

Campfire Chatter

“All About Family Camping”

Official Publication of
North America Family
Campers Association

Visit us at www.NAFCA.org



President's Message



When I think of October I think of orange, gold, and brown but I should be thinking Fall Frolics and Council of Chapters. There is a lot going on before we put the RV to bed (I know some of you camp into Nov. and others are heading South for warmer weather). Whatever your plans might be please include NAFCA in them.

The Council of Chapters is the beginning of October. PV8 is celebrating 60 plus 1 Anniversary in November.

It is time to consider to run for National Office, celebrate the holidays with camping friends, MA Coordinating meeting also in Nov. In other words it is no time to forget NAFCA fellowship and commitments. Stay active and keep being involved. Again we will have a NAFCA booth at the Springfield RV, Camping and Outdoor Show in Feb. MA has a Dinner Dance “get-a-way” weekend in Jan., plan your Summer vacation at the NAFCAree in Canada, you can let me know of other ideas.

No matter where you are read your Chatter and let us know what you are up to, in other words stay connected. If your are traveling let us enjoy your doings with you (and be envious). It is also a great time to support your favorite charities and work on ideas for when we are together again.

They say that there is “no rest for the wicked” but I say rest but keep active so the Winter will fly by!

Linda Ostiguy
NAFCA President



2021-2022 Calendar Events

October 1-3	Council of Chapters Canoe River Campground Mansfield, MA
October 15-17	NAFCA Conservation Work weekend Otter River State Forest Baldwinville, MA
January 28-30	MA Dinner Dance Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center Southbridge, MA
February 18-22	Springfield RV Camping & Outdoor Show Eastern States Exposition West Springfield, MA

Campers, Family & Friends:

October is here! October is truly one of my favorite months of the year, despite the fact of what comes after it (colder weather, BOOO). But it does precede the month of November, which is a time for us all to give thanks for what we have, help others and spend time with family and friends near and far.

As we prepare for a month of giving, I would challenge you to say at least one positive thing to somebody each day. It can be family, it can be somebody you see on the street or even a phone call to somebody you haven't spoken to in a while.

Kindness and positive vibes are two of the most important things we can do right now as we continue in uncertain times.

I, like many people I know, get caught up in the day to day, sometimes controlled, chaos that is my life and very rarely do I take the time to not only praise my family but my co-workers, the people I meet that I don't know out in public and those working in the different service industries. As hard as the last two years have been on me and my fellow healthcare workers, they have also felt the pain of being short staffed, overworked, underpaid and dealing with angry and frustrated customers. Please be kind, we must all stick together to get through.

Happy Halloween! Remember to leave lots of candy out for those trick or treaters.

Janell Forget, Co-Editor



Fall Treats for your "Sweets"

Oatmeal Caramel Apple Cookies

- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 package (3.4 ounces) instant caramel pudding mix
- 2 large eggs, room temperature
- 1/2 cup unsweetened applesauce
- 1-1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 3-1/2 cups old-fashioned oats
- 1 medium apple, peeled and chopped

Directions

Preheat oven to 350°. In a large bowl, cream butter, sugars and pudding mix until light and fluffy, 5-7 minutes. Add eggs; mix well. Beat in applesauce. In another bowl, whisk flour and baking soda; gradually beat into creamed mixture. Stir in oats and apple.

Drop dough by tablespoonfuls 2 in. apart onto greased [baking sheets](#). Bake until golden brown, 15-18 minutes. Cool on pans 3 minutes. Serve warm or remove to wire racks to cool completely. Store in an airtight container. Freeze option: Freeze cookies in freezer containers, separating layers with waxed paper. To use, thaw before serving.

Current Membership 557

For the month of August there were 3 new members. One for Chapter 48 and two for Chapter 8.

Pumpkin Pie Oatmeal with Graham Cracker Crumble

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 c. milk
- 1 c. old-fashioned rolled oats
- kosher salt
- 1/4 c. canned pumpkin
- 2 tbsp. brown sugar, divided
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1 tbsp. cold butter
- 1 graham cracker, crushed

DIRECTIONS

In a medium saucepan over high heat, bring milk to a boil. Stir in oats and salt, reduce heat to low, and simmer until oats are tender and creamy, 5 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a small bowl, mix together canned pumpkin, 1 tablespoon brown sugar, and pumpkin pie spice.

Stir pumpkin mixture into the oatmeal and sprinkle with cinnamon.

In a small bowl, mix together butter, crushed graham cracker, and remaining 1 tablespoon brown sugar.

Serve oatmeal in a bowl topped with graham cracker topping.

Campfire Chatter (ISSN 0410-4889) is published monthly for \$11.00 year by: North American Family Campers Association (NAFCA) c/o Bill Neeb, P.O. Box 345, Billerica, MA 01821

Periodicals postage paid in Billerica and additional mailing offices:

Postmaster: Send Address changes to:

Campfire Chatter, (NAFCA), P.O. Box 345, Billerica, MA 01821

**NAFCA FALL COUNCIL OF
CHAPTERS & Full Board Meeting**
October 1st - 3rd

Canoe River Campground 137 Mill
Street Mansfield, MA 02048
(508) 339-6462

Please join us for the NAFCA Fall
Council of Chapters and Full Board
Meetings to be held at Canoe River,
Mansfield Mass. Council Meeting will
be at 10:00 am on Saturday, followed
shortly thereafter by the Full Board
Meeting.

Please fill out and return the
reservation information listed below.
Pricing is based on 2 adults, and 3
children. Additional charge will be
assessed for extra adults @ \$10 per
night. Visitors Fee will be waived if
attending the meetings only.

NAME _____

Chapter # _____

Cell Phone# _____

Email _____

Camper Type & Length _____

30 Amp Site W/E/S @ \$94.00
\$ _____

Thursday Arrival @ \$47.00
\$ _____

Extra Adult @ \$10.00 / night
\$ _____

Total \$ _____
Make Checks Payable to:

NAFCA
P.O. Box 345
Billerica, MA 01821

Campground facilities are handicap
accessible. If Handicapped, please
provide a list of special needs.

Deadline for Reservations:
September 20, 2021

**NAFCA Conservation
Weekend**
Otter River State Forest
October 15, 16, 17, 2021

Hi out in NAFCA land. I have
some hopeful news on our work
weekend at Otter River State
Forest. The dates as you see are
set for October 15-17. I have
submitted the requested
paperwork to the Otter River
Supervisor. The supervisor will in
turn go to his bosses for State
approval. I can only wait now to
hear back from Otter River. Our
plans are still moving ahead and
you should plan to be a part of
this fall season's outing.

As in the past you won't need a
reservation and there isn't any
camping fee in exchange for your
help with the Saturday tasks. So
you can make your mark on
Saturday with some easy tasks
and the camaraderie that is one
of the hallmarks of your Otter
River Conservation Weekend.

The gate will be unlocked for
10am on Friday. There are no
hookups or dump station. Please
plan accordingly. We will be
camping in the parking lot at the
end of the driveway into Otter
River State Forest, off US Route
202 in the town of Baldwinville,
Massachusetts.

I hope you will be there to be a
part of this important NAFCA
weekend.

Any questions please call
Don Daniel, Chairman at
(978) 664-4294.

**American Family Campers
Association, Inc. Leadership**

PRESIDENT

Linda & Jim Ostiguy
508-867-3294
linandjimo@verizon.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Karen Donnelly
603-382-2171

SECRETARY

Jim & Marilyn Hurley
603-352-5047

TREASURER
MEMBERSHIP

Bill & Rosemarie Neeb
978-667-3565
membership@nafca.org

PAST PRESIDENT

Dennis & Pam Richardson
781-666-0671

MAINE STATE DIRECTOR

Jeffrey L. Macomber Sr.
P.O.Box 547
Corinth, ME
207-631-5411

**MASSACHUSETTS
STATE DIRECTOR**

Kathy Lena
508-993-4358

**NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE DIRECTOR**

Marilyn Hurley
603-357-5047

**RHODE ISLAND
STATE DIRECTOR**

Dale Bradley
401-683-2890

**VERMONT
STATE DIRECTOR**

Michelle Perry
802-879-0900

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Liz Sheldon
508-867-3620

WEBMASTER

Ben French
BFrench1984@gmail.com

**CAMPFIRE CHATTER
EDITOR**

CampfireChatter@nafca.org

It's time to get NAFCAree proposals for the 2023 NAFCAree!

HOW TO GET A NAFCAree PROPOSAL

NAFCAree Proposal Guidelines:

Proposals for NAFCAree 2023 are due to the NAFCA Board by March 1 of the year prior to the rally. Please send to President Linda Ostiguy, linandjimo@verizon.net

Why so early? We need to review and publish them in the April Chatter for the vote at the Council of Chapters meeting. Anyone can get a proposal. The person submitting it does not have to chair the event.

Choose a location that has a good number of area attractions for trips. Once you know where to go, look for a campground nearby that can accommodate at least 50 rigs for the week, traditionally the 3rd week in July.

What questions do I ask the campground to get started for a NAFCAree proposal:

- What is the weekly group rate for W/E/S/C campsites including taxes and fees?
- What is the rate for tent sites?
- What is the availability and fee of rental units or cabins?
- What is the campsite electrical amperage?
- What is the cost to guests for an extra night?
- What is the cost for extra adults/children per rig?
- Would we be able to have all sites together in one area?
- When would the deposit be due and what is the cancellation policy?
- What do you have for campground amenities such as pool, game room, dog park, etc?
- Is there access to a hall or pavilion?
- Is the hall and bathroom handicap accessible?
- Will a golf cart be available to rally committee?
- What are some suggestions for local attractions and group discounts?

If you have any questions about obtaining a proposal, please contact Bill at membership@nafca.org or Linda at linandjimo@verizon.net

NAFCA NATIONAL ELECTIONS

All National positions are open for election. A slate of candidates will be presented at the Council of Chapters meeting in October. Elections will be held in January for a two-year term starting April 1, 2022.

Board of Directors meetings are held four times annually following the close of each fiscal quarter. January, April, July/August, October. The April meeting is usually held the same day as the Annual Meeting and the October meeting is held the same day as the Council of Chapters meeting. There is also a Council of Chapters meeting at Spring Safari.

If interested in any of the Board positions, please inform your State Director or any NAFCA officer listed in the Chatter.

QUALIFICATIONS:

To be eligible for these offices, candidates must have served as a state or chapter elected officer.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF NAFCA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: To preside at NAFCA Board and Executive Committee meetings, to appoint standing and special committees, to present an annual budget and to perform such other duties as pertain to the office.

VICE PRESIDENT: To familiarize themselves with the duties of the president.

To preside at NAFCA Board of Director meetings in the absence of the president.

The 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents must be prepared to assist and support the president in the performance of duties at all times and to perform the duties of the president in the absence of the president.

SECRETARY:

To keep accurate, written records of all NAFCA Board and Executive Committee meetings and distribute these reports to members of these bodies. To perform the duties of clerk in recording and documenting votes of the Board of Directors as they pertain to written contracts and/or agreements of the association.

TREASURER:

Keep accurate written records of all monies and make all authorized disbursements. Distribute quarterly financial reports to the NAFCA Board of Directors.

To annually publish in the official publication of NAFCA, notice on annual billing for dues, that an annual financial report of the Corporation is available to all members upon request.

In addition to the above responsibilities, officers will address situations as they arise, and take on other assignments as necessary.

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



**Reservation Form
2022 NAFCaree
Rideau Acres Campground
Kingston, Canada
July 16-23, 2022
Deadline: May 1, 2022**

Have you sent in, to hold your campsite, a reservation deposit of \$100? This deposit will hold the site whether your choice would be for a water and electric site (\$380) or a water, electric and sewer site (\$405). This price for the site includes all taxes and your \$50.00 administration fee to NAFCaree.

Some things planned in the campground may include: brown bag auction; potty game; card bingo; boat ride; fishing outing; campfires; cardboard boat races (human cargo); pig roast evening meal; door prizes and more!

If you have an extra adult in your rig is priced at \$95; second family in your rig will cost \$190. How much will it cost you you ask for extra nights. Well a w/e site is \$54 and w/e/s is \$59. The extra day or days could be to come on Friday or depart on Sunday.

At the time of This writing our trip vendors have not issued their rates for 2022. We, as a committee, will have these rates sometime in the December/ January time frame. Trips in the works are; Ghost Tour, Play House, Upper Canada Village, Luncheon Cruise, Ottawa. All trips are subject to change and additions.

The committee is planning a family, fun-filled week for you and your family. Aside from what has been written, the campground has a lifeguarded swimming pool, river beach for swimming, boat rentals, walking trails, camp-store, video game room, large campsites with table and fireplace; free hot showers with clean and well maintained restroom buildings, WiFi; enclosed hall pavilion; 9 hole disc golf; playground; dump station; laundry; duck pond; mini-golf; and horseshoe pits. How's that list? Lots to see and do within the campground. Also, downtown Kingston is only a short drive from your site where there are stores, sightseeing, Lake Ontario and all things that go along with the lake.

Please remember we are going to Canada and everyone will need a Passport or a Passport Card to cross the border. You should contact your auto insurance company to ensure you have the required coverage. Also, you want to check your health coverage while in Canada.

Your Committee is ready to give you an unforgettable NAFCaree while "On The Go In Ontario"!

Don & Maureen Daniel – for the committee

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

Address: _____
City State, Zip _____

Phone _____
E-Mail _____
#Adults ___ #Child ___ #Pets ___
Rig Type _____ Lngth _____
Reg for Camper _____
Reg. for Tow Veh _____

Camping W/E/S@ \$405 \$ _____
Friday 7/15 @ \$59 \$ _____
Sunday 7/23 @ \$59 \$ _____
Camping W/E @ \$380 \$ _____
Friday 7/15 @ \$54 \$ _____
Sunday 7/23 @ \$54 \$ _____
Extra Adult over 18 @\$95 \$ _____
2nd Family @\$190 \$ _____
Total Camping Fee \$ _____
Deposit \$100 \$ _____

**Final Payment Due
May 15, 2022**
Make Checks payable to NAFCaree
Mail to: **Carol Robison**
18 Amy Avenue
Leominster, MA 01453
If you are joining us but renting a cabin directly with the campground there is a NAFCaree fee of \$50.00 \$ _____

Sustaining Members

CONNECTICUT

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

Nelson's Family Campground
71 Mott Hill Road
East Hampton, CT. 06424
860-267-5300
www.nelsonscampground.com
10% discount not including holiday
or discounted weekends

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

Wolf's Den Family Campground
256 Town Street
East Haddam, CT 06434
860-873-9681
www.wolfsdencampground.com
10% discount not including holiday
or discounted weekends

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@circlegfarm.com

Country Aire Campground
1735 Route 2
Shelbourne 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
www.lambcity.com

\$\$Mann's RV
52 Barre Paxton Road
Rutland, MA. 01543
800-677-4476
www.mannsrv.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 Lake Park
50 Prospect Lake Road
No. Egremont, MA 01230
413-528-4158
www.prospectlakepark.com

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

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

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

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

Where do hummingbirds go in the winter?

Hummingbirds are migratory creatures. We are starting to see fewer and fewer hummingbirds in the north, and more and more in southern regions as the fall migration takes place. Many hummingbirds spend the winter in Central America or Mexico, and migrate north to their breeding grounds in the southern U.S. and western states as early as February, and to areas further north into Canada later in the spring. The first arrivals in spring are usually males.

Some, however, do not migrate, in areas like California and the upper Pacific coast.

By late summer and early fall, breeding is completed and the southward migration back to Mexico and Central America is underway.

The Fall Migration Triggers

Although there are differing views in the birding community as to what triggers the start of fall migration, it is generally thought that hummingbirds sense changes in daylight duration, and declining numbers of flowers, nectar and insects. Instinct, their internal biological calendar, and cooling weather conditions also play a role in making the decision to migrate.

Making the Trip South

During migration, a hummingbird's heart beats up to 1,260 times a minute, and its wings flap 15 to 80 times a second. To support this high energy level, a hummingbird will typically gain 25-40% of their body weight before they start migration in order to make the long trek over land, and water.

They fly alone, often on the same path they have flown earlier in their life, and fly low, just above tree tops or water. Young hummingbirds must navigate without parental guidance, or previous flight experience.

Hummingbirds fly by day when nectar sources such as flowers are more abundant. Flying low allows the birds to see, and stop at, food supplies along the way. They are also experts at using tail winds to help reach their destination faster and by consuming less energy and body fat.

Research indicates a hummingbird normally can travel as many as 23 miles in one day. At that rate it can take several weeks to reach their wintering grounds from summer breeding grounds in the northern U.S. or southern Canada. But in certain circumstances, like the journey over the Gulf of Mexico, they can fly for more extended lengths of time, like 22 hours, nonstop!

While some hummingbirds begin their fall migration as early as late July, most don't start their journey south till August or September, some end their Fall migration in the U.S.

Hummingbirds are overwintering on the Gulf Coast in greater numbers than in the past, and many can be found at feeders in South Texas and South Louisiana during mild winters. For example, in South Louisiana, several species are often spotted during the winter months, including the Ruby-throated, Rufous, Black-chinned, Buff-bellied, Calliope, Allen's, Broad-tailed, and Broad-billed.

A few hummingbird species are year-round residents in the warmer Pacific coastal and southern desert regions of the United States. Among these are Anna's hummingbird, a common resident from California inland to Arizona and north to British Columbia.

How Long to Leave Up Hummingbird Feeders?

During the fall migration, it is recommended that hummingbird lovers leave up their feeders for about two weeks after they sight their final bird. Just to feed those late-migrating hummers!
Fall Migration Patterns of Common Hummingbird Species

Of the Pacific Northwest hummingbirds, Anna's is the only one that doesn't always migrate south to warmer areas in winter. The Continental Divide is host to the greatest number and diversity of western migrating hummingbirds. A nearly constant high pressure dome called the "**Great Basin High**" features winds that rotate clockwise and that are followed by the hummingbirds. This provides consistent tail winds to support migration.



Rufous, Calliope, and Black-chinned Hummingbirds migrate north up the valleys and along the foothills of the Pacific slopes of the western United States, sipping nectar from spring flowers. This route is often called the "**Pacific Flyway**" or "floral highway." They reach the Northwest in early summer.

As the lowland flowers begin to die off, the birds move up in elevation to the alpine meadows of the Rocky Mountains and Sierra Nevada where the flowers are in full bloom. Then they follow the mountains of the Continental Divide south to Mexico in late summer and fall.

Campfire Chatter

PO Box 345

Billerica, MA 01821

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NAFCA CARES

DIED

Doug Taylor Sr., 78, son of the late Jean and Jim Taylor and brother of the late Bonnie and Sherry Taylor of Ch. 8, passed away recently. I gather he was active with the family in NAFCA many years ago.

Kathy Keough, 81, wife of the late Richard Keough, Ch. 177 (Idlenot) passed away recently. Their son Danny and his wife, Lou, are home in Medfield for a while and would love to hear from some of their old friends. 508-528-2222.

Bob Sunderland, past member of Ch. 11, 5, 30 and 57 died in Jupiter, Florida recently. He and his wife, Vera, were very active in their Chapters, the State of Ma. over the years. He and Vera both had been sick with pneumonia and tested positive for covid along with several surgeries. Cards can be sent to Vera and family at 8199 Weatherford Ave., Jupiter, FL 34613-5828

Please keep the men and women in the US Armed Forces in your thoughts and prayers for their safe and speedy return home.

Thank you to so many of you for the many cards, calls and support during this heartbreaking time of the loss of my daughter, Lilla.

Doris Lewis
NAFCA Cares Sunshine Lady
bobndoris04@gmail.com
978-302-4003

Please send news of our NAFCA members that can be shared with others, sad or happy, that can be shared with others.