

Campfire Chatter

“All About Family Camping”

Official Publication of
North America Family
Campers Association

Visit us at www.NAFCA.org



President's Message

May Day (May 1) has long been a favorite tradition in my family. May baskets mean happy memories to me, and I am glad the tradition will carry on. Do you have a favorite “camping” tradition that you would like to share? To make memories you need to share in order for the tradition to be carried on.

This year at our NAFCA Spring Safari hopefully we will share memories of the past at our story telling evening program with Paula & Dale Bradley who will lead us down memory lane. This year we will try to revive our thoughts about great friendships and adventures. “Something New in 2022” is the theme and we hope you came and enjoyed!

After a great week at Rideau Acres Campground in Ontario, Canada in July, come and join us at Village Green in Brimfield, MA for Summer Full Board along with the MA Multi-Chapter Campout. The date is August 4-6, 2022. It definitely will NOT be all meetings and



WILL include lots of fun.

We've had our Annual Meeting in April, Conservation Weekend, and now waiting anxiously for Spring Safari. Let's continue to work together for NAFCA's future and have fun doing it! We all have something to contribute so let's do it!!!

Linda Ostiguy
NAFCA President

Current Membership 524

For the month of March there was 1 new member joining Chapter 8.

NAFCaree PROPOSAL DEADLINE EXTENDED

Would you like to have a NAFCaree in 2023? Proposals should have been submitted by March 1 but none have been received. A member of the board has reached out to some campgrounds in the Virginia and Maryland area but there has been no response, so 2023 NAFCaree is in jeopardy.

It is up to the members of NAFCA to find a destination and submit a proposal. The Board published articles in the October, November, and February Chatters with questions you can use to ask campgrounds for a proposal.

In contrast to popular belief, it is not the Board's responsibility to find a location should the membership come up empty. It would be unfortunate for this great event to not happen, so please step up and do your part in continuing our NAFCaree tradition.

Proposals should be sent to

Linda Ostiguy,
linandjimo@verizon.net

Campers, Family & Friends:

Happy May! Hopefully a transition into better weather! As my mom mentioned in her article, May Day, celebrated on May 1st has been a long standing tradition in our family. I thought I would share a “snippet” of what the history of May Day is. Hope you all enjoy it! Have a great month and see you soon!

Janell Forget, Co-Editor

The tradition of celebrating May Day by dancing and singing around a maypole, tied with colorful ribbons, is still practiced today. Another European tradition that survived is hanging May baskets on doorknobs. People make small baskets filled with treats or flowers to give secretly to friends and neighbors. It is customary to leave the basket on the doorstep of a neighbor or friend, ring the doorbell and run away. If the friend catches you before you get away, you must give them a kiss.



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2022 Calendar Events

May 19 - 22	Spring Safari Franklin County Fairgrounds Greenfield, MA
June 2-5th	Mass State Scusset Beach Scusset Beach, MA
July 16-23rd	NAFCaree Rideau Acres Campground Ontario, CA
Aug 5-7	Summer Full Board Mtg TBD
Sept 30-Oct 2	Council of Chapters & Full Board Mtg.

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SPRING SAFARI
“Something New for 2022”
May 19 - 22

The Spring Safari is only a few weeks away at the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Greenfield MA. If you haven't signed up yet, please do so now.

In January, registration forms were mailed to your Chapter President. If you are having any problems signing up, contact Bill Neeb at membership@nafca.org If you do not belong to a chapter, send the non-chapter form found in the Chatter.

We encourage you to invite a friend or family member that may be interested in joining NAFCA. They may attend the weekend at the same rate as a NAFCA member and will need to fill out a registration form. This would be a good opportunity for someone to learn about NAFCA and is the most effective means of attracting new members.

This year we are adding some fun and interesting sessions that you can participate in. These include how to make a “campfire in a can,” making fire-starters, RV parking seminar, trivia contest, a book swap table (bring a book, take a book), NAFCA Cracker Barrell for you to tell funny NAFCA stories which will be a time to reminisce and entertain. There will be Auxiliary items for sale, a Chinese Auction, raffles, card bingo, cribbage, horseshoes and cornhole.

Remember to bring:

- Used items in good condition for the auction table
- Books for the book swap table
- Can tabs for donation to the Shriners

We would appreciate each chapter to contribute to the raffle table with a new item.

We are keeping the cost reasonable at \$70.00 for the weekend (with water and electric). \$30.00 for the second family in the rig and \$15.00 for a single adult. Early Arrival after noon on Thursday is welcome for \$35.00. Campfires are permitted elevated off the ground.

Booth space is available to members for \$20.00. Please consider selling food, crafts, or other items either by chapter or for yourself. Booths have been decreasing the past few years. Let's try and bring back some food and items to sell. You will need to supply your own table. As of this writing, Worcester Chapter will be selling breakfast sandwiches on Saturday morning.

The Spring Council of Chapters meeting will be held Sunday morning at 9:30. If there are any proposals for NAFCAree 2023, the vote will take place at this meeting. There is one proposal for Spring Safari that has been submitted.

Mass State Scusset Beach Campout
June 2 – June 5, 2022

Well it's that time again and our weekend has moved yet again, beginning of the month this year.

Please come and join us for a fun relaxing weekend at “The Beach”. We are in the Safari Field at Scusset Beach, the end of the Cape Cod Canal just past the Sagamore Bridge but not over it. It is dry camping, there is water for fill ups and generators can be run from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.; but please be considerate of who you are parked next to.

We are across the parking lot to the beach and an even shorter walk to the Cape Cod Canal, where there is a road you can walk/run, bike, skate or just sit and watch (no vehicles are allowed); there is a playground now too. There are plenty of restaurants and shopping close by, and someone always finds a yard sale. Do as much or as little as you want. There is most always a comfortable breeze and the beach is always a plus, maybe less crowded so early in the season!

You can come in on Thursday and enjoy all day Friday. We will have coffee an' for Friday and Saturday nights, so please bring a goodie to share for one night, (which night will be determined upon arrival) and we hold a 50/50 raffle, drawn that night. We also have a breakfast on Saturday morning, consisting of French toast, sausage, juice & coffee, which is included in your camping fee, the rest of the day is yours to enjoy. We will have one community campfire in the field each night, so bring your chair and stay awhile.

Don't forget your rabies paperwork for your pets, they will ask when you check in.

The cost per night is \$25 per rig, 2nd family \$25 for the weekend and an extra adult \$12 for the weekend. You have to completely fill out the reservation form, as the campground wants all the information and I need the count for breakfast (adults & children w/ages). That means registration #'s for campers and tow vehicles as well as motor homes and towed vehicles. If you have a question, please call or email and ask, don't assume or leave blank. The campground only allows for 75 rigs in the field, so the 1st 75 complete get in.

We are looking forward to seeing you at “THE BEACH”.

Kathy Lena- Chairman
kmlturbo@aol.com; 508-993-4358

Mass Scusset Beach Reservation
June 2 thru June 5, 2022
Deadline: May 15, 2022
 (Please write legible and all areas are required)

Name: _____
 (need both adults first names)

Children names and age: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

Chapter # _____ E-
 Mail _____

Vehicle License Plate #'s (Required)

Motorhome/Trailer/5th Wheel

Plate# _____

State _____

Truck or car Plate # _____

State _____

How many pets: dogs: _____ cats _____

other _____ # _____

Fri. & Sat. \$50.00 _____

Thur. Fri. & Sat. \$75.00 _____

2nd Family \$25.00 _____

Name _____

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

Mass State Director Report

We finally had a meeting last week and since then we have some things accomplished

June 2 – 5 Scusset Beach Campout

August 4 – 5 MA Multi Chapter & Full Board @ Village Green Brimfield MA

Sept 22 – 25 Fall Frolic – I may have found a place- just waiting for confirmation

Proposals for the Dinner Dance are out and should have a decision in the next day or 2

So please mark your calendars and come join us camping

Please keep in mind that the cost of everything is on the rise, so our days of \$30 a night camping are gone. Campgrounds are booking up fast with so many people camping since the start of Covid, so they don't need our groups- they are filling their Safari fields too Maybe we need to figure out a way to get some of these new campers to join our groups, let's try to concentrate on that- Get group camping back to the "way to go"

I also have a proposal for 2023 MA Fall Frolic

We are still looking for a deputy to add to our board and always looking for help to book and run campouts

Happy Camping

Kathy Lena

MA State Director



Sustaining Members

CONNECTICUT

Mineral Springs Family
Campground
135 Leonard Road
Stafford Springs, CT. 06076
860-684-2993
www.mineralspringscampground.com
Groups receive 10%

Ross Hill Campground
170 Ross Hill Road
Lisbon, CT 06351-2922
860-376-9606
www.rosshillpark.com

\$\$ RV Parts & Electric
2385 S. Leonard Street
Waterbury, CT 06706
203-754-5962
a1awning@snet.com

Pete's RV Center
417 John Fitch Blvd
South Windsor, CT 06074
860-528-9800
petesrvct.com

MASSACHUSETTS

Bonny Rigg Camping Club, Inc.
59 Main Street, PO Box 417
Becket, MA 01223
413-623-5366
www.bonnyriggcampground.com

\$\$ Circle CG Farm Inc.
131 North Main Street
Bellingham, MA 02019
508-966-1136
info@circlecgfarm.com \$\$Country
Aire Campground
1735 Route 2
Shelbourne Falls, MA 01370
413-625-2996
www.CountryAireCampground.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
www.lambcity.com

\$\$Mann's RV
52 Barre Paxton Road
Rutland, MA. 01543
800-677-4476
www.mannersrv.com

\$\$Oak Haven Family Campground
22 Main Street, PO Box 166
Wales, MA. 01081
413-245-7148
www.OakHavenCampground.com

\$\$ Pout & Trout Campground
94 River Road
Rutland, MA. 01543
508-886-6677

Prospect Mountain Campground
1349 Main Rd./Rte. 57, PO Box 323
Granville, MA 01034
413-357-6494
www.prospectmountaincampground.com

Village Green Family Campground
228 Sturbridge Rd/Route 20
Brimfield, MA 01010-9641
413-245-3504
www.villagegreencampground.com

Walker Island Campground
27 Route 20
Chester, MA 01011
413-354-2295
www.walkerislandcamping.com

Pete's RV Center
171 Washington St
Plainville, MA 02762
508-695-9241
petesrvmass.com

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

MAINE

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

NEW HAMPSHIRE

\$\$ Chocorua Campaign Village
KOA
893 White Mountain Highway
Chocorua, NH 03817
603-323-8536;
chocoruacamping.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 Road
Narragansett, RI. 02882
401-783-4902

VERMONT

\$\$Apple Island Resort
71 US Route 2
South Hero, VT 05486
802-372-3800
appleislandresort.com

Abel Mountain Campground
354 Mobile Acres Road
Braintree, VT. 05060x
802-728-5548;
ablemountain.com

Pete's RV Center
4016 Williston Road
So. Burlington, VT. 05403
802-864-7495
petesrvvt.com

Smoke Signals

Canvasback #157

NAFCA Spring Safari is just about upon us. The dates are May 12 (Thursday), 13, 14 and 15 at the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Greenfield, MA. Yes the NAFCA board moved the weekend and the location due as they say, for overall cost of the weekend vs Spencer Fairgrounds. I do hope NAFCA will support this Spring Safari. Some details on the weekend activities may be found in Campfire Chatter. Even if you have not reserved a spot to camp and since there is lots of room, you can come and pay at the gate. For more updated info for the weekend you should call President, Linda Ostiguy at (508) 867-3294 or email lindajimo@verizon.net. I hope to see you there.

Don't let NAFCAree 2022 go without you signing up for a wonderful, fun filled, week at Rideau Acres Campground in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. The committee has put together great trips to go on during the week and the campground is top of the line. NAFCAree will be July 16 – 23, 2022. You may also come a day early (Friday) or stay a day longer (Sunday) each for a small extra fee. The deadline is fast approaching so get your camping and trips along with all the fees sent in. Camping & trips deadline is May 25. you really don't want to miss out on NAFCAree 2022 "On The Go In Ontario".

This Chapter has had a few inquiries about becoming a member. This is great news for the chapter and NAFCA. We haven't welcomed any new members since before Covid struck the country. Things are looking up once again.

Where have all the other Smoke Signals gone? Have the chapters stopped talking and planning? We have had some fun reading write ups in the past. How about telling us about your chapter plans. We need to fill in the empty spaces in Campfire Chatter with your Chapters goings and comings. How about putting pen to paper for the good of all the membership. Until next we meet,

Don Daniel – Correspondent

Pioneer Valley Chapter 8

February, we were so excited to finally be back at the Big E for our 60th Springfield RV, Camping and Outdoor Show! After a year's absence, it was great to see all the vendors, PV8 and NAFCA members and the public who came to get ready for a fun year of camping! Attendance was at a record high; vendors made sales and campgrounds were excited about families making plans for the new season.

Congratulations to Phil and Candace Nadeau, Show Chairpersons, and their hard-working Camp Show Committee! And a special thanks to all our PV8 volunteers- we could not do it without you. It takes Passion and Teamwork to make this show a success!!

Over the past few months, have been holding our monthly PV8 chapter meetings in our chapter hall. It's been great to see everyone and have time to catch up. Last month, we held our chapter elections for our new Board of Directors. A huge thank you to outgoing Presidents Brian & Michelle LaValley for serving during this extraordinary time period. I am sure they had no clue of the challenges they faced when they ran for the office of president. Thank you as well to all the outgoing Board of Director. And best of luck to all the new members Board Members who will lead us in the next year.

Our Teen Club is up and running after a hiatus this past year. At one point we had no teen body, no Board of Directors and were short on advisors. But, as PV8 does, several people stepped up to support the teens as they began to rebuild the club. Mike DiMauro and Ryan Pelletier stepped up last summer as advisors along with Annette & Todd Heim. When the Heims and Ryan needed to step down for personal reason, Stephen Malochleb, a dad to a few teens of his own, stepped up and offered to help the teens until our March elections. And a special thank you to Megan Chartier for being at every meeting, supporting, and guiding the teens for the last several months. Thank you to all your work in supporting our teen members and guiding them.

Now, we are all looking forward to getting down to the serious business of camping, with both our Chapter and NAFCA groups. We have 5 (five) PV8 Campouts planned from May through September. Looking forward to camping with some of our favorite campgrounds and making acquaintances with a couple new ones in NY, MA and CT.

We hope you all have a wonderful spring and enjoy the upcoming camping season.

Until next time, Happy Camping!
Donna Carter
Corresponding Secretary, PV8

**NAFCaree 2022
Rideau Acres Campground
Kingston, Ontario, Canada
July 16-23, 2022**

Hello NAFCFA members

2022 - NAFCaree – ON THE GO IN ONTARIO

Please join us for the 2022 NAFCAREE at Rideau Acres, Kingston Ontario, Canada, a short & easy 6 hour drive straight west. We have an exciting week planned for you July 16-23. Your NAFCAREE committee is excited to bring you all of the exciting activities this area has to offer. Kingston itself was the original capital of Canada with lots to do, hiking trails, parks, brewery's/restaurants, Lake Ontario, sunsets, beaches, biking, history tours. We will have access to all. Sit along the banks of Lake Ontario and enjoy the famous sunset, take a boat ride, enjoy some fishing, take a bike ride on Hog Island, visit Ottawa. We are planning a day on our own personal pontoon boat and a catered pig roast in the air conditioned 5-star function hall at the campground for only \$25.00. Sign up for one or all of our great trips.

The campground, if you never want to leave, is a full-service campground and offers, large campsites with table and firepits, free hot showers, Wi-Fi, swimming pool with lifeguard, river beach, boat rentals, walking trails, camp store, video game room, 9-hole disc golf, and mini golf, horseshoe pits, playground, duck pond, boat rental, pedal cars as well as campground planned activities.

Check it out: <https://www.rideauacres.com/>

If you have any questions please feel free to call Carol Robison at 978-400-1209 or email me at crobison08@yahoo.com.

Come Join our NAFCFA friends!!!!

Your NAFCaree Committee

Don & Maureen Daniel

Bruce & Marjorie Williams

Gaurav Garg

Katie Boudreau, Peggy Griswold

Carol Robison & Phil Choiniere



MAPLE SUGARING

It is the time of year for maple sugaring. We in New England are accustomed to small taps anchored into the maple trees and a small tube leading to a larger holding cylinder. Eighty percent of the world's maple syrup comes from Canada (sorry, Vermont) so here are some great facts you might not know about our favorite pancake topping. If you put a glass of water and a glass of maple sap side by side, you wouldn't be able to tell the difference. They look exactly the same. It takes 40 gallons of maple syrup sap to make 1 gallon of maple syrup. In order to get those massive quantities of maple sap, you have to start with a mature syrup maple tree, and that takes about 40 years. Anything younger than that just won't work very well. If a jar of maple syrup has been properly sealed, it'll keep forever. If you ever find a little mold, pour the syrup into a pot on the stove, and heat it up to 180 degrees Fahrenheit. This is the temperature the syrup is heated to prior to bottling, so it's hot enough to kill any bacteria. Pour it back in your bottle, stick it in the fridge, and you're fine!.

SRW

Campfire Chatter

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Billerica, MA 01821

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NAFCA CARES

Please remember that if you would like to have news listed in Chatter to please send it to our NAFCA Cares ladies Bev Kelly by phone @401-626-2133 or beverlykelly1127@gmail.com

Good news is also welcomed.

WHITE CHICKEN CHILI

- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves, cut into cubes
- 4 tsp chili powder
- 2 tsp cumin
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 medium pepper, chopped (about 3/4 cup)
- 1 (10 ¾ oz can) condensed Cream of Chicken soup
- ¾ cup water
- 1 ½ cups frozen whole kernel corn
- 2 cans (15 oz each) white kidney beans, rinsed and drained
- 2 tbsp shredded Cheddar cheese

Heat oil in 4 qt saucepan over medium high heat. Add chicken, chili powder, cumin, onion and pepper and cook until chicken is cooked through and vegetables are tender, stirring often.

Stir soup, water, corn and bean in saucepan and heat to a boil. Reduce heat to low. Cover and cook 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Sprinkle with cheese (6 servings)