



Campfire Chatter

"All About Family Camping"

Official Publication of the
North American Family Campers Association

Visit us at www.NAFCA.org



Vol. 65 No. 3

MARCH 2020



It's Almost Time to go Camping!

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Campfire Chatter

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President's Message

Hello to all my fellow campers in NAFCA.

We hope you all sent in your ballot to vote in the person of your choice. The deadline is March 1 to the NAFCA PO Box.

Don't forget the deadline for Proposals for the 2021 NAFCA Spring Safari & NAFCAree. These need to be sent to me by March 1, 2020. Please send by mail so it gets to me.

I do have 1 proposal for the 2021 NAFCAree. As of writing this I had no proposal for 2021 Spring Safari location.

Well we are into the winter season so remember to travel safe to all of your outings this winter.

Yours in camping

Dennis & Pam Richardson

Thank You!

I want to Thank the president, Dennis for all his many years of hard work & dedication we will miss your leadership but are happy that you can be Joe Camper again. I would also like to thank vice president Paula for all her countless years of dedication to this association, Paula for all the work and commitment you did we appreciate you. To the secretary, Jim bravo for all your hard work keeping the association well informed and cheers to another term. To our faithful Treasurer, Bill who keeps our books safe you took over for a great man Rich, who must be proud that you follow close in his footsteps. And to our next President stay true to yourself and remain on the path to take Nafca into the Future. To Karen who will be our next vice president welcome aboard and know that you'll be missed as our past Mass. secretary. And thank you

to Rose for being our sustaining membership chairman and Liz & Nancy for keeping Nafca scholarship committee alive. Let us not forget Doris & Dena for all their dedication in keeping us informed with Nafca Cares. Dick for being our Editor -in-chief for many years, without your communication would be lost. To Ben & his crew for keeping the website up and current. And to all the State Directors & Deputies as well as the State Treasurer and Secretary thank you for all your hard work.

See around the fire,
Jack & Donna Adams



NAFCA Conservation Weekend Otter River State Forest April 17, 18 & 19, 2020

Have you remembered to set aside the NAFCA Otter River Weekend in April to camp and be a part of your ongoing efforts at the birthplace of our

Change of Address

Incorrectly addressed CAMPFIRE CHATTER issues are NOT forwarded. You can help by using the form below, or one similar, and sending it to the office. It takes five weeks to process any changes.

Send change of address to:
NAFCA, PO Box 345, Billerica, MA 01821

Or email this information to:
Membership@NAFCA.org

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State, Zip _____

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NAFCA
P.O. Box 345
Billerica, MA 01821

family camping club? You know the dates and you know there are no water or electric hookups although, water is available at the Ranger Building. Also, no dump station is available. You'll need to plan accordingly, thanks. We will have use of a handicap accessible porta Jon over this weekend.

The Saturday evening meal will be pot luck. Make your favorite main dish which you will share with the group. Most times you make enough to feed your family plus one more person. Side dishes are most welcome.

The gate will be open at 10am on Friday the 17th and you will camp along the tree line on the outer fringes of the parking area at the end of the Otter River State Forest driveway. Generators may be used with caution and consideration of all those of us over the camping weekend. Just maybe you can share your generator with those camped next to you.

The tasks for Saturday will not be too hard and with many hands the work will go fast and be easy and pleasant to work as a unit together. I know we'll clean the campsite fireplaces by raking around the outer edges of said fireplace. We'll clean off the bricks at the patio area where we've placed many memorial bricks and also where the Roger Swallow Memorial Bench is located. We'll rake/sweep out the pavilion floor and rake along the fringes of the pavilion also known as the "Friendship Lodge".

This is a fun weekend of camaraderie mixed with a little effort to give back to Otter River. If you have never been, give it a try. If it's been a while since you have come and been part of the weekend we want you with us. To the faithful, thanks very much for helping to carry on a tradition that goes back before NAFCA's twentieth anniversary. You carry on with this noble endeavor as many others is in NAFCA's past. Keep up the good work and the good times. Together we can be the members who enjoy the challenge of effort for the rewards go far beyond our own hard work. If you have a rake and work gloves could you please bring them also a broom would be nice to have as well.

Basic directions are MA Route 2 west to exit #20, at the top of the ramp turn Right onto Baldwinville Road and follow this road to its end. Turn Right onto U.S.202 North going through

Baldwinville town center. Otter River State Forest entrance will be in your left hand side.

From MA Route 2 East bound to exit #19, at the top of the ramp turn left onto U.S.202 North and follow the directions above.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Don at (978) 664-4294. Day visitors are also welcome on Saturday. I hope you'll come camp and help out with other like minded NAFCA members.

Thanks,
Don Daniel – Chairman

NAFCA ANNUAL MEETING

Ready to get your 2020 Camping season into gear? Come to the NAFCA Annual Meeting at Country Aire Campground in Charlemont Mass. on the weekend of April 24th. The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday morning, April 25th at 10:00 a.m., followed shortly thereafter by the quarterly Full

Reservation Form

NAFCA Annual Meeting

April 24 – 26, 2020

Country Aire Campground

Charlemont, MA

Name _____

Chapter# _____

Phone# _____

Weekend Camping Fee

W/E \$64.00

ThursdayArrival \$32.00

W/E/S \$74.00

ThursdayArrival \$37.00

Deadline, April 4, 2020

Please make your reservation with Country Aire CG at (413) 625-2996 and mail reservation form to:

NAFCA

P.O. Box 345, Billerica, MA 01821

or email to membership@NAFCA.org

Cancellation Policy:

\$10.00 fee for cancellations outside of 7 days. No refund of deposit with cancellation under 7 days

Please note that the Visitors Fee has been waived for anyone coming to attend the meeting.

Board meeting.

We ask that you book your camping reservation directly with the campground. Please see the reservation form for pricing and contact information.

The nominating committee will have counted the ballots before the meeting for your choice of President. Come to the meeting for the installation of officers, and to provide confidence and encouragement for our new leader.

The campground is located on Route 2, (The Mohawk Trail) in Charlemont, MA. Detailed directions can be found on the website countryairecampground.com. It is located 13 miles west of the intersection of Route 91 and Route 2 (Exit 26). The campground entrance will be on your right just after East and West Oxbow Road. (Do not take this road by mistake. You'll be sorry). The entrance is beside the old Otters Restaurant.

2021 Mass Dinner Dance

Proposal from Holiday Inn Express
Sturbridge MA January 29– 1, 2021

Hotel Rooms \$89 2 queen/1 king

Suites \$99 2 queen/1 king

Breakfast included with your stay
+ cost of the banquet room \$250

We will try to get the same caterer as this year

NAFCA CARES

SICK LIST

Wishing all of our sick members a swift recovery :) :) Camping is just around the corner.

HAPPY LIST

Steven and Ashley Duquette, Ch. 8, are the proud parents of little Laykan David, born Jan. 24, 2020. He weighed in at 7.1 lbs. and was 20 inches long :)

Jimmy Carter, Ch. 1 and longtime member of Ch. 1 in Vermont recently retired from the Charlestown Fire Department after 47 years !!!!! His Dad, Dave Carter, some of you may remember, only served 38 years! Talk about years of dedication and service. We thank you :)

DEATHS

Carol Poliwczk, 67, past longtime member of Ch. 8, died recently. You can

Continued on page 9

NAFCAre 2020



NAFCAre 2020

Rideau Acres Campground
1014 Cunningham Road
Kingston, Ontario K7L 4V3 Canada

Your NAFCAre Committee continues to put together a full week of camping fun with your friends and chapter mates. Full plans are nearly complete and I can assure you, you will not want to miss out on one of the camping highlights of this year!

Campsites continue to be booked. As the time passes, more and more of the sites are being booked and you would not want to be left out. Rideau Acres Campground is very large with many campsites, although NAFCAre has only 74 to offer out to our members who go to the NAFCAre 2020.

The committee has a full week planned (see other articles for trip details) of activities and you may be as busy you would like to be. The area near Rideau Acres is steeped in history this being the former Capital of Canada (Ottawa is now the Canadian capital). Kingston was founded in 1673. Kingston is located on Lake Ontario at the junction of Cataraqui and St. Lawrence Rivers. This is a vast unspoiled water playground with access to the Thousand Islands. Are you an ice hockey buff? The International Hockey Hall Of Fame is here and well worth a look see. Donations are accepted (no entry fee). Kingston has lots of shopping and restaurants for your pleasure. There is a farmers market which operates on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 6am to

6pm, behind city hall in market square.

The Loyalist Parkway (Hwy 33), is a 60 mile drive from Kingston to Trenton, passing through 14 towns along the shoreline of Lake Ontario. There are areas along the parkway offering opportunities for bicycling, swimming, fishing, boating and picnicking. Also 40 archaeological sites and 125 historical buildings are adjacent to the highway for sightseeing. Lake Ontario Park on King Street has swimming & picnic areas. Excellent fishing, golfing, scuba diving & facilities for most fresh water sports, ferries depart from Ontario Street, linking Kingston with Wolfe Island and Cape Vincent, NY.

There are so many recreational opportunities in the Kingston general area for all fit levels and ages, I'm sure you will find many things and events you and your family may partake of. Also, Rideau Acres has many recreational things to do as well if you want to stay within the campground such as a swimming pool, game room, walking trails, river swimming, many kinds of boats to rent and lots of other things to do. I do believe you can fish from the campground Shore (a license to fish may be required check with the campground first).

You'll need to make a \$100 deposit, payable to NAFCAre to hold a campsite and all money for campsites, trips, meals and clothing is due in full June 1 and mailed to: Carol Robison, 18 Amy Ave, Leominster, MA 01453. If you do it now you'll be "On The Go In Ontario".

Your NAFCAre Committee is looking forward to hosting you at Rideau Acres Campground. All our hard work will be to give you, NAFCAre Families, the best time in Ontario, Canada. Come and enjoy the fruits of our labor on your behalf.

Don Daniel for NAFCAre 2020

NAFCAre Trips

TROLLEY TOUR - Sunday - Trolley Tour - We have commandeered our own Kingston Trolley Tour. Explore the history of Canada's first capital aboard our own thirty-two passenger trolley. The trolley will pick up right at the campground and take us to Fort Henry and the Penitentiary Museum, along the way we will hear about the history of Kingston as we make our way from one location to the other. Included in

this trip are a guided tour of Fort Henry and a guided tour of the Penitentiary. Explore what Kingston has to offer! (There is a possibility that the Penitentiary will not open this summer - If that is the case we have other stops planned along this historic route)

OTTAWA - Monday - Ottawa "Changing of the Guards" - Please join us for a very full day of activities in the beautiful city of Ottawa. We plan to leave the campground early in a coach bus to travel to Ottawa in time to see the changing of the guards at 10:00 am. There are sooo many things to do in the area of the capital building including restaurants and shops. Our plan is to arrive at Ottawa by 9:00 to see the changing of the guards at 10:00 - this lasts 30 minutes. After that, you will have options. We will plan a walking tour of the area which ends at the restaurant area. A brief lunch stops before heading to a tour of congress then down to the river for a boat ride on the Ottawa River before heading back to the campground. If you would like, you can choose to get go off on your own and meet us later at the boat to see what you would like to see. There are free museums and activities in Ottawa. This tour does have a 30 person minimum for the cost of the bus, so please reserve early. If we do not have 30 people, we make other transportation arrangements.

MUSIC MAN - Thursday - Thursday we are planning a trip to Gananoque which is a city slightly north east of Kingston along the St. Lawrence Seaway. We are offering several options for that day, #1 We will be going to a matinee "Music Man" at the Thousand Islands Playhouse - Canada's Dockside Theatre, a waterfront performing arts venue. Again, please reserve early as this will sell out. #2 Join us for the bus ride and enjoy the afternoon at the Thousand Islands Shorelines Casino where you can enjoy slots and games as well as a buffet. The bus will pick you up for the return trip home. #3 Join us for the bus ride and enjoy the afternoon in Gananoque on your own, (There are many things to do including taking in a boat ride on the Thousand Islands Seaway, which leaves every half hour, or have lunch at the Gananoque Brewing Company.) Just meet us back at the bus at the theater for the bus ride home.

UPPER CANADA VILLAGE - Fri-

day – On Friday we will be going to the Upper Canada Village, a heritage park near Morrisburg Ontario which depicts a 19th century village as it was in Canada. Learn the history and heritage of the first settlers of the area. There are many activities and interesting homesteads to explore, learn to milk the cows and walk a calf, you can visit the bakery and flour mill while you tour the village and learn about life in the 1860's. We will return at a reasonable time to allow for rest and relaxation before your trip home.

NAFCAREE 2020 Kingston Ghost Tour

NAFCAREE 2020 "On The go in Ontario"! The Haunted Walk Experience Ghost Tour will be offered. To all the brave and adventuresome campers, curious about ghostly and gruesome historical events, the walking tour reveals Kingston's historically chilling moments through the art of storytelling. A costumed guide will lead us to the spookiest spots by lantern light and reveal tales of restless souls, tragic murders and grave robbing.

Bruce and I look forward to being the hosts! We will carpool and look forward to others doing the same. The tour experience is priced at \$24.00 for adults and \$20.00 children. This is a walking tour lasting over an hour. Especially enjoyable with the camaraderie of fellow campers! The Tuesday preferred time will be approximately 7 PM July 21. Night time is the best time! (The backup day will be on the Sunday). Parking is in various lots near the venue in Kingston, Canada. Let us go as a group! Bruce and I (your hosts) look forward to seeing you. Disclaimer: The information is subject to change. Please watch The Campfire Chatter for more reservation information.

NAFCaree Luncheon Cruise

The luncheon cruise on the "Island Star" menu is now firm. The following entrées will be offered on our three hour cruise set for Tuesday, July 21.

Cruise ticket includes breads and salad, a choice of entrée, and dessert with coffee and tea.

A full-service cash bar is available on board. Subject to change.

Bread Basket - Ciabatta rolls with whipped butter.

Smoked Peach Arcadian Salad:

Heritage lettuce blend topped with creamy goat feta, blueberries and toasted almonds. Paired with a smoked peach vinaigrette.

Choice of Entrée (4 selections)

Beef Bordelaise

Garlic-infused AAA Striploin, medium-grilled, and paired with our chef's Bordelaise sauce. Served with red skinned mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables.

Wild Mushroom Chicken Supreme

Fresh 8oz oven-roasted chicken breast topped with our savoury wild mushroom cream sauce. Served with red skinned mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables.

Fresh Ontario Rainbow Trout

Boneless Rainbow Trout filet, pan-fried skin-on for the perfect crunch and topped with a citrus aioli. Served with an ancient quinoa blend and seasonal vegetables.

Mediterranean Stuffed Pepper

Our vegan specialty, cooked with a blend of smoke-infused tofu, lentil du puy, tomato, eggplant, mushrooms and vegan-Italian sausage. Sautéed and stuffed delicately inside a roasted pepper and served with an ancient quinoa blend and seasonal vegetables.

Chef's Dessert

Along with the meal there will also be a musical tribute: Margaritaville... To Jimmy Buffett.

The cruise price is all inclusive, that is transportation to and from Rideau Acres Campground and the dock, the plated meal of your choice (made on board the boat) and of course three hours of cruise. This is a great NAFCaree trip with good value, one you surely will not want to miss out on.

Please see the reservation form and campfire chatter so you can come on board this fun trip.

Maureen and Don Daniel - Cruise Directors

Upper Canada Village Tour

Ever wonder how the people of Kingston lived in the 1860's? Well you're in luck with our tour to the Upper Canada Village. The village was founded in 1961 and serves to depict life in a rural English Canadian setting during the year 1866. The site includes over 40 historical buildings including some that are still in operation today, including a cheese factory. Back in the

1860's, cheese was an important revenue source in the local economy. They make the cheese the same way and with the same equipment that they did in the 1860s. Staff dressed in the clothing of this time period discuss aspects of the daily life including social life, music, religion, and politics.

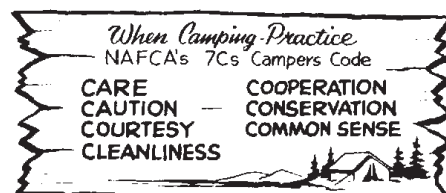
While at the village, you can learn about the Battle of Crysler's Farm, a battle of the War of 1812, which is memorialized at the park. If you want to learn more about the battle, the village offers a miniature train ride with realistic and sudden cannon fire during the journey. If you're looking for a leisurely stroll through the village, you can take a horse drawn wagon ride departing from Cook's Tavern for a 20 minute loop along village streets.

The area offers several dining experiences, including Willards Hotel, which serves historical cuisine from costumed staff. The hotel does serve beer and wine as well. If you want to satisfy your sweet tooth, they serve BeaverTails. These pastries are hand stretched to resemble the tail of a beaver and are served piping hot with your choice of toppings.

For those with kids, the Village offers a family activity center for all kinds of 1860's-style fun. Here kids can learn about historic props, clothing, games and activities, and many of the tools seen during the visit to the village. One of their favorite activities is learning how to write with a quill pen. Little ones can also put on a puppet show.

To remember your trip, you can also dress up in the historical costumes of the time at the Photography Studio, and be taken in an authentic 1860's photograph. In addition to that, the village also offers Canadian crafts such as tinware, yarn and blankets. They also sell historical books, teas, spices, jams and marinades. You can also purchase village bread baked fresh daily, and cheese made from the factory. We hope you will join us for this adventure back in time.

Gaurav Garg





Nafcarea Raffle - Beautiful Hand Knit Nafca Sweaters

The NAFCAAREE committee has been given a set of beautiful hand knit sweaters with the NAFCA logo hand stitched on the back. These were donated by Everett Mitchell knit by the Pine Tree Chapter.

RAFFLE Tickets will be sold at all NAFCA events and are available to anyone:

Price: 3 tickets for \$ 5.00
10 tickets for \$10.00

Drawing to be held at the NAFCAAREE. You do not need to be at the NAFCAAREE to win.

Sizes: There are 2 size sweaters – 1 is a M/L and XL/XXL. You may choose the size sweater you would like to buy a raffle ticket for. They will be raffled individually.



NAFCAREE Clothing

Wouldn't you like to be seen wearing the latest NAFCA gear available!? The 2020 NAFCAAREE offers three styles of shirts including the ever popular t-shirt, the polo and a crew neck sweatshirt! This limited edition clothing will only be available for a limited time and is being sold at the lowest possible price! If you plan to attend the NAFCAAREE In Ontario this summer, grab yourself a shirt or two! If you are unable to attend the NAFCAAREE, you can still dress

to impress and wear your NAFCAAREE T-shirt, polo or sweatshirt around the campfire, to the beach or everyday! We've got you covered for a warm day and the cool nights!

The t-shirt is a 5.5 oz - 50/50 blend

of cotton/poly and is available in sizes up to 6X. The polo is a 5.5oz - 50/50 blend of cotton/poly and features a stain release finish, rib knit collar and cuffs, 3 button placket with dyed-to-match buttons and double needle hem and is

Reservation Form

2020 NAFCAAREE

On the Go in Ontario
Rideau Acres Campground
Kingston, Canada
July 18-25, 2020

Deposit Deadline, April 15, 2020

Names of all individuals in your rig. All must be members of NAFCA.

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Cell # _____

E-mail _____

Adults _____ # Children _____ Chapter # _____

of Pets _____

Rig Type _____ Length _____

Registration for Camper: _____

Registration for Towed or Tow Vehicle _____

Camping W/E/S @\$395.00 \$ _____

Friday Arrival @ \$56.00 \$ _____

Sunday departure @ \$56.00 \$ _____

Camping W/E @\$365.00 \$ _____

Friday Arrival @ \$51.00 \$ _____

Sunday departure @ \$51.00 \$ _____

Extra Adult over 18 @ \$120.00 \$ _____

2nd Family in rig @ \$190.00 \$ _____

TOTAL FOR CAMPING \$ _____

Deposit \$100.00 \$ _____

TRIPS RESERVATION FORM

Sunday -- Trolley Tour of Kingston

____ Tickets @\$70.00 \$ _____

Monday -- Ottawa & Canal

____ Tickets @\$85.00 \$ _____

Ottawa bus only

____ Tickets @\$55.00 \$ _____

Tuesday -- Luncheon Cruise

____ Tickets @\$85.00 \$ _____

Tuesday PM -- Ghost Tour

____ Adults @\$24.00 \$ _____

____ Children @\$20.00 \$ _____

17 and under

Wednesday -- NAFCAAREE Day Pig Roast

____ Tickets @\$20.00 \$ _____

Thursday -- Gananaque / Music Man

____ Tickets @\$55.00 \$ _____

Thursday -- Gananaque Bus only

____ Tickets @\$30.00 \$ _____

Friday -- Upper Canada Village

____ Tickets @\$58.00 \$ _____

TRIPS TOTAL \$ _____

Clothing Order Form

Tee Shirts

____ Small @12.00 \$ _____

____ Medium @12.00 \$ _____

____ Large @12.00 \$ _____

____ X-Large @12.00 \$ _____

____ 2X @14.00 \$ _____

____ 3X @14.00 \$ _____

____ 4X @14.00 \$ _____

____ 5X @14.00 \$ _____

____ 6X @14.00 \$ _____

Polo Shirts

____ Small @18.00 \$ _____

____ Medium @18.00 \$ _____

____ Large @18.00 \$ _____

____ X-Large @18.00 \$ _____

____ 2X @22.00 \$ _____

____ 3X @22.00 \$ _____

____ 4X @22.00 \$ _____

____ 5X @22.00 \$ _____

____ 6X @22.00 \$ _____

Crew Neck Sweatshirt

____ Small @18.00 \$ _____

____ Medium @18.00 \$ _____

____ Large @18.00 \$ _____

____ X-Large @18.00 \$ _____

____ 2X @22.00 \$ _____

____ 3X @22.00 \$ _____

____ 4X @22.00 \$ _____

CLOTHING TOTAL \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Final Payment Due by June 1, 2020

Make check payable to NAFCA

Mail to: Carol Robison

18 Amy Avenue

Leominster, MA 01453
convocare me oculus silicam li, consulocul

available in sizes up to 6X. The Crew Neck Sweatshirt is a 7.8 oz – 50/50 blend of cotton/poly fleece and is available in sizes up to 4X.

Each shirt is adorned with the “On The Go In Ontario” patch, embroidered into the fabric for long lasting wear and is located on the upper left chest in full, vibrant color.

Don’t delay, order yours today!

See the NAFCAree reservation form to order!

Thank you for your continued support!

NAFCA SPRING SAFARI

‘Let’s Do Plenty in 2020.’

May 14-17, 2020

Are you starting to get ready for Camping?

We’ll get your campers ready and come join us at the Spencer Fairgrounds in Spencer, MA for the annual 2020 NAFCA Spring Safari.

The cost for the weekend is only \$70.00. You will have water & electric.

Early arrival after noon on Thursday is \$35.00, 2nd family in same rig is \$35.00 and \$15.00 for a single adult.

We’ll have use of a large building to gather in and the restrooms. Free hot showers. The dump station will be open on site on Sunday.

We are planning a few surprises so don’t plan anything else.... the packets have gone out to the Chapters and for non-chapters’ members see Chatter for a reservation form.

We’ll have NAFCA games, booths, raffles, a kid’s corner, parade of colors and more! Come cheer on your Chapter at the Parade of Colors. Don’t forget to bring your new or gently used treasures for the Chinese Auction.

If you want to make a few extra “bucks”, why not have a booth (food, crafts, treasures, etc.). Booths are \$20.00 for members, \$40.00 for businesses. Reservation form in the Chatter.

Campfires are permitted but must be off the ground and weather permitting. You are always welcome to join another Chapter’s fire - so don’t feel left out.

On Sunday morning the NAFCA Full Board for all members meeting will

take place. Plan on attending.

This is your chance to see and hear our officers in action. If you have never been to a meeting join us. Your opinion and ideas count.

Along with the meeting that includes loads of info for the 2020 camping season, we will draw the winners for the raffles and a 50/50.

It is Spring and we are getting ready to go..... camping that is! Hope you are too.

Tony and Ellen Migneault

58th Annual Springfield RV, Camping & Outdoor Show

By the time you read this article, the 58th edition of the camping show will have ended. The Committee would like to thank all of you that participated in making the Campshow a success; our vendors, our NAFCA friends that visit-

NAFCA Spring Safari NON Chapter Reservation Form

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Rig Type _____ Rig size _____

Handicap Yes _____ No _____

Weekend camping \$70.00 \$ _____

thursday arrival \$35.00 \$ _____

second family in rig \$35.00 \$ _____

additional adult \$15.00 \$ _____

TOTAL Enclosed \$ _____

DEADLINE: April 24, 2020

Booth Reservation Form

Deadline: April 24, 2020

Name _____

Chapter _____ Chapter # _____

Specific Description of item to be sold:

Electricity needed? Yes _____ No _____

Any special needs? _____

Please indicate location preference:

Inside Building _____ Outside _____

Booth fees members @\$20.00 \$ _____

non members @\$40.00 \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable and mail to:

NAFCA,
PO Box 345, Billerica, Ma. 01821

ed the show and those that volunteered at the NAFCA booth, our chapter members that volunteer for over 600 shifts, and our committee members that have been hard at work for the past year in making this show happen. We hope you enjoyed the show and perhaps bought a camper, camping supplies or booked a vacation at one of the 100+ campgrounds represented.

Every year the Springfield RV, Camping and Outdoor Show is dedicated to a person, couple or group of people. The chosen dedicatee(s) are nominated by the Camp Show Committee and voted on by the committee. This is a tradition the Camp Show Committee takes great pride in. This year was no exception. This honor was announced at our Annual Christmas Party. The announcement is usually a surprise with the recipient’s family in attendance. The Committee discussed and reflected on a number of recommendations and ultimately chose Earl and Elsie McClain as the dedicatees of the 2020 Springfield RV, Camping and Outdoor Show.

They have volunteered countless hours to the Show, and they take great pride in being a part of it! They have been on the Camp Show Committee numerous times, and they have become a staple in setting up the Show during work week as well as volunteering at the Show throughout the weekend. It is because of members like Earl & Elsie that our chapter is what it is today. We pride ourselves that the chapter is a big extension of our own families. Earl & Elsie, thank you for being such an important part of our family. Be proud of this honor, you both deserve it!!

This month, the 2020 committee will meet for the last time, and the baton will be passed over to Dale & Ron Bernard. Dale & Ron, along with their committee will immediately start the foundation to another successful show, the 59th annual, 2021 Springfield RV, Camping & Outdoor Show.

Best of luck to Dale & Ron and your committee, as you carry on the tradition of running the Biggest, Oldest & Best Campshow in the Northeast.

We hope you have a great 2020 camping season, see you around the camp fire.

Thank you,
Kris & Bonnie Spaulding



SMOKE SIGNALS



Pine Tree #33

Hello everybody.

Well Spring is getting closer every day, the Holidays are over and Winter has been pretty mild for January.

January's Social was a good turnout with 20 members attending. February's Social will be at Antigoni's at 757 Main Street, Lewiston, Maine. The March Social is at Lotus Restaurant, 279 Center Street, Auburn Maine.

Our first meeting of 2020 will be hosted by Roberta White on April 5 at the South Paris Street Fire Station at 10:30am. The Board meeting will be at 12:00pm and the Chapter meeting at 1:00pm. Dinner will be a Turkey Dinner. Please let our President Roberta White know if you are coming.

Please make sure your Lot Dues have been paid in full and NAFCA membership has been paid.

May 2 is Lot Assignment at 11:00 with a Dinner at 5:00pm hosted by Carol Cole, Western Theme.

This will be a very good year with members excited for a full schedule of activities coming up on the calendar. We will be on schedule for Friday evening Ice Cream Socials, hosted by Bette & David Pomerleau.

Hope you have voted and mailed your ballots for our next elected NAFCA President. Everett & I will be attending the NAFCA Spring Safari in Spencer, Mass. We will be setting up a table for PineTree telling everybody what we are all about and offering them to come and visit our Campground and welcome

them. Each first weekend in August we have a Family & Friends get together and is so much fun, come and join us.

Well that's it for now, hope all is well and be safe and healthy. Looking forward to a busy Camping Season.

Sincerely,
Doris Mitchell

Penobscot Valley Acres #37

So, how are those New Years resolutions coming along? I can honestly say I'm trying to keep mine. No, I'm not ready to share all but one is to take more time for me and to relax more (though I'm not ready to retire) to work a little less. I am still recovering from my shoulder surgery last summer (when they said it would take at least a year to heal they weren't kidding) but I am so blessed to have had such a wonderful doctor and I am 95% better than I was! Toward that goal of relaxing more I have already submitted my vacation requests at work and we (hubby & I) are planning stay-cations at P.V.A. There is so much to do in the area. Bangor has many events and concerts. There are several festival in the surrounding towns, Peaks Kenny State Park are all only a short drive from P.V.A. I hope one of your resolutions was to come for a visit to P.V.A, and see what all the buzz is about.

One of the things I have been noticing is that the weather men are announcing each day how much daylight we are gaining. It makes me more excited for spring. I find myself starting to gather my camping stuff, researching new gadgets for the camper and daydreaming about my flower gardens at P.V.A.. Every year I promise myself this is going to be the year I thin out some of my plants and re-do the gardens. Who knows this might be the year!

We had gotten word that the project for the new leach field is well under way. This should make it better for our little campground.

Well once again I wish you all
Safe Travels
Janet Bagley



Massachusetts State Director



Don't know if "Phil" will predict "Spring is just around the corner", or if March will come in like a "lion" or "lamb", but I do know that the days are getting longer

and the air is changing! The Mass. Co-ord is meeting in Granby, MA on March 15 at the PV8 "clubhouse" for our last indoor meeting for the season....then it is "camping time!"

There will be new members from the campshow, new National Officers, some will have new rigs (lucky you) and the snowbirds will be heading home.

In the April Chatter you'll know the results of the election (no, not for the President of the United States but for the President of North American Family Camping). Time for new opportunities and responsibilities.

Please READ your Chatter, come to the Annual Meeting/Full Board and installation of Officers April 23-26 at Country Aire Campground in Charlemont, MA. Get the scoop are share with your friends up coming events. Enjoy camping more where friends become family the NAFCA way!

Lastly I would like to thank all who have supported me the last 18 years both as Mass. Deputy Director and Mass. State Director. Some wonderful friendships and memories.

Linda Ostiguy

Pioneer Valley #8

The Springfield RV Camping and Outdoor Show 2020 has concluded with a huge thank you to the Chairpersons, Sherrie and Kevin Vilbon and Phil

Continued on next page.

Nadeau! As always the show reaps huge benefits. The friendships born at the show can now be nurtured as we look forward to a new season of camping. Is that spring in the air? New Committees are being formed and starting the plans for our summer camps. Come join us and experience the PV8 camping family.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Cosby

Squaw-No-Cook #30

Hello,

Seems like it's been cold all over the place. Even the snowbirds have cold weather! I saw that Marty and Dianne and their friends have been quite busy with trips and events. Thanks for sharing your photos on Facebook.

Jim and I missed the installation of officers earlier in the month due to my family party. Many thanks to Dave for stepping in, and I hope the rest of the meeting went well. There are already camping events scheduled - May (hopefully) and Brad's in June, NAFCaree in July, and possibly Pine Acres in August. Wait - it's almost like the summer is already over!! Just kidding.

I heard Lenny was in the hospital with the flu. I hope we'll hear he's out and getting better every day.

The Super Bowl is on Sunday, and while I probably mentioned this last year, I remember the year we were at Doris' house and we all had Patriots gear on, a football cake, and Paula had stickers / tattoos on her cheeks. That was the year the Pats came from behind and won. And I remember Phil being so confident they were going to win - and he was right!!! This year's game is more about the commercials, I think. They do have some good ones, don't they?

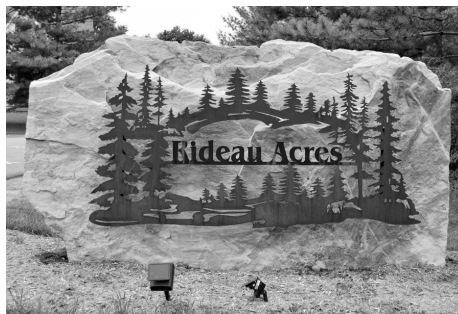
Hope everyone enjoys the Super Bowl and Valentine's Day!!

All the best,
Barbara Starr

Canvasback #157

The chapter had itself a get together at Cracker Barrel Restaurant in Sturbridge, MA in conjunction with the Mass Dinner Dance weekend. We had a small crowd but all in all there was much pleasant conversation and the food was good also.

Just want to update you on the NAFCaree 2020 at Rideau Acres Campground in Kingston, Ontario, Canada



("On The Go In Ontario"); the trips are coming along and will run somewhat as follows: Sunday will be a tour of Kingston on the Trolley with stops at Fort Henry and the Penitentiary and the downtown area. Monday will be the trip to Ottawa and some sight seeing. Tuesday will be the 3 hour boat cruise and luncheon on the boat, which by the way is a catamaran (twin hulls). Wednesday is NAFCaree day with games and a really nice sit down meal. Thursday will be the play "The Music Man" or you can ride this bus to the casino instead of going to the play. Friday the trip is for Upper Canada Village an 1800s Village. This is a real great walking tour. The clothing - t-shirts, sweatshirts and polos are also ready to be sold. See much more info elsewhere in Campfire Chatter.

You'll not want to miss out on all the fun at the NAFCaree being put on just for you.

The chapter is looking ahead to Annual Meeting Camping Weekend at Country Aire Campground in Charlemont, MA. This is where you'll get all the doings of NAFCa and have a fun weekend camping with other friendly families.

Almost time to shake off the winter doldrums and get back to camping. There have been many ups and downs in the past year and the season to come looks full of all the camping opportunities you may want.

See you around the campfire!
Don Daniel - Correspondent



Connecticut

Wolf Den #103

HAPPY St. Patty's Day!!

Wolf Den members have traditionally gone to the annual Newport Winter Fest for many years. Unfortunately, we opted not to go this year. I'm bummed we won't be able to celebrate Dave and Carol's anniversary as it's their 35th year! CONGRATULATIONS DAVE & CAROL!!!

We really haven't gotten much snow this winter. Who knows how much between now and spring, but so far, old wo/man winter has been pretty mild. I'm guessing the snow bunnies are getting in some of their snow sports, but those who depend on plowing for their bread and butter are not too happy. I'm so glad I don't have to worry about driving in the snow or ice going to work anymore. I can just look out the window and say... nope! Not going anywhere today. Just sittin by the fire enjoying the day inside where it's warm and cozy.

However, I am looking forward to the warm weather to get here sooner rather than later! I heard the Supina's got a new camper. Can't wait to see it!

See you all around the campfire before you know it! Enjoy what's left of the snow season.

Submitted by Arlene Goodwin
Wolf Den 103 Secretary

NAFCA Cares

Continued from page 3

send cards to her

husband, John at 81 Florida Dr., Agawam, MA 01001.

Gurlie Perron, long time member of BayPath, Ch. 114, died recently. She and her husband, Roger, loved camping with their Chapter and NAFCa. She always had a big smile and loved seeing her friends and family. Cards can be sent to her daughter, Darlene and Bob Kruckas at PO Box K281, Brookfield, MA. 01506.

Chris Oakley, former member of Ch. 11 and past Ma. Muster editor along with her husband, and family moved to Long Island, N.Y. many years ago but still kept in touch with the Mattson's from Worcester. She was a victim of ALS :(

Avila "Amaz" Belanger passed away recently, he was the Dad of Chris and Bruce Bartlett, Ch 114. He camped with them for many years un-

Continued on page 12

Please Support Our **NAFCA Sustaining Members**



\$\$ Indicates campgrounds that offer a 10% discount off their regular daily rate.
\$\$\$ Indicates a 15% discount
(GR) Indicates Group Rates are available.

Connecticut

DJ'Z Creative Designs

130 Ruden St
 West Haven, CT 06516
 203-535-8778
 DJZcreativedesigns@yahoo.com

Hide-A-Way Cove

1060 North Road
 PO Box 129
 East Killingly, CT 06243
 860-774-1128 hideawaycovecampground.com

Mineral Springs Family Campground

135 Leonard Rd.
 Stafford Springs, CT 06076
 860-684-2993
 www.mineralspringscampground.com
 Groups receive 10% discount

\$\$ Nature's Campsites LLC

96 Ekonk Hill Rd
 Voluntown, CT 06384
 860-376-4203
 naturescampsites.com

Nelson's Family Campground

71 Mott Hill Rd
 East Hampton, CT 06424
 860-267-5300
 nelsonscampground.com
 10% discount not including holiday or discounted weekends

Ross Hill Campground

170 Ross Hill Rd
 Lisbon, CT 06351-2922
 860-376-9606 - rosshillpark.com

\$\$ RV Parts & Electric

2385 S Leonard St.
 Waterbury, Ct. 06706
 203-754-5962
 A1Awning@snet.com

Wolfs Den Family Campground

256 Town St
 East Haddam, CT 06434
 860-873-9681
 wolfsdencampground.com
 10% discount not including holiday or discounted weekends

Massachusetts

\$\$ Bonny Rigg Camping Club, Inc

59 Main St., PO Box 417
 Becket, MA 01223
 413-623-5366
 bonnyriggcampground.com

\$\$ Circle CG Family Campground

131 N Main St
 Bellingham MA 02019
 508-966-1136
 www.circlecgfarm.com

\$\$ Country Aire Campground

1735 Route 2
 Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
 413-625-2996 - www.Country-Aire.com

Flagg RV Center

66 W. Boylston St
 W. Boylston, MA 01583
 800-678-9278 - www.flaggrv.com

Lamb City Campground

85 Royalston Road
 Phillipston, MA 01331
 800-292-5262 - lambcity.com

Mann's RV

52 Barre Paxton Rd.
 Rutland, MA 01543
 (800) 677-4476
 www.mannsrv.com

\$\$ Oak Haven Family Campground

22 Main St. PO Box 166
 Wales MA 01081
 413-245-7148 - OakHavenCampground.com

\$\$ Pout & Trout Campground

94 River Road
 Rutland, MA 01543
 508-886-6677

\$\$ Prospect Lake Park

50 Prospect Lake Road
 No. Egremont, MA 01230
 877-860-4757 - prospectlakepark.com

Prospect Mountain Campground

1349 Main Rd, /Rt. 57 (PO Box 323)
 Granville, MA 01034
 413-357-6494
 prospectmountaincampground.com

Spencer Agricultural Association

PO Box 46
 Spencer, MA 01562
 508-885-5814 - www.spencerfair.org

Village Green Family Campground

228 Sturbridge Rd, Route 20
 Brimfield, MA 01010-9641
 413-245-3504 - Villagegreencampground.com

Walker Island Campground

27 Rt. 20
 Chester, MA 01011
 413-354-2295
 www.walkerislandcamping.com

Maine

\$\$ Old Orchard Beach Campground

27 Ocean Park Road
 Old Orchard Beach, ME 04064
 207-934-4477
 gocamping.com
 10% discount Spring and Fall rates only
 Not valid on weekly rates

Powder Horn Family Camping

48 Cascade Rd
 Old Orchard Beach, Me. 04064
 207-934-4733 - mainecampgrounds.com

New Hampshire

\$\$ Chocorua Camping Village KOA

893 White Mountain Highway
 Chocorua, NH 03817
 603-323-8536 - chocoruacamping.com

Grand View Camping Area

51 Four Rod Rd
 Rochester NH 03867
 603-332-1263 - grandviewcamping.com

\$\$\$ Shir-Roy Camping Area

136 Athol Road
 Richmond, NH 03470
 603-239-4768 - shir-roy.com
 *10 or more rigs (no holiday weekends)

Rhode Island

Long Cove Marina Campsites

325 Point Judith Rd.
 Narragansett RI 02882
 401-783-4902

Vermont

Abel Mountain Campground

354 Mobile Acres Rd
 Braintree, VT 05060
 802-728-5548 abelmountain.com

\$\$ Pete's RV Center

4016 Williston Rd.
 So. Burlington, VT 05403
 802-864-9350 - petesrvvt.com



Where to send your news.

The deadline for submitting information to all members of the Campfire Chatter staff is the first day of the month preceding the month it is to be published. As an example, the deadline for the February issue will be January 1, 2013.

Information that is sent by e-mail should go directly to the Dick Basha.

Pictures and graphics should be sent to Dick Basha.

Articles that need to be typed should be mailed to Dena Rickson.

Campfire Chatter Committee

Editor - Dick Basha - Editor

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603-566-8470

CampfireChatter@aol.com

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7 Cypress Lane, Wilbraham, MA 01095

russrider@aol.com



Come and Get It!

Email your recipes to
russrider@aol.com

**A big Thank You to Dena Rickson
 for submitting these recipe.**

Chicken Pasta Casserole

1 cup chopped onion
 1 cup chopped celery
 1/2 cup each chopped green and yellow pepper
 3 tbsp olive oil
 1 lb boneless skinless chicken breasts, cubed
 2 tsp garlic powder
 1 jar (16 oz) salsa
 1 tbsp cornstarch
 1 tbsp water
 1 tbsp dried parsley
 1/2 tsp salt
 1/4 tsp hot pepper sauce
 hot cooked pasta

In a large saucepan over medium-high heat, sauté onion, celery and pepper for 3-4 minutes or until crisp-tender. Add chicken and garlic powder; cook for 4-5 minutes or until chicken juices run clear. Stir in salsa. Combine cornstarch and water; stir into the chicken mixture. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until mixture is thickened and bubbly. Add the parsley, salt and hot pepper sauce; mix well. Serve over pasta. 4 servings.

Blueberry Yogurt Muffins

1 cup flour
 6 tbsp sugar
 1/4 tsp salt
 1/4 tsp baking powder
 1/4 tsp baking soda
 1 egg
 1/2 cup vanilla yogurt
 3 tbsp canola oil
 2 tbsp 2% milk
 1/2 cup frozen blueberries

In a small bowl, combine the flour, sugar, salt, baking powder and baking soda. In another bowl, combine the egg, yogurt, oil and milk. Stir into dry ingredients just until moistened. Fold in berries. Fill greased or paper lined muffin cups 3/4 full. Bake at 350°

for 20-22 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean. Cool for 5 minutes before removing from pan to a wire rack. 6 muffins.

Kielbasa & Pepper Casserole

1/2 lb smoked kielbasa or polish sausage, cut into 1/2 inch slices
 4 small red potatoes, halved
 1 medium onion, halved and sliced
 1 medium sweet red pepper, cut into 1 inch pieces
 2 tbs olive oil
 1/8 tsp salt
 1/8 tsp pepper
 1/4 cup heavy whipping cream

In a small bowl, combine the sausage, potatoes, onion and red pepper. Drizzle with oil; sprinkle with salt and pepper. Toss to coat. Transfer to a greased 1 quart baking dish.

Cover and bake at 375° for 45 minutes. Stir in cream; cover and bake 10-15 minutes longer or until vegetables are tender and cream has thickened. 2 servings.

Slow Cooker Beef Brisket

1 large onion, sliced
 1 fresh beef brisket (3-4 lbs)
 1/4 tsp pepper
 1 (4 1/2 oz) sliced mushrooms, drained
 3/4 cup beef broth
 1/2 cup chili sauce
 1/4 cup packed brown sugar
 2 garlic cloves, minced
 1/4 cup flour
 1/4 cup cold water

Place onion in a 5 qt slow cooker. Rub brisket with pepper, place over onion. Top with mushrooms. In a small bowl, combine the broth, chili sauce, brown sugar and garlic; pour over brisket. Cover and cook on low for 8-9 hours or until meat is tender.

Remove brisket and keep warm. In a small bowl, combine flour and water until smooth; stir into cooking juices. Cover and cook on high for 30 minutes

or until thickened. Slice brisket; serve with gravy.

Turkey Chili

1/4 cup EVOO
 1 bell pepper, finely chopped
 1 onion, finely chopped
 1/4 cup tomato paste
 1 tbsp chili powder
 3/4 lb ground turkey
 Salt and pepper
 1 (14 1/2 oz can) fire-roasted crushed tomatoes
 1 (12 oz) bottle beer
 1 (15 1/2 oz) can kidney beans rinsed

Set aside 2 tbsp chopped bell pepper and add the remaining bell pepper and the onion to the Dutch oven; cook, stirring, until softened, about 5 minutes. Stir in the tomato paste and chili powder. Add the turkey, season with salt and cook, breaking it up and stirring to combine, 3-4 minutes.

Pour in the crushed tomatoes and beer, bring to boil, then lower the heat and simmer, stirring occasionally, for 10 minutes. Add the kidney beans and cook until heated through, about 5 minutes more. Season with salt and pepper.

Peanut Butter Banana Cake

1/2 cup butter, softened
 1 1/2 cups sugar
 2 eggs
 1 cup mashed ripe bananas 2-3 medium
 1 tsp vanilla
 2 cups flour
 2 tsp baking powder
 1 tsp baking soda
 1/2 cup milk
 Frosting:

1/3 cup creamy peanut butter
 1/3 cup milk
 1 1/2 tsp vanilla
 3 cups confectioners' sugar

In a large mixing bowl, cream butter and sugar. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add banana and vanilla; mix well. Combine flour, baking powder and baking soda; add to creamed mixture alternately with milk.

Transfer to a greased 13 x 9 baking pan. Bake at 350° for 30-35 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool on wire rack.

For frosting, in a mixing bowl, beat the peanut butter, milk and vanilla until blended; beat in confectioners' sugar until smooth. Spread over cake. 12 servings.

Campfire Chatter
PO Box 345
Billerica MA 01821

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

2020 Calendars

NATIONAL EVENTS

- March 1** **Deadline for 2021 NAFCAree proposals**
- March 1** **Deadline for 2021 Spring Safari proposals**
- April 17-19** **NAFCA Conservation Weekend**
Otter River State Forest
86 Winchendon Road
Baldwinville, MA 01436
- April 23-26** **NAFCA Annual Meeting**
NAFCA Full Board
NAFCA Installation of Officers
Country Aire Campground
1753 Mohawk Trail
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
- May 14-17** **NAFCA Spring Safari**
Spencer Fairgrounds
48 Smithville Road
Spencer MA
- July 18-25** **2020 NAFCAree**
Rideau Acres Campground
1014 Cunningham Road
Kingston, Ontario, Canada
- August 8** **NAFCA Summer Full Board Meeting**
Travelers Woods
Campground
152 River Road
Bernardsten, MA.
- Oct 16-18** **NAFCA Conservation Weekend**
Otter River State Forest
86 Winchendon Road
Baldwinville, MA 01436

STATE EVENTS

- March 15** **Mass. Co-ord Meeting**
PV8 Hall
104 W. State Street
Granby, MA 01033
- June 25-28** **Scusset Beach Campout**
Scusset Beach State Res.
Sandwich MA
- Aug. 7-9** **Mass. Multi-chapter**
Travelers Woods
Campground
152 River Road
Bernardsten, MA.
- Aug 20-23** **Annual Quilting Weekend**
Country Aire Campground
Charlemont, MA.
- Sept 10-13** **VT/NH Fall Frolic**
River Meadow Campground
3125 Dartmouth College
HWY
N. Haverhill, NH 03774
- Sept. 24-27** **Massachusetts Fall Frolic**
Spencer Fairgrounds
Spencer MA

CHAPTER EVENTS

- July 30-Aug 2** **International Weekend**
1125 Davis Road
Ogden, QC Canada
- Sept 17-20** **Camp-O-Rama**
Second Beach
474 Sachuest Point
Middleton, RI 02842

Continued from page 9

til Alziemer's him from traveling. The Bartlett's address is 93 Hartford Ave. West, Mendon, MA. 01756.

IN THE SERVICE

Please keep all of our men and women serving in the US Armed Forces in your thoughts and prayers for a safe and speedy return.

Doris Lewis

978-302-4003

bobndoris04@gmail.com

Please send news of our NAFCA friends to include in this column. Some of us can't be as active as we'd like and this is how we can keep our friends in our thoughts and prayers.

Order Form

NAFCA Name Badge

The badge will be dark green with white letters, and will measure approximately 2 1/2 by 2 inches. The top will have "NAFCA" engraved and the bottom line will have your name. Each badge will cost \$5.00 including postage. Please print.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone # _____

Print name as you wish it to be engraved on the badge.

Inclose a check in the amount of \$5.00, payable to NAFCA.

Mail To: Dale Bradley,

122 Viking Drive

Portsmouth, RI 02871