Chapter guests at the event were Tom and Elaine Barker (Wagonmaster from Wild Rose Chapter).

The Friday Salmon Dinner was excellent and cooked on Bob B's BBQ with a grill top added to it (the Chapter trailer was not there). Carr and Carol did not come out for the weekend, but did drive out for the Salmon Dinner.

However, when Saturday morning came Bob's BBQ did not want to warm up (think the regulator isn't working, as two different propane bottles were tested). When 9:00 am arrived Ron was desperate. Gerrit dug out his new Blackstone griddle (never used yet), hoping thumps of the small propane bottle would do the trick — and did it work out well! They quickly did bacon, hash-browns and eggs for 17 people with some gas left in the bottle. They were all sitting down and enjoying breakfast only half an hour late.

Members got together for some competitive ladder golf games and the usual Happy Hour and evening get-togethers to trade stories. A good time was had by all.

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Happy Birthday Bob !!

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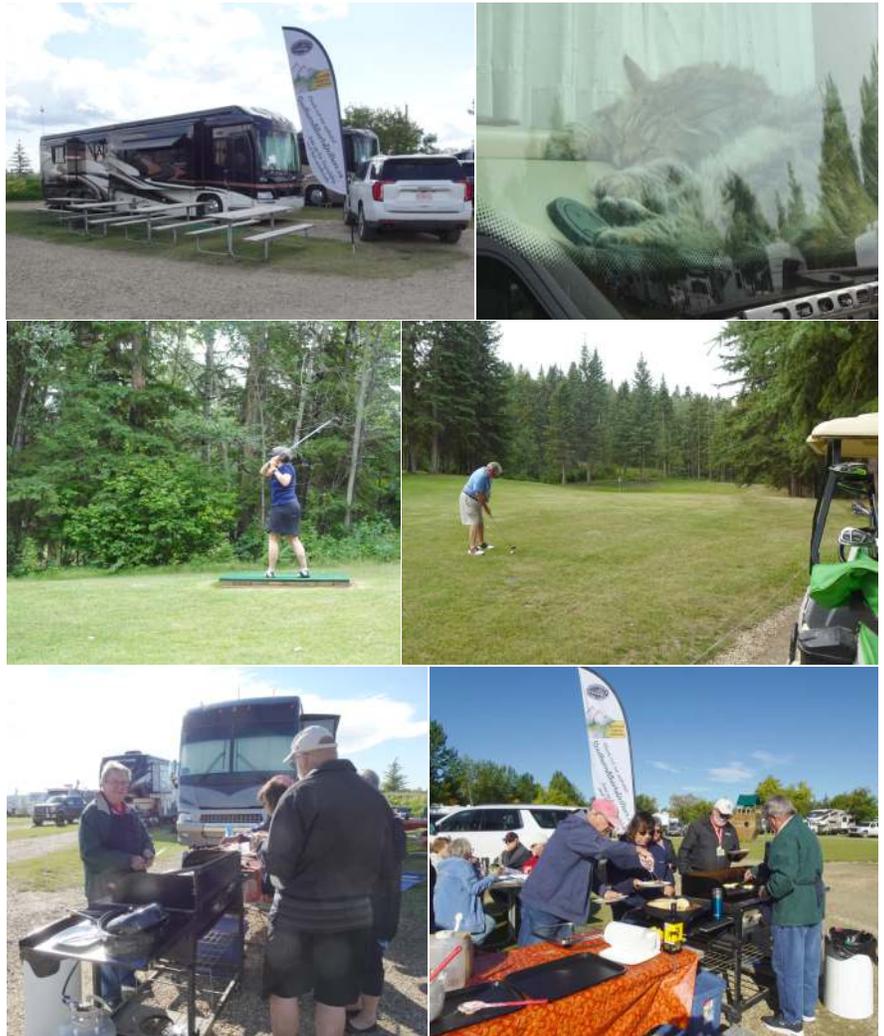
Southern Alberta Drifters is a registered chapter of the Family Motor Coach Association. Membership is open to any FMCA member in good standing.

All cheques, registration, and sign-up forms, should be sent by e-transfer to southernalbertadrifters@gmail.com or mail to our Treasurer:

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The Chapter's official mailing address is:
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Photos courtesy Kellams and Nels

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August Rally @ RV There Yet? Campground

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FMCA 107th Convention and Governing Board Meeting Gillette Wyoming, August 2023

Stephen and Anne attended the Convention and the Governing Board meetings as Chapter representatives.

There are two parts to the August National Convention ... it is not all just fun and games! As National Director, you are expected to arrive on Monday to attend your Area Caucus meetings that afternoon. There you get to meet the other Chapter representatives in your area, and review the items coming up before the Governing Board from a NW Area perspective. Plan on a couple of hours. Day 2, Tuesday, starts with meetings for all National Directors to review procedures, go through and discuss all the proposed amendments to the Constitution, By Laws, and Policy and Procedures. Then there is the Candidate form after lunch. Plan for all morning and an hour plus after lunch.

Now to the meat of the matter, Day 3 and the Governing Board meeting. Sign in starts at 7:30 am for a 9:00am start. While the other days were somewhat casual, procedures are far more formal today. You have to show ID and your voting registration card to access the meeting room, and only Board members can attend. Yes, there is security at the door, you have to both check in and check out, and then back in again if



CONVENTION RECAP BY THE NUMBERS



884
TOTAL RV COUNT



228
FIRE-TIMERS



15
SPONSORS



186
EXHIBITORS

FMCA'S 107TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & RV EXPO

2023 Events

September 14 - 17

'Another Year in the Books'

Centennial Park Campground, Claresholm

- power & water & dump station
- annual kite event, putt/putt golf, horseshoes, ladder golf
- AGM, Elections for President & Treasurer
- discussion/planning for 2024

Organizers / Hosts:
Kellams



FMCA 107th Convention and Governing Board Meeting ... cont'd from pg 2

you leave for a short break. There are a few invited guests, but they are seated separately at the back. Following the two National Anthems and a pledge of allegiance, the meeting begins. There are 280 FMCA Chapters, and 211 were represented. (Our NW Area had 100% representation) Of the current +/- 75,000 members, Chapter membership only makes up around 20%, so there are 80% of the FMCA members out there who have not joined a chapter. The meeting went on until 6:22 pm with a short break for a provided box lunch. I lost the NW Area pool having chosen 5:18pm as the end time. So a ten + hour day listening to resolutions, amendments, secondary amendments, points of order, objections, and on and on. All votes are by raising your voting card, unless close, and then it is a standing vote. Voting for the new officers is by secret ballot.

A report on the Governing Board meeting resolutions will be presented at the Chapter's Annual Business meeting in Claresholm on September 16th.

The general membership are given an entry day to ease parking congestion. Opening Ceremonies were held on Tuesday night with short welcoming speeches and then entertainment. While all the National Directors are in the meeting on Wednesday, others get to play. The seminars start that morning as do the various crafting events and pickle ball instructions and play downs. A bus and carts circulate to get you to and from the various venues. The trade fair and seminars continue through to Saturday and the closing ceremonies. There is entertainment each night, as well as other diversions such as a parade, hat styling (Great Hattitude), ladies lunch, book club, etc ... You can join in or sit out as much as you like. We had our awning and Blue Ox tow bar serviced by factory reps for a minor fee. Both are much improved.

Well worth considering attending a future FMCA Convention!

Note: Not having had enough of meetings, Stephen and Anne are heading to Albany Oregon for the North West Area Annual Business meeting. Topics include election of Area Officers, and discussions and planning for the 109th Convention in Redmond Oregon in August 2024. We leave for Albany on Sunday after breakfast from the Claresholm Rally to arrive by noon September 19th (1500km +/-). Good thing we have 2 RVs as the Class A is still awaiting service, so we will be attending in our travel trailer. On this, Dennis Martin, the NW Area President, who was pushing for us to attend said, and I quote: "That will be awesome if you can make it to the Planning Meeting! The Northwest Area welcomes you in a trailer, camper, motorhome, or riding bareback on a horse !". More on this event in a future News Drifts.

Happy Birthday Bob !!

Elsabé and I drove down to Bob Lucas' 90th birthday Saturday afternoon in Calgary, from RV There Yet?, where Carr and Carol also came over to enjoy the party. Bob was pleasantly surprised. Here are a couple of photos. Later that afternoon, we drove back to Red Deer to meet the rally team at a local restaurant which was also enjoyable.

Gerrit Nel

