



Campfire Chatter

“All About Family Camping”

Official Publication of the
North American Family Campers Association

Visit us at www.NAFCA.org



Vol. 64 No. 5

MAY 2019

IMPORTANT INFORMATION. PLEASE READ

Campfire Chatter Revision

We reported last month that we were forced into looking for a new publisher for the Campfire Chatter. Our former printer announced unexpectedly after printing our February edition, that they were dropping their commercial lines. After sourcing several alternatives, we chose a publisher close to home. The cost to print, plus mail fulfillment, (folding, addressing, filing mail reports, delivering to the post office) was significantly higher than what we had been paying, so that it is creating a drastic hardship on NAFCA's operating costs. As reported at our Quarterly meetings, we are already dipping into our reserve accounts just to keep our heads above water.

To offset our costs, we reached out to you our Members for help. We contacted more than 400 of you by email and asked if you would be willing to accept the Chatter by email only. To date, 150 of you said Yes. For that we Thank you.

If you have not received an email from us, we now ask that you contact us at Membership@NAFCA.org. and tell us if you want a printed or email copy of the Chatter. Please mention your name and Chapter number in your email.

Email recipients receive their Chatter at least a week ahead of the Hard copy. The new emailed Chatter is much easier to read now. Thank You again to those who helped us reduce our March printing and mailing costs by over \$275.00.

One of the reasons our first run was so expensive, is that we had to force a 12 page newspaper into a 16 page newsletter. In order to reduce

printing costs we need help from all of you who submit articles to the Chatter. We're asking you to limit the length of your articles. We do want you to submit your Chapter Smoke Signals and other member news, but the following guidelines should be followed:

Articles should be one column, which is no more than 400 words, less words if you are sending in a picture.

Maximum size of an article and reservation form, including pictures is 2 columns. Articles with reservation forms should be no longer than 500 words. Reservation form can be no larger than 10 inches high. Only one article and reservation form per event.

Reservation forms will only be published for the three months preceding your event. Articles can be published anytime but will not be automatically repeated each month. If you want it in a second edition, please compose a new article.

The only exception will be the NAFCAree that needs to be available over several months. Once we stop taking NAFCAree reservations, those will be eliminated also.

These requests are nothing new, we've just lost our way. The NAFCA Handbook provides guidelines on how to write a Chapter article. These are:

Emphasize Coming Events and invite others to participate.

Report on only recent events.

Avoid personal news or references about people or experiences known only to you or your Chapter. These items should be in your Chapter Newsletter. Chatter articles are for news relevant to the NAFCA members "Outside" of your chapter.

We encourage members to continue to write Smoke signals. But we

have to stress quality, not quantity. If your Chapter did not have a significant event, and you have nothing special coming up in the next 30 to 60 days, take a pass on submitting your article.

I know I am already breaking protocol by writing such a long article. But it must be said so that you will know how to help us cut costs.

A Big Thank You for your help!

Bill Neeb and Dick Basha

SPRING SAFARI

Spring Safari Cinco de Mayo

May 2-5, 2019

Are you starting to get ready \ for Camping?

Well grab your poncho and sombrero and come join us at the Spencer Fairgrounds in Spencer, MA for the annual 2019 NAFCA Spring Safari. This year's theme is "Cinco de Mayo". Just like the Mexican Cinco de Mayo (May 5) we will have a celebration with food, parade and music.

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

Early arrival (Thurs.) 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. Free hot showers. We will have a dump station open on site on Sun.

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 watch Chatter for a reservation form.

Join us for a Cinco de Mayo Chili

Continued on page 3 Spring Safari

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781-584-6443

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Paula & Dale Bradley
401-683-2890

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Jim & Kathy Clacqueno
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Campfire Chatter

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President's Message -- May



Hello to all my fellow campers in NAFCA.

Well as I write this it is the first of April with the weather turning to the good. We start the camping season at the Annual meeting weekend. I hope a lot of the membership plans to come and camp with us then. We would love to see you there. The info has been in the Chatter

for a few months now. The following weekend is the NAFCA Spring Safari in Spencer. Yes it is early but the committee for the NAFCA Spring Safari worked hard to put this weekend together. If you can help out in anyway please help them out.

All chapters should have all your activities planned for this season; please make sure you add them to the NAFCA calendar in both the Chatter Calendar and the Web site.

As March arrived and developed we did get a proposal for NAFCAee 2020. There was a mix up and the original proposal wound up in my SPAM email folder which I didn't know. The proposal is for Rideau Acres Campground in Kingston, Ontario Canada for the 2020 NAFCAree. This was submitted by Mike DiMauro Jr. For the 2020 NAFCA Spring Safari a proposal was submitted late to go back to Spencer by Linda Ostiguy.

The info for both of these will be discussed at the Annual/ Full Board meetings at Oak Haven.

Hope to see you a lot of you attend the Annual/Full Board weekend at Oak Haven in Wales, Ma for the start of the camping season.

Remember to travel safe to all of your outings.

Yours in camping,
Dennis & Pam Richardson

**Have you been to
www.NAFCA.Org?
Check it out you'll be
glad you did.**

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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c/o Bill Neeb

PO Box 345, Billerica, MA 01821
Periodicals postage paid in Billerica and additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Send address changes to: Campfire Chatter, (NAFCA)
PO Box 345, Billerica, MA 01821

NAFCA
P.O. Box 345
Billerica, MA 01821

Spring Safari Continued from page 1

Cook Off contest for all your Chili lovers. Show off your favorite recipe.

Enter as a Chapter or Individual. No charge for the Chefs Chili entry.

Chef Entries should include any of the adventuresome ingredients (chocolate, beer and soda) and amount of heat (mild, medium, hot or OMG). We are looking for variety such as meatless, spicy, white, or surprise ingredient.

Bring your best chili in a slow cooker, hot and ready to serve. Please bring any toppings for your chili. Let us know what type of Chili – any ingredients we should know about (allergies) and the heat level. We will label the cookers but not reveal the cook so not to throw off the votes.

Each Guest will rate the Chili. We will award prizes. Chefs can offer to sell a full serving if the customer wants more after the contest. Tasting fee \$5.00. Tasting Tickets will be sold the day of the event.

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.

Campfires off the ground are permitted and weather permitting (you are always welcome to join a fire that is already going so don't feel left out).

On Sunday morning the NAFCA Council of Chapters Meeting 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.

We will do the raffles and 50/50 along with the meeting with loads of info for the 2019 camping season.

Ed & Diane Gauthier & Jim & Linda Ostiguy-co chairs



**MASSACHUSETTS
SCUSSET BEACH
WEEKEND**

June 20th – June 23rd 2019

It's that time of year again and we are making plans for the Annual Mass State Scusset Weekend. Everyone is welcome to attend this relaxing weekend. Please keep the dates in mind as we are still after Father's Day but not

into 4th of July week.

If you like the "Beach" you will enjoy this campout and we would love to have you join us. We camp in the Safari field at Scusset Beach; where it is only a 5 minute walk across the parking lot and then down the boardwalk to the beach. You can walk 5 minutes in another direction and be at the end of the Cape Cod Canal; some bring a chair and just sit and watch while others enjoy some or all of the 7 mile canal road, only open to pedestrians, where you can walk, run, bike, skate or fish (with a permit). There are also plenty of other things to do in the area or just enjoy the friendship and fun of the group. We are also allowed to have 1 fire for the group in the Safari Field

We can only take 75 rigs in the field so please fill out your reservation form completely and send it in. You will still have to stop at the campground office on your way in to check in and get your car tags; don't forget your rabies paperwork for your pet, as they will need to see it.

We will be providing a French toast & sausage breakfast on Saturday morning and an ice cream social on Saturday night at coffee an, which is included in your camping fee. We ask that you bring something for coffee an for 1 night and we will let you know upon arrival which night to bring it. We have the use of the beautiful pavilion for the weekend.

Any one with questions please free to contact me by phone or email.

The address for Scusset is: 140 Scusset Beach Rd., Sagamore Beach MA 02562

Hope to see you at the "Beach"
Kathy Lena

ENTRY FORM

NAFCA Chili Cook Off
Nafca Spring Safari

Name _____

Chapter _____

Can enter up to May 4

Mail Entries To: Ed & Diane Gauthier
53 Dewey Ave, Leominster MA 01453
Or give to us on May 4th.

Reservation Form

Scusset Beach Reservation
Deadline: June 1, 2019

(Please write legible and all areas are required)

Name _____
(need both adults first names)

Address _____
City,State,Zip _____

Please list children – name & age

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Vehicle License Plate #'s (Required)
Motorhome/Trailer/5th Wheel
_____ State _____
Truck or car vehicle
_____ State _____

How many pets: dogs ___ cats ___ other ___

Fri. & Sat. @\$50.00 \$ _____

Thur. Fri. & Sat. @\$75.00 \$ _____

2nd Family @\$25.00 \$ _____

Name _____
include all family members names and children's ages

Xtra adult @\$12.00 \$ _____

Name _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to: Mass Coord
Committee
Mail to Kathy Lena
289 Summer St.
New Bedford MA 02740
Questions Call: Kathy 508 993 4358
Email kmilturbo@aol.com
or Linda @ 508-867-3294

Reservation Form

Bayley's Campground
Weekend

275 Pine Point Road, Scarborough ME
May 17-19, 2019

Name _____

Address _____

City,State,Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Reserved site _____

Send to: Gaurav Garg
19 Sycamore Lane, Billerica, MA 01821
grg1875@gmail.com - 847-420-2714



The NAFCaree 2019 Ticket Window is now Closed. In March we went through the process of assigning sites by Chapter and groups within chapters and submitted our reservations to Old Orchard Beach Campground. When we approached OOBCCG last year, we told them to expect 50 campers, but hold 75. We're excited that we just about maxed out with 70 sites.

At this point, the cancellation policy is in effect. Cancellations up until June 1st will be charged \$20.00. Beyond June 1st, you will lose one night's deposit of \$75.00.

Trip reservations and tee shirt orders will still be taken up until June 1st, which is also the deadline for final payments. Account statements and payment vouchers have been sent to our attendees. Please make your changes now and finalize your trip decisions sooner than later so we can lock down transportation and trip headcounts.

Here are some general directions to 27 Ocean Park Rd, Old Orchard Beach Maine.

For those without a GPS, contact us for specific directions from your location. The most important fact I can warn you about is your approach off the highway. Most of you will be taking the Maine Pike to exit 36, Route 195 East. From here, ignore your GPS. We recommend taking Exit 2A, US Route 1. At the end of the Exit at the traffic lights, go straight across Route 1 onto

Route 5/Ocean Park Drive. Now turn your GPS voice back on. Old Orchard Beach Campground will be 1 mile down the street on the right at the spot where Route 195 merges in from your left. The entrance to the campground is here on your right just after the blinking yellow traffic warning light. The campground has a large sign, just past the swimming pool with a deep wide paved parking lot and plenty of space to pull into so you and those in caravan

can easily get off the busy road.

Your committee will be up front to help you in. Check in procedures will be provided in the June Chatter.



Reservation Form

2019 NAFCaree
Old Orchard Beach Campground
Old Orchard Beach Maine
JULY 20-27, 2019

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____

Trip Reservations

Saturday Dinner – American Chop
Suey, Bread, Butter and Desert

Tickets ___ @ \$4.00 \$ _____

Sunday July 21st -- LL Bean & Freeport Outlet Shopping

Tickets ___ @ \$16.00 \$ _____

Monday July 22nd

Portland by Land and Sea

Adults ___ @ \$66.00 \$ _____

Under 12 ___ @ \$48.00 \$ _____

Tuesday July 23rd (Day)

Songo River Queen Cruise

Tickets ___ @ \$23.00 \$ _____

Portland Sea Dogs Baseball Game (Evening)

Tickets ___ @ \$23.00 \$ _____

Wednesday July 24th

NAFCaree Day – FREE Day.

Evening BBQ - Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Garden Salad, Chips and Dessert

Tickets ___ @ \$6.00 \$ _____

Thursday July 25th

Portsmouth Navy Yard & Museum

Tickets ___ @ \$23.00 \$ _____

Friday July 26th

Oxford Casino

Tickets ___ @ \$17.00 \$ _____

Clothing Order Form

Embroidered Logo on a lime green 50/50 Blend

T-SHIRTS

Quantity	Size	Price	Amount
_____	Small @	\$13.00	\$ _____
_____	Medium @	\$13.00	\$ _____
_____	Large @	\$13.00	\$ _____
_____	X-Large @	\$14.00	\$ _____
_____	2X-Large @	\$15.00	\$ _____
_____	2X-L -Tall @	\$16.00	\$ _____
_____	3X-Large @	\$16.00	\$ _____
_____	3X-L -Tall @	\$17.00	\$ _____
_____	4X-Large @	\$18.00	\$ _____
_____	4X-L -Tall @	\$19.00	\$ _____
_____	5X-Large @	\$19.00	\$ _____

GOLF SHIRTS

Quantity	Size	Price
_____	Small @	\$16.00 \$ _____
_____	Medium @	\$16.00 \$ _____
_____	Large @	\$16.00 \$ _____
_____	X-Large @	\$16.00 \$ _____
_____	2X-Large @	\$18.00 \$ _____
_____	2X-L -Tall @	\$19.00 \$ _____
_____	3X-Large @	\$19.00 \$ _____
_____	3X-L -Tall @	\$20.00 \$ _____
_____	4X-Large @	\$20.00 \$ _____
_____	4X-L -Tall @	\$21.00 \$ _____

BASEBALL HAT

Quantity	Price	Amount
_____	@ \$15.00	\$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Final Payment due by June 1, 2019

For more information please contact Bill Neeb at 978-667-3565 or Dick Basha at 603-566-8470

Make Checks Payable to: NAFCA

Mail to: P.O. Box 345

Billerica, MA 01821

MASSACHUSETTS MULTI-CHAPTER CAMPOUT

**Multi Chapter Weekend
Aug 9-11 2019**

Join us for the 2019 Multi Chapter Weekend, again this year we are at Travelers Wood in Bernardston MA.

The amenities are: Open Grassy Sites, Free Hot Showers, Covered Pavilion, Electricity, Safari Field, Rec Hall, Playground, and River Fishing & Camp Store – visit them at <http://www.travelerswoods.com/>

On Saturday we will have a reusable bag auction – bring any new or gently used items for the auction. We are asking the item be in a reusable bag. It can be a gift bag, shopping bag – you get the idea. Please make sure the items you are donating are something you would want. Think “would I bid on this item”.

We will have a wind down the week on Friday night. Bring a treat to share by the fire. Saturday let’s eat together. Bring your favorite casserole or dish to share. Any leftover treats from Friday will be available Saturday by the fire.

NOTE: Full Board Meeting in Pavilion on Saturday at 10 AM

The cost for the weekend is \$55.00.

Reservation Form

Multi Chapter Weekend
Travelers Woods, Bernardston MA
DEADLINE: July 27, 2019

Name _____

Address _____

City,State,Zip _____

Phone _____

Email: _____

Number of people _____

Rig type & length _____

Handicapped Yes ___

Remember papers for your pets

Cost for the weekend: \$55.00 per rig
Total Enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to:
Mass Coordinating Comm.

MAIL TO: Ed & Diane Gauthier
53 Dewey Ave
Leominster MA 01453

Questions? Call 978-537-9618
dianeg.july@comcast.net

We are in the safari field with use of the pavilion and group fire pit.

Directions:

They are located at 152 River St in Bernardston, Massachusetts, off I-91 Exit 28B northbound, or Exit 28 southbound. Take a right off the Exit onto Route 10. Take your first left onto River Street. The campground is approximately one half mile on the left.

***For RV’s over 11’ in height follow Route 10 to the STOP sign. Take a left on Routes 5 and 10, left on Cross Street, right at fork in road, right on River Street. Campground is on the left.

From Route 2 (Mohawk Trail) westbound, take the second right past the Gill traffic light (Adams Road), follow for approximately 4 miles, campground is on the right.

**CAUTION If using GPS, make sure you enter “River STREET” as there is a River ROAD within the same postal area code. The River Road address will send you to a dirt road in a neighboring town where you will have to turn around in a farmer’s field.

INTERNATIONAL WEEKEND

International Weekend

Once again it is time to plan your summer camping, if you are not doing anything the 2nd to the 4th of August why not join us at International Weekend in Ogden, Quebec just across the border from Newport, Vt.

This campout is the perfect chance to relax and enjoy life north of the border. Friday evening there is coffee and Tammy’s home made donuts to enjoy by the fire. It is highlighted each year by the BBQ steak supper served Saturday evening. Of course earlier in the day we have Potty and Cribbage for everyone to enjoy. The evening is with a brown bag auction, the 50/50 draw, and door prizes before the fire.

We hope to see you there. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me by email at donixon@sympatico.ca.

Don Nixon, President Chapter 156

Quoahog Chapter Camp-O-Rama

Hello all, my name is Phil Stevens and I am happy to be wagonmaster for this years Quoahog Chapters annual Camporama at 2nd beach in Middletown R.I. This years theme for Camporama is “Summertime Fun In New England”. We are going to have a lot of fun thinking of ways to bring this theme to your camping experience. Obviously, positions and responsibilities have been assigned. The dates we will be having Camporama are Sept.12th thru Sept. 15th. The fee has not changed. It will be \$30 per night per rig. We feel this is very reasonable considering the location and all we offer during this event. We are happy to be able to do this for all members of our camping family. As usual, we will be having a meal catered for Sat. night for

Continued on next page. (Camp-O-Rama)

Reservation Form

International Weekend
125 Davis Road, Ogden, Quebec.
August 2-4, 2019

Name _____

Address _____

City,St,Zip: _____

Chapter: _____

Adults: ____ # Children: ____

Age of the Children: _____

Type of Rig: _____

Length: _____

CAMPING @ \$45.00 \$ _____

EARLY BIRD @ \$15.00 \$ _____

2nd Family same Rig @ \$20.00 \$ _____

Adult Steak ____ @ \$12.00 \$ _____

Child Steak ____ @ \$6.00 \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please Make Cheques Payable To
Hands Across the Border, Chapter 156

MAIL TO: Hands Across the Border
c/o Ogden Granite
P.O. Box 115
Beebe Plains, VT. 05823

Questions:
Phone: 1-819-876-2424
Fax: 1-819-876-7359
E-mail donixon@sympatico.ca
DEADLINE: July 15, 2019 Please

Camp-O-Rama Continued from last page.

all those who are interested. This year we have are very happy to be having Mikes Clam Jam serve us. The menu will be mostly, and only the freshest off the fire into your dish seafood available. There will also be a few other things for those of us who don't really want seafood. This is a food truck service who is very much sought after for special events and we are delighted to have been able to book him. The range of pricing will be affordable to all we think. You can go with clam chowder and clam cakes all the way up to lobster rolls and fried clam dinners. Menus and prices will go out with the registration forms, hopefully by next month.

Well I guess that's it for now. I will have a letter informing you of the progress we are making each month. For example, nightly entertainment, daily activities and off site excursions. We are very much excited to see and serving you all again this year. We look forward to seeing all past participants and hopefully many new ones as well. Anyone who may have any questions please feel free to call any past contacts you may have and please feel free to add me to your contact list as well. Like everyone else, I am happy to help in any way I can. You can contact me at (josephstevens@comcast.net).

Until next month, Be Well And God Bless You

Sincerely, Phil Stevens

Massachusetts Fall Frolic

It seems so far away, but, summer flies by and before we know it we say goodbye to another camping season.

Don't miss this NAFCA tradition, the Massachusetts Fall Frolic.

The cost for Friday, Sept. 27 & Saturday, Sept 28 is \$70.00. If you would like to come in Thursday, Sept. 26, it's \$35.00.

Test your luck with the many of the great raffles. If your chapter would like to enter a raffle the cost is \$10.00. If you would like to have a booth it is \$20.00 for members and \$40.00 for non-members.

Mark it on your camping calendars. More information to come.

Karen Donnelly

Mass Coord State Secretary

Snowbirds Reminder

To all the snowbirds returning to New England:

Please be sure to send in a change of address. The Chatter does not get forwarded by the post office because it is considered a periodical. It will be returned to the NAFCA P.O. Box and we have to pay for the returned mail.

Address changes can be made quickly by email to membership@nafca.org. If you do not have email, send in the form that is in the chatter or leave a phone message at 978-667-3565. Include your full name and updated address with an effective date for the change.

If you have an email address, you can receive the chatter by email. Some of you have already chosen to have this delivery. By doing so, you will receive the chatter at least a week earlier than the printed version and no need to change your address twice a year!

Sustaining Member Spotlight

RV Parts & Electric
2385 S. Leonard St.
Waterbury, CT 06706

If you have a question about RVs and pending trends in camping, then drop by the Mattabessett #86 area at the NAFCA Spring Safari. Long-time NAFCA member, Tom Hedman, is sure to be there generously offering advice about RV maintenance and camping in general. He has been in business for about 35 years and has been a sustaining member of NAFCA all that time. In a sad note, Tom is under the impression that camping is not as popular in the Northeast as it once was and this is causing the bigger dealer shows to migrate west. Camping in general is evolving and Tom has been keeping abreast of these changes by obtaining the necessary training to stay relevant in the RV service industry. He listed just a few of his many qualifications, which include being certified for Dometic Master Service Centers, electrical training for Forest River RVs, Onan Generator certified and specializing in electronics for all types of RVs.

Tom informed me that RVs are becoming more complicated electronically and he is finding a larger part of his time being consumed by having to repair electrical problems in these advanced electrical systems. Think back

to what camping was like 40 years ago and then compare it to common features on today's models – electric jacks, awnings, air conditioners, Satellite TV, slide outs, heating systems, remote control systems. In that vein, Tom predicted that new systems that can monitor RV security on your mobile phone will grow in popularity. He also suspects that increasing reliance on electronic amusements inside the RVs will lead to reduced attendance at campfires. Let's hope he is wrong, but we already lose some to viewing TV sports, Facebook, video games and in my case elder campers hitting the sack early. I sure miss being able to party around the campfire until 12:00 A.M.

If Tom's above qualifications are not enough to dazzle you, he also works on vintage campers and manufactured homes. Tom has observed that an increasing amount of potential campers are choosing to stay at just one campground in a Park model, rather than favoring NAFCA's way of pollinating several campgrounds each year. Hmmm! That brings back a conversation I had with one of our more important NAFCA officials couple of months ago. I asked that person what seems to be the main factor of NAFCA's decreasing membership? Is it frail old age, increasing expenses or just that no one seems inclined to join groups anymore? The response was that an increasing amount of NAFCA members are deciding to become a permanent member at a campground. Well, I guess Tom knows what he is talking about.

Just as there is an increasing shortage of new NAFCA members, Tom stated that there is a large shortage of RV technicians that will only get worse. (Notice those help wanted signs at RV dealers). In fact, he added, less and less young people are entering the trades, period! If this all means what I think it does, it is time for some radical changes on the part of most NAFCA members. We have learned that RVs are becoming more complicated every year and lots of luck to anyone who will be able to find a qualified RV technician to work on them. This can only lead to all of us ditching our trailers and mobile homes to purchase simple, hopefully waterproof, tents. Move over Don Daniel, here we come.

Now you don't have to drive all the way to Waterbury to have Dr. Tom diagnose your ailing RV, he also does service calls. My fellow chapter members have frequently seen him leave right from a camping event or chapter

meeting to do a service call. In fact the service part of his RV repair business is keeping him so busy that he plans to just mainly concentrate on that as the year progresses.

Written by Jeff Bell

NAFCA CARES

SICK LIST

Chapter 49 has the following members on the sick list:

Mark Hanna had a stroke while in Florida for a while but hear he is doing better and back home.

Linda Floyd was in the hospital for surgery recently, she came home and hopefully feeling better every day.

Bud Leaman also had a stroke but is home and doing well.

Ch. 8 members Bob Recoulle, Bra-dlee Nadeau and Ken Cherpak are all on their sick list.

Everett Mitchell, Pine Tree 33, had a tough time this winter, first pneumonia and then the flu. I think he was too sick to even flirt with the nurses!

Dianne Crook, Ch. 30 and 114, had surgery on her 2nd knee recently, I hear she bounced back right away and is better than new.

That's it for this month.

Doris Lewis

NAFCA Cares

bobndoris04@gmail.com

978-302-4003

Please send me news!

Posie Polecat Says
Be A Conservation Camper!



PRACTICE CONSERVATION AND DO NOT DESTROY THE THINGS GOD CREATED FOR MAN TO ENJOY. PICK NOT THE FLOWERS NOR PEEL BARK FROM A TREE. LEAVE NATURE'S BEAUTY AS IT OUGHT TO BE.



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
PO Box 1295, Wilton NH 03086
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CampfireChatter@aol.com

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SMOKE SIGNALS



Massachusetts State Director



Looks like April will come in "like a lamb". Anyway hopefully by the time you read this Chatter you have already camped (or at least visited with your camping) friends and the snowbirds have returned home. And we are off.....

After NAFCA's Spring Safari we head to Scussett Beach on the Cape Cod Canal on June 20-23, Traveler's Woods in Bernardston, MA August 22-25 and the MA Fall Frolic at the Spencer Fairgrounds in Spencer, MA Sept. 26-29 for our "No Theme in 2019" campout. These are (or will be) all listed in Chatter.

New is the choice for the 2020 winter-get-away is Sturbridge, MA. It is a new hotel and we will have it catered by locals. Don't worry we will still have a D.J., inside pool, hospitality room. We are hoping to increase the attendance for this fun event, hence the new location and ideas. You'll be hearing a lot more about it in the future.

Remember-"Happiness is not something you postpone for the future; it is something you design for the present".

Linda Ostiguy
Massachusetts State Director

Worcester #11

We were finally able to get our After the Holidays part in and our in-

stallations. We all gathered at Barbers Crossing in Sterling. We all picked from the menu our meal and then enjoyed. The food was oh so good. It was great to see so many members out for a Saturday get together. Once we were done our meal we proceeded to do the installation of officers. Thank you to Steven Migneault for coming out to join us for the meal plus do the installation. We followed up with our Yankee Swap. This is always fun.

Thank you Linda Ostaguy and Diane Gauthier for information on the upcoming Spring Safari. Can't wait to see the entries for the Chili Cook-off. Did you get your reservations in?

Worcester Chapter will be then going to Ross Hill for Memorial Day weekend. We have not been here in quite a few years and looking forward to camping with them again. Looking forward to see what is planned for the weekend.

Squaw-No-Cook #30

Happy Spring Everyone!!

Yes, it's spring, and it's raining. There is just a smidge of snow left in the area and it's time to get ready for the next few months of camping.

There was no March meeting, since a group of us went to see the show Mama Mia at Mount Wachusett. The show was really nice. I'm smiling as I write this because I think a number of us watching the show were singing the songs, if not out loud, at least in our minds!! (I would be one of those not singing out loud.)

Brad has already been out visiting ice cream stands - he visited Rota Springs early in March, on their opening day. I have to admit - Jim and I went there already as well. Jim loves ice cream!! And to be honest, I like the ice cream socials the Schofields put on!!

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone next Saturday night, for our next indoor meeting. I suspect it will be the last one for now, since camping

will start soon after. Are you ready?

I know Jim couldn't wait for the snow to disappear from the top of his camper. I'm hoping there were no critters this winter. He still has a few things to fix from last year, so hopefully everything is okay.

Guess that's all for now. Enjoy the spring!

Barbara Starr

Canvasback #157

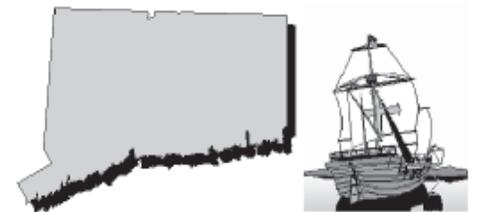
Greetings to all and hello to Spring and camping season once again!

If you maybe looking for a spot to camp over the long July 4th weekend you can join in with Canvasback Chapter at Wadleigh Falls Campground in Lee, NH. The dates will be Wednesday July 3 - Sunday, July 7. You may come for all or part of this outing. You must make your own reservation with Wadleigh Falls by calling 603-659-1751 and tell them you are camping with Canvasback in the safari field. The campground has its own activities (July 6th - Dance, Raffle, Fireworks) and we'll have a pot luck supper and and maybe a breakfast as well as a group campfire each evening.

The address for Wadleigh Falls Campground is 16 Campground Road, Lee, NH 03861.

We hope you will join us!

Don Daniel - Correspondent



Connecticut

Wolf Den #103

Happy Mothers Day & Memorial Day!!

Wolf Den usually has their first campout on Memorial Day weekend, but for the past few years we opted out since it's a busy weekend for everyone with family. We plan to have our first meeting on March 24, 2019 to discuss our summer campout plans. The Taylor's could not make it because they took their grandson Mason to Disney Land. I really think it was just an excuse for them to go, and they took Mason to make it look good. We wish them the best time making memories

with Mason. Mark Donahue had major surgery. We wish Mark a full and quick recovery!

The snow is finally melting for most areas, but it feels like we (Goodwin's) live in Antarctica since we still have lots of snow on our lawn. The first day of Spring was absolutely beautiful but the very next day was pretty dismal with rain to follow. Technically the first day of Spring is March 21st and for some reason they changed it to the 20th. Why can't they leave well enough alone!! Now they're saying there will be snow for the weekend... what's going on!?! Old Man Winter needs to hibernate.

I know we are more than ready for camping. The last couple years have been very sparse for us attending campouts, and I pray this summer will be filled with many!!

See everyone soon by the campfire.
Submitted by Arlene Goodwin
Wolf Den 103 Secretary



Pine Tree #33

Wishing all the mothers out there a Happy Mother's Day. As always keep our current and former military in your hearts and mind during your Memorial Day celebrations. As I am writing this at the end of March I am not sure if we got to start camping in April or not but I went in on March 16th and there was way too much snow at that time. Depending when you read this we may have had our annual lot assignment day. I hope the new lot holders and users can join in as many activities as possible. The more people attending the more fun we can have and keep the campground going.

The weather cooperated for our last social for the winter. We had a really good crowd for good food and conversation. It was the first time in many years we went to the Chickadee as a group. I hope everyone had a good time. I think when I make the schedule for next winter I will have the Chickadee on it. I received a suggestion for a

location for next winter- Lotus in Auburn, may have to ask for interest at a meeting next fall.

Our June activities are the following: the month starts on the 1st with a breakfast from 8 AM-9 AM put on by the kitchen committee, a Chinese auction at 1 PM Chinese auction with tickets going on sale at 11 AM & black bag auction. The 2nd has our board meeting at 10:30 AM and chapter meeting at 1 PM. The 8th has our 2nd cleanup of the season from 8 AM-12 PM with coffee and muffins at 9 AM. That night at 7 PM Richard Witham will have a talk and show antiques, collectibles and nostalgic items. There will also be a door prize. Come have a good time guessing what things are used for. The 15th has our first cribbage of the season at 2 PM and bingo at 7 PM. The 16th has a Father's Day breakfast from 8 AM-9 AM put on by the women. The 22nd has a meatloaf supper at 5 PM. The 29th has our second cribbage at 2 PM and bingo at 7 PM. As always keep an eye out for any changes in the newsletter, on the website and the Facebook page.

I guess that is it for now until next month.

Jim, Newsletter Editor/Webmaster.

Penobscot Valley Acres #37

We are getting closer... It's still a little snow covered and wet but our little campground on the Hudson (stream) is slowly waking up from it's winter nap and we will be moving in, in no time. I have been itching to get our home on wheels all stocked and set up on our lot. I was unable to attend the spring luncheon but Wayne went and secured our spot for this camping season. Like so many of our fellow campers this is the time we make sure our lot rent is taken care of and Shelda has everything so organized for us. What a great treasurer she is and we are lucky to have her.

I haven't heard if any lots have opened up this year but I know there are some couples on the waiting list to come in as soon as we open. It's funny how even when we're closed for the winter people are still hearing about our little campground. It's always nice to meet and get to know new members.

Hopefully by next month I will have more to tell you about once we are all settled in and enjoying camp fires, fun events, trips and stories. So until then once again I invite you to

come for a visit and I wish you :

Safe Travels,
Janet Bagley

Maine Rovers #126

First off might I apologize for not putting out a Chatter hello for last month. I could set here and do a lot of explaining as to why I didn't, but I won't, it was just a rough time.

At our March Meeting we voted on the offices that will be held for the next two years. I'd like to congratulate the following newly elected officers, President, Gloria Richards, Vice President, Randy Stevens, Treasure, Darleen Walker and, Secretary, (yours truly) Betty Grover.

It was so great getting to see our Camping Family again after such a long and snowy winter. Before and after the meeting there were a lot of hugs and greetings and talk of anxiousness to get back into to the campground again. There were some great snacks that were brought by some of the members, and they were soooo good. Even though this person needs to get some of that winter padding off, it's hard not to sample good snacks.

April brought us some warmer weather that melted most of the snow. Our camp road was still a bit on the wet and muddy side so that slowed us down on getting into camp to start any clean up that needed to be done. Everyone is really getting that Camp Bug. You know the one! Where you start gathering up things that you just have to have at camp. And then there's the "Camp shopping", you can't forget that! And of course all the stores are helping you out by bringing in all this "New great Camp Stuff", which you just have to have for camp. As you can guess, that Camp Bug has gone rapid through our neck of the woods.

We have been busy working on some fun things for this summer at camp. We have 2 different Bands scheduled along with some Karaoke, and several outer things that we are hoping to get going this year. Summer is coming for sure and the Fun is just getting started. So stay tuned for some interesting up-dates.

Best of camping to all
Betty Grover

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bonnyriggcampground.com

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508-966-1136
www.circlecgfarm.com

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413-625-2996 - www.Country-Aire.com

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800-678-9278 - www.flaggrv.com

Lamb City Campground

85 Royalston Road
Phillipston, MA 01331
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www.mannsrv.com

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413-357-6494
prospectmountaincampground.com

Spencer Agricultural Association

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Spencer, MA 01562
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413-245-3504 - Villagegreencampground.com

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603-323-8536 - chocorucamping.com

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*10 or more rigs (no holiday weekends)

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Florida

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Winter Garden, FL 34787

Pennsylvania

Drummer Boy Camping Resort

1300 Hanover Rd.
Gettysburg, Pa 17325
800-293-2808 - drummerboycampresort.com





Come and Get It!

Email your recipes to
russrider@aol.com

BIG Thank you to and David and Paula Colvin for this month's recipes.....Don't be bashful...send in your favorites!

BREAKFAST ENCHILADAS

Submitted by David and Paula Colvin

- 1 lb sausage, browned
- 2 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 8 (8 in) flour tortilla
- 6 eggs
- 2 cups half and half
- 1 tbsp flour
- ½ tsp salt
- 3 oz package bacon bits

Spray 13 x 9 pan with cooking spray

In a large bowl stir together, browned sausage, 1 cup cheese and half of the package of bacon bits.

Place 1/8 of the mixture down the center of a tortilla. Roll up and place seam side down in baking dish. Repeat until all tortillas are filled.

In another large bowl, beat eggs, half and half, flour and salt. Pour over the tortillas in the pan. You can cover the dish and place in the fridge or bake immediately.

When ready to bake, preheat the oven to 350°. Uncover the dish and sprinkle remaining 1 cup of cheese over tortillas. Sprinkle the rest of the bacon bits over cheese. Cover baking dish and bake for 35 minutes. Uncover the dish and bake 10 minutes longer, or until set and cheese is melted.

CHOCOLATE BANANA BAKED OATMEAL CUPS

Submitted by David and Paula Colvin

- 1 tbsp ground flaxseed
- 3 tbsp water
- 2 cup old fashioned oats
- 1 tsp baking powder

- ½ tsp sea salt
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 large ripe banana
- 2 tbsp coconut oil, melted
- 1 cup milk
- 2 tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla
- ½ cup mini chocolate chips

Preheat the oven to 350°. Grease a muffin pan with non-stick cooking spray and set aside.

Combine the ground flaxseed and water in a small bowl. Set aside while you prepare the other ingredients

Combine oats, baking powder, salt and cinnamon in a large bowl. Set aside. Combine mashed banana, flaxseed mixture, melted coconut oil, milk, brown sugar and vanilla extract in medium sized bowl.

Add the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients and mix to combine. Stir in chocolate chips. Pour the mixture into the prepared muffin pan. Filling each cup evenly. Bake for 20 -25 minutes or until the cups are a golden brown on top and set in the middle. Remove from the oven and let the muffins cool in their pans for 5 minutes. Remove from the pan and serve warm.

PINEAPPLE CHICKEN KABOBS

Submitted by David and Paula Colvin

- 1 lb boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1 pineapple
- 1 red onion
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 Tbsp brown sugar ½ tsp ground ginger
- ½ tsp black pepper
- 1 Tbsp canola oil
- 2 Tbsp water
- ¼ cup low sodium soy sauce

Grilling spray

Cut chicken breasts into 2 inch pieces
 Combine the garlic powder, brown sugar, ground ginger, black pepper, oil water and soy sauce in a medium size bowl. Whisk until combined. Toss chicken in mixture until coated.

Cut the pineapple into 2 inch pieces. Slice red onion so you have slices about 1 inch long and wide.

Place chicken, pineapple and onions on metal skewer or wood skewer that has been soaked in water, alternating pieces.

Spray grilling spray on grill according to directions. Place skewers on grill. Turn grill on to medium high heat and cook 10-15 minutes or until chicken is done. Rotating several times.

CROCK POT CHILI MAC

Submitted by David and Paula Colvin

- 2 lbs ground beef
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 (46 oz) can tomato juice
- 1 (28 oz) can diced tomatoes, undrained
- 3 celery ribs, chopped
- 3 Tbsp brown sugar
- 2 Tbsp chili powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp prepared mustard
- ¼ tsp pepper
- 1 (16 oz) can kidney beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 cup uncooked elbow macaroni

Cook beef and onion over medium heat until meat is no longer pink. Drain, place in slow cooker. Stir in tomato juice, tomatoes, celery, brown sugar, chili powder, salt, mustard, pepper and kidney beans. Cook on low for 6-8 hours.

One hour before the dish is done, add pasta and let cook for the last hour.



Campfire Chatter
PO Box 345
Billerica MA 01821

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

2019 Calendars

NATIONAL EVENTS

- May 2-5** **NAFCA Spring Safari**
 Spencer Fairgrounds
 Spencer MA

- July 20-27** **NAFCARee**
 Old Orchard Beach Camp-
 ground
 Old Orchard Beach, Maine

- August 10** **NAFCA Summer Full
 Board Meeting - 10 AM**
 Travelers Woods Camp-
 ground
 Bernardston MA

- Oct. 4-6** **Council of Chapters
 Meeting**
 Country Aire Campground
 Charlemont, MA

- Oct. 18-20** **Otter River Conservation
 Weekend**
 Otter River State Forest
 86 Winchendon Rd
 Baldwinville MA

STATE EVENTS

- June 20-23** **Scusset Beach Campout**
 Scusset Beach State Res-
 ervation
 Sandwich MA

- Aug. 9-11** **Mass. Multi Chapter
 Weekend**
 Travelers Woods Camp
 ground
 Bernardston MA

- Aug. 22-25** **Quilting & Camping Week-
 end**
 Country Aire Campground
 Charlemont MA

- Sept. 6-8** **Vermont & New Hampshire
 Fall Frolic**
 River Meadow Campground
 North Haverhill, NH

- Sept. 26-29** **Massachusetts Fall Frolic**
 Spencer Fairgrounds
 Spencer MA

CHAPTER EVENTS

- May 17-19** **Canvasback #157
 Bayleys Camping Resort**
 275 Pine Point Rd
 Scarborough ME

- May 24-27** **Worcester #11 - Ross Hill
 Park Family Campground**
 170 Ross Hill Rd
 Lisbon CT

- Aug. 2-4** **International Weekend**
 125 Davis Road
 Ogden, Quebec, Canada

- Sept. 12-15** **Quahaug #48 - Camp-O-
 Rama**
 Sachuest Beach
 Middleton RI

- Oct. 11-14** **Worcester #11**
 Country RV Park
 Griswald CT

2020

STATE EVENTS

- Jan 24-26** **Mass Dinner & Dance**
 Holiday Inn
 Sturbridge MA