

Vol. 65 No. 9

September 2020



North American Family Campers Association, Inc. Leadership

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SECRETARY Jim & Marilyn Hurley 603-352-5047

TREASURER MEMBERSHIP Bill & Rosemarie Neeb 978-667-3565 membership@NAFCA.org

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VERMONT STATE DIRECTOR Michelle Perry 802-879-0900

SCHOLARSHIP FUND Liz Sheldon 508-867-3620

WEBMASTER Ben French BFrench1984@gmail.com

CAMPFIRE CHATTER EDITOR Dick Basha PO Box 1295 Wilton NH 03086

603-566-8470 CampfireChatter@aol.com

NAFCA P.O. Box 345 Billerica, MA 01821

- 1 Springfield Chapter Springfield, VT area Larry Converse 7 Clover Street Claremont, NH 03743 603-542-2180 lcallcone@aol.com
- 5 Mystic Valley North Boston, MA area Robert Sunderland 6 Christy Lane Ashland, MA 01721-2101 508-231-0838
- 8 Pioneer Valley Chapter Springfield, MA area Michelle & Brian LaValley P.O. Box 4462 Springfield, MA 01101-4462 413-467-1466 president@pv8.org
- 10 Berkshire Chapter Berkshire, MA area Darlene Fagley 1556 Massachusette Ave North Adams, Ma 01247 431-662-9924
- 11 Worcester Chapter Worcester, MA area Ben & Gisele Mattson 35 Ash Street Webster, MA 01570 508-943-4196 gisben@verizon.net
- 27 Palm Tree Chapter Social Chapter - Florida Marty Moore PO Box 99 Twin Mountain, NH 03595 508-868-7152

28 Mount Hope Chapter *Fall River, MA area* Bill McKay 16 Herzig St. Bristol, RI 02809 401-253-8516

- 30 Squaw-No-Cook Chapter *Fitchburg/Leominster, MA* Jim Howland 88 Sacramento Drive Leominster, MA 01453 978-840-6439
- 31 Wampanoag Chapter New Bedford,MA area Carlene LeBlanc 808 Coggeshall St. New Bedford, MA 02746 508 994-3880

33 Pine Tree Chapter Buckfield/Turner, ME area Roberta White 160 Pattie Mill Brook Rd Albany TWP ME 04217 207-824-3331 Cel 207-890-8307 roberta1white1@gmail.com

NAFCA Chapter Presidents

- 37 Penobscot Valley Chapter Bangor, ME area Joseph Madigan 606 Dexter Rd. St Albans, Me. 04971-7114 207-938-2057 jmadigan@orono.org
- 48 Quahaug Chapter Newport, RI area Keith LeBlanc 500 Plymouth St. Bridgewater, MA 02324 (508) 989-8922
- 49 Forty-Niners Chapter N. Shore to NE/Metro West Mass & Southern NH Bill Higgins
 13 Highfield Street Newbury, MA 01951 (978) 462-8271
- 51 Site Seekers Chapter Palmer/Brimfield area Frank Eaton 11 Sunnydale Circle Brimfield, MA 01010 413 427 0418
- 66 Monadnock Chapter *Keene, NH area* Marilyn Hurley 603-352-5047
- 83 Herring Runners Chapter *Taunton, MA area* Antone Costa 45 Ashumet Ave. Mashpee Ma. 02649 sewer1999@comcast.net

84 Rhody Rovers Chapter West Bay, RI area Ray Lamoureux 24 Leveillee St Coventry, RI 02816 401-828-5477 rlam1965@gmail.com

86 Mattabessett Chapter Hartford, CT area Debbie Bell 860-649-4454
103 Wolf Den Chapter Danielson, CT area Bruce Goodwin 294 Horse Hill Rd., Ashford, CT 06278 860-429-9879 abgoody@charter.net

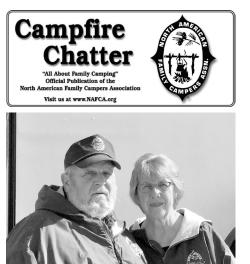
- 114 Bay Path Chapter Sue Libby PO Box 1540 Warren MA 01083 413-436-9747 chip51@comcast.net
- 126 Maine Rovers Chapter Livermore Falls, ME area Gloria Richard 83 Wyman Hill Rd Rumford, ME 04276 glr27@aol.com (207) 364-8971
- 129 Cherokee #129 Burlington, VT area Ted Perry 244 Canyon Road Colchester, VT 05446 802-879-0900 mperry2456@comcast.net
- 156 Hands Across the Border Ayers Cliff, Quebec, Canada Don Nixon
 c/o Ogden Granite
 PO Box 115
 Beebe Plains VT 05823
- 157 Canvasback Chapter North Reading, MA area
 Donald Daniel
 16 Evergreen Terrace
 North Reading MA 01864
 978-664-4294
- 183 Orlando *Florida* Mike DiMauro Jr. 12754 Robin Cherney Way Apt 83 Orlando, FL 32828 (863) 800-0183 Orlando183NAFCA@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP

Current Membership 586

For the month of July, there were 3 new members joining Maine chapters.

THE CAMPFIRE CHATTER (ISSN 0410-4889) is published monthly for \$11.00 per year by: North American Family Campers Association (NAFCA) 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



President's Message

It is ten days before the MA Multichapter and NAFCA full board meeting at Traveler's Woods in Bernardsten, MA. Today it is a go! It is very hot and humid (like it should be in July). We should look forward to a few campouts and events still planned.

That being said the board has met twice and emailed often to try and work some tasks. We have 2021 NAFCA Spring Safari planned for the Spencer Fairgrounds in Spencer, MA (May 14-19, 2021) with Ellen & Tony Mineault , they also will chair the NAFCA booth at the Springfield RV & Outdoor show at the Big E if it is held. Aug 1st was the deadline for all delegates, state & national officers to vote for their wishes for the 2021 NAFCAree (I'll make the announcement at full board). This will help the committee to start working while campgrounds are still open.

We are working on the best and most economical way to get Chatter to

Change of Address

8
Incorrectly adressed CAMPFIRE
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you. We ask that you strongly consider having Chatter emailed to you instead of printed.

Most Fall Frolics have been cancelled so we will not have them to look forward to. We are keeping our fingers crossed about Camp-O-Rama, but there again we can only do so much planning and must wait until we are told if it can happen. (Editor's Note: Camp-O-Rama has been canceled.) Make sure you read Chatter,

Annual Meeting, Council of Chapters and full/board will all take place on Oct. 3, 2020 at Circle CG Farm, Inc. in Bellingham, MA. RI is the host for this event. I know I sound like a broken record but my hands are tied. We want to accomplish so much to have membership grow in both spirit and growth. Let's all work together and make it happen!

There is good to be found in every day if we look for it...especially in these new and trying times.

Linda Ostiguy NAFCA President

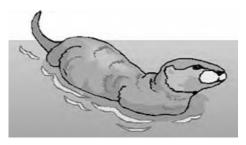


Camporama 2020

With all that's going on with the pandemic, the travel restrictions, rate of of cases and no signs of significant improvement, we feel that it's time to face the reality that Camp O Rama 2020 must be canceled. It's not an easy call to make and it pains us that we have to do this, but there is no justification for taking a risk and arranging a gathering of this many people just over a month from now. We make this decision with your health and safety in mind.

You will be receiving your refund checks soon. If your check has not already cleared the bank, we would like your permission to void and shred your check. We will only do this with your permission! Please email Donna at blu8dolfin@gmail.com to give your permission.

We look forward to seeing our NAFCA family and friends around a campfire, until then stay safe and healthy!



NAFCA Otter River Conservation Weekend October 16 – 18, 2020

Alas your fall session of the NAF-CA Otter River Conservation/Camping Weekend is officially cancelled.

This act brings with it great dismay. I along with all the customary members who look forward to this weekend are sorrowful at the seemingly endless cancellation of camping weekend events.

We will give this outing another try for the April 16-18, 2021 Weekend. Who knows NAFCA May emerge from this Pandemic a better and stronger Family Camping Club.

Until the next Campfire, Don Daniel - Chairman



Fall Council of Chapters Weekend

October 2,3,4 2020 Circle CG Campground Bellingham, MA

This is just to let you know, we will be having a Council of Chapter meeting at Circle CG Campground on Saturday, October 3, 2020 at 10 AM. The campground is open and we are planning to camp there for the weekend. The cost for the weekend varies by site. You must call and make your own reservation, which will require a deposit.

Address: 131 North Main St. Bellingham, MA 02019. Phone: 508-966-1136

Paula Bradley







Pine Tree #33

Hello everybody, hope everybody is well and safe. This surely has been a different way of Camping. Coming from Massachusetts Everett & I quarantined for 14 days entering Maine. We left with a full refrigerator of food. We had nice neighbors that offered to pick up anything we needed. Thank you friends. Shopping has gotten a little easier getting whatever you need. Was difficult at first even for me.

Welcome to all our New Members, as we have all noticed our Campground is full and now has a waiting list, which is great. Have had limited activities going on due to this crazy virus and self distancing and of course our masks. Hoping all the scientists can cure this virus quick.

Has been a very warm July in Maine, this humidity gets to you. I do not remember this kind of heat for a while.

Our Campground Director, Brian Hodgdon & Campground Asst. Roger Boucchard, have been doing a wonderful job keeping this place in excellent shape and willing to help anybody that needs it. Thank you to both.

We have had a Beaver problem near our entrance and Brian made sure that is being taken care of. and we are safe. They sure can do some damage.

We want to thank Irene & Kathy for their delicious Chinese meal they hosted for us. We enjoyed it.

Our camping is a very short season this year. So many things cancelled with us and NAFCA and around the world. What a different world it is. Hoping that you are all thinking positive .

Till next time, stay safe. Sincerely, Doris Mitchell

Penobscot Valley Acres #37

Members, Tammy & Joe Foss, treated everyone to a wonderful strawberry shortcake on 4th of July weekend with fresh strawberries from their daughter & son-in-law's farm, "R.J. Hall family farm, just down the road from PVA.

There was also a surprise birthday party pot luck for member, Linda Tracy. Her husband Vaughn was happy it could be pulled off because apparently it is very hard to "pull one over" on Linda.

Also this month there was live music down on "brookside" to celebrate more birthdays and anniversaries. Steve and Mary Lou and some of their band members came and entertainer everyone with their great sounds. We are fortunate to have some very talented musicians and singers. They even got President Joe to get up and sing with them. Folks were dancing and having a wonderful time. It was nice to see everyone having such a good time together. It just goes to show a little Covid social distancing can't keep us down.

Well that's all for now, got to get out and enjoy this weather while I can.

Stay safe everyone!

Janet Bagley



Massachusetts State Director

I hope everyone is staying strong, as we stay home if we can, practice social distancing when we are out and wear a face covering when in a public space. I know it's not ideal but let's do our part to keep our selves safe along with others.

Massachusetts is still moving forward, so that is a good sign. So with that being said we wait daily to see what will be happening with hope and continue to make plans for the rest of our camping season. Some of us have ventured out in small groups.

Please be patient and understand that we don't want to cancel things, so we may be waiting until the last minute to see where things are before we do.

We are still looking for proposals for the 2021 Fall Frolic and also anyone interested in becoming a deputy, let a team member know.

The 2021 Mass Dinner Dance, which will once again be at the Holiday Inn Express in Sturbridge on January 30, 2021.

Stay smart and be safe

I really miss all of our camping family.

Kathy Lena

Massachusetts State Director

Pioneer Valley #8

On July 10th-12th we had a safari at Seaport RV Resort in Old Mystic Conn. On the 31st–Aug. 2nd we had our Conservation Weekend at Country Aire Campground in Charlemont MA.

Our August Campout is the 14th-16th at Wolf Den Campground in Conn. August 7th-9th we will be going to Travilers Woods Campground for the Multi Chapter & NAFCA Full Board Meeting

Tony & Ellen

Squaw-No-Cook #30

Hello all,

It's not quite halfway through summer - who's been camping?? The Schofield and Hayes families, along with Dan and Melissa, that's who!!

I saw photos of Brad, Janis, and Charlie at Lake Compounce. Looks like they had a good time, even though some rides weren't available. They had to wear masks in the park, but I could see their smiles. The fires looked pretty good too.

And the saga of camper tires continues... Dan mentioned he changed two tires the other year, and just made arrangements to change the other two tires. The tire was off a seasonal camper and was more a brittle rubber issue



than tire wear. Charlie said it was lucky Dan's camper wasn't damaged by flying rubber as it tore off. Whew! Glad Dan, Melissa, and the camper are fine. And thanks to Charlie for helping!!

Marty's house is really coming along!! The shed is in the right spot now, and I think the steps for the house should be in soon as well. While many of us are waiting for final pictures, I'm sure Marty's just anxious to move in!

I saw that Carol has been down the cape, Katie's home recuperating (feel free to send her hello cards!!), and Jim and I did a few day trips recently. I haven't been in touch with too many people lately. How are you all doing??

All the best.

Barbara Starr

Canvasback #157

Hi All! What a camping season or should I say, what a non-camping season?! Our chapter has yet to be out on the camping trail.

A very big THANK YOU to Dick Basha for presiding over Campfire Chatter for eighteen years. I know NAFCA has not had an Editor longer. Thanks to Dick for hanging in there for all our members. He has been through good times and bad. I will miss working with him and on making the Chatter deadlines. This position of Editor will be a difficult, most needed spot to fill and I know our Executive Board will work to move someone in to the editors chair soon. If you can or know someone who can be Editor, please let your president know ASAP.

If NAFCA does have any camp outs it looks like Council of Chapters weekend, October 1,2, 3 & 4 in Rhode Island. A location has not been announced as of July 25. Stay tuned for any updates.

With the Mass Fall Frolic being cancelled maybe we can all camp at Camp-O-Rama September 17 – 20 on

Second Beach, Middletown, RI. The Quahaug Chapter always puts on a fun filled weekend. I do hope we can still attend this great event.

I do hope all will be safe and healthy as we move along in phases.

Don Daniel - Correspondent



Wolf Den #103

Happy Labor Day!

I'm not much for celebrating this holiday, as it means we're nearing the end of summer which brings the end of camping soon! It saddens me that there will be no fairs because of the COVID-19 virus. Let us all keep praying this time next year everything is back to normal, even before this time.

The month of July sure has been an extremely hot one! We've had a couple of heat waves, but I'll take that any day over winter. We had a great time on our first camp out with a bunch of us during one of the heat waves. We managed to stay cool, and get in a few games of corn hole, and bocci. All the dogs got along really well, and were our referees during the games.



Friday night, we did a curbside pickup for dinner. We had a small fire and the sky lit up so pink with a sliver of the moon. No doubt tomorrow will be a scorcher. We watched for the Comet, but later in the evening the sky 5^{5}

got cloudy.

Saturday night we had our usual potluck with a roast, and tater salad, green bean casserole, and bread. We topped it off with zucchini and basil cupcakes with cream cheese filling and whip cream frosting. Pat came to visit, and she looks great as usual! She was pleased to see old faces, and new faces, and certainly enjoyed not having to cook. It's too bad Charlie wasn't able to come with her, maybe next time.

The boys had a sunset game of horseshoes! When they finished, Jon made a blazing fire! We made strawberry smore's, and again watched for the Comet as the sky was clear. No one was paying attention, but Carol suddenly did see it streak across the sky. Yayyyy!

See everyone at the next camp out! Enjoy the sunshine!

STAY SAFE!!! And, God Bless!! Submitted by Arlene Goodwin Wolf Den 103 Secretary



We hope that everyone staying safe & having a fun filled camping season this year! We have had a very busy summer camping as I'm sure you all have had. Summer is in full swing & Labor Day is upon us, it is never too soon to be thinking about the Springfield RV, Camping and Outdoor Show! Mark your calendars now. FEBRUARY 12-15th, 2021!

While the Covid 19 virus is forcing many events to be canceled or postponed, we are remaining positive that by February things will be somewhat back to normal. Our camp show committee is already hard at work behind the scenes preparing for the upcoming show.

Continued on page 6

Please Support Our NAFCA Sustaining Members

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

Connecticut

\$\$ Hide-A-Way Cove 1060 North Road PO Box 129 East Killingly, CT 06243 860-774-1128 hideawaycovecampground.com

Mineral Springs Family Campground

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

\$\$ Nature's Campsites LLC

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

Nelson's Family Campground

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

Ross Hill Campground

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

\$\$ RV Parts & Electric

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

Wolfs Den Family Campground

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

Massachusetts

\$\$ Bonny Rigg Camping Club, Inc

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

\$\$ Circle CG Farm Inc.

Source CG Farmine 131 North Main St. Bellingham, MA 02019 508-966-1136 info@circlecgfarm.com

\$\$ Country Aire Campground

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

Flagg RV Center

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

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

Mann's RV

52 Barre Paxton Rd. Rutland, MA 01543 (800) 677-4476 www.mannsrv.com **\$\$ Oak Haven Family Campground**

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

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

\$\$ Prospect Lake Park

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

Prospect Mountain Campground

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

Spencer Agricultural Association

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

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

Walker Island Campground

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

Maine

\$\$ Old Orchard Beach Campground

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

New Hampshire

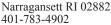
\$\$ Chocorua Camping Village KOA 893 White Mountain Highway Chocorua, NH 03817 603-323-8536 - chocoruacamping.com

\$\$* 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 Rd.





\$\$ Apple Island Resort

71 US Rt 2 South Hero VT 05486 802-372-3800 appleislandresort.com

Abel Mountain Campground

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

\$\$ Pete's RV Center 4016 Williston Rd.

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

Campshow from page 5

The 59th edition of the camping show, produced by campers for campers, is on tap for Presidents' Day weekend at the Eastern States Exposition Grounds in West Springfield, MA. For the past 58 years, this show has been produced by the membership of Pioneer Valley Chapter 8 (PV8). This year's chairmen, Dale & Ron Bernard, and their committee are working hard to keep our show the biggest and the best. The last four years shows have each had over 47,000 in attendance.

Admission is one low price of \$10! Of course, senior, DAV, military are still \$7 & children 12 & under are free! Stay tuned for complete show details including directions, exhibitor list, entertainment schedule, and more! Check out our web site at www.springfieldrvcampingshow.com or call 413-781-CAMP. And don't forget to like us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/ PV8NAFCA/

Respectfully, Kris & Bonnie Spaulding (PV8)

MASSACHUSETTS MULTI-CHAPTER CAMPOUT

Multi-Chapter

We were able to hold the Multi Chapter at Travelers Woods in Bernardston. We wish to thank them for all their support and working with us to be able to make this happen. With the guidelines set up by the Governor of the State for safe camping, we were able to go camping. We were also able to hold the NAFCA Board meeting. The campground also put on a spaghetti dinner for everyone camping with proceeds going to the Shriners, an organization the wholly support. We had 13 rigs reserved to go camping plus many the day visitors for the meeting. We modified the coffee and... to no coffee bring your own and any desserts be separately wrapped to reduce the touching of items. We still held the brown bag auction – with as little contact as possible – keeping a safe distance. Our campfire was a little further apart all with wearing our masks.

Thank you everyone for making this a special weekend in this crazy time.

Multi Chapter Committee

Diane & Ed Gauthier

Irene & Ron Phelps

Kathy Lena

GRILLED CHICKEN WINGS

Submitted by David and Paula Colvin

1 cup vegetable oil

1/2 cup soy sauce

4 cloves garlic, minced

1 tablespoon fresh lemon

4 lbs chicken wings

In a medium bowl, whisk together the oil, soy sauce, garlic and lemon juice

Place wings inside a large zip-lock bag and pour the marinade over the wings. Seal the bag, making sure to remove all the air from the bag, place the bag in a baking dish, refrigerate and marinate for a minimum of 4 hours.

Heat the grill to 350°. Remove the wings from the bag and arrange in a single layer in a baking dish or directly on your grill grates, taking care to tap off the excess marinade. Cook for 30 minutes, then adjust the temperature to 425° and grill for another 15 minutes. Serve

GRILLED BEER-BRINED PORK CHOPS

Submitted by David and Paula Colvin 2 bone-in pork loin chops 1 inch thick, each

1 (12 oz) lager beer

1 cup water

¹/₂ cup soy sauce

¹/₂ cup honey

3 cloves garlic, smashed

Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper

Place the pork chops into a gallon size zip lock bag. Add beer, water, soy sauce, honey and garlic. Seal the bag, taking care to remove all of the excess air, then gently massage to mix ingredients. Place the sealed bag inside of a baking dish and refrigerate 8 hours.



Transfer to a plate and use paper towels to pat off excess liquid. Discard the brine

Heat grill to high heat (500 to 700) Season the pork chops on both sides with salt and pepper, then place onto the grill at a 45-degree angle. Cover and cook 4 minutes, then give the chops a 90-degree twist, Cook for 4 more minutes. Flip the chops, cover the grill and cook on the second side until an instant-read thermometer show 135°, 6-8 minutes. Let rest 10 minutes before slicing.

GRILLED ZUCCHINI AND SUMMER SQUASH SALAD

Submitted by David and Paula Colvin 1 cup pecan halves, coarsely chopped 2 zucchinis, ends removed and sliced lengthwise into ¼ inch planks 2 yellow squash, ends removed and sliced lengthwise into ¼ inch planks ½ cup extra virgin olive oil Kosher salt and ground pepper ½ cup fresh parsley 3 tbsp balsamic vinegar ¾ cup ricotta cheese

Heat oven to 350° Place the pecans on a baking sheet or in a dry skillet. When the oven is hot, bake until fragrant and lightly browned, about 8-10 minutes. Let cool.

Heat a grill pan over high heat until lightly smoking. While the grill is heating, toss the zucchini and yellow squash in a large bowl with ¹/₄ cup olive oil and season with salt and pepper.

Evenly arrange the vegetables on the grill and cook until grill marks are visible about 3 minutes. Working quickly, flip and cook until lightly charred on the second side and the vegetables have softened in the center, about 2 more minutes. Transfer to a large bowl.

Add parsley, vinegar, toasted pecans and remaining 1.4 cup olive oil. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Arrange a small pile of salad in the center of each place, top each salad with a few dollops of ricotta cheese and serve warm.

STRAWBERRY POKE CAKE

Submitted by David and Paula Colvin 1/2 cup (8 tbsp) salted butter, softened 4 large eggs

- 1 ¹/₄ cup milk
- 1 (15.25 oz) white super moist cake mix
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1 (3 oz) strawberry jell-0
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup cold water
- 1 (8 oz) Cool Whip
- 1 (3.4 oz) instant vanilla pudding
- 1-pint blueberries
- 2 pints raspberries

Heat oven to 350°

In a large bowl, beat together the butter and eggs with mixer until combined. Beat in the milk, followed by the cake mix. Pour into a 9 x 13 prepared baking dish and bake until a toothpick inserted int eh center c. Stir in the cold water and comes out clean, about 30 minutes. Cool, in the dish, to room temperature.

Once cool, use a skewer to poke holes all over the cake.

In a medium bowl, stir together the boiling water and strawberry Jell-0

Stir in the cold water and then immediately pour over the cake, letting the mixture soak into the holes.

In a second medium bowl, stir together the Cool whip and pudding mix until thoroughly combined. Spread in an even layer over the cake. Cover and refrigerate for at least 4 hours or overnight.

When ready to serve use the blueberries to create the upper left quadrant of the flag, leaving white space to represent stars. Use the raspberries to create the red stripes of the flag. Cut into slices and serve.

Campfire Chatter PO Box 345 Billerica MA 01821

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

2020 Calendars

NATIONAL EVENTS

- October 3 **NAFCA Annual Meeting Council of Chapters** NAFCA Full Board Circle CG Farm, Inc. Bellingham, MA
- **NAFCA** Conservation Oct 16-18 Weekend CANCELED

STATE EVENTS

- Sept 10-13 VT/NH Fall Frolic **River Meadow Campground** 3125 Dartmouth College HWY N. Haverhill, NH 03774
- Sept. 24-27 Massachusetts Fall Frolic CANCELED

CHAPTER EVENTS

Sept 17-20 Camp-O-Rama CANCELED 2021

NATIONAL EVENTS

May 14-16 **NAFCA Spring Safari** Spencer Fairgrounds Spencer MA

STATE EVENTS

Jan. 29-31 Mass. Dinner Dance Holiday Inn Express Sturbridge MA

CHATTER ARTICLE GUIDELINES

As a reminder to our readers the following is what is and what is not acceptable when submitting a letter or article to the Chatter.

NAFCA's longstanding policy is to print only articles with information on current, recent, and upcoming events and activities, and invitations to these events, or camping related topics of interest to the membership. Articles are to remain unbiased, state only facts, be accurate, and be written with discretion and good taste.

Articles should not contain personal sentiments, personal remarks, or derogatory remarks aimed at people.

Members submitting articles need to be aware that when published, it becomes a permanent document viewable by all members, and by any prospective member or person that has received a hard or digital copy.

So for the good of NAFCA, please submit your articles in accordance with these guidelines.



SICK LIST

Bud Leaman, Ch. 49, has been in and out of the hospital numerous times over the last few months but he is hanging in there. Send him a card to say hi, 67 Crestview Rd., Waltham, MA 02154.

Ken Corti, Ch. 48, was badly burned in an accident recently but after lots of treatment and skin drafts, is finally doing better. You can give him a shout at 395 Holmes St., Halifax, MA. 02338,

Dave Selover has had surgery that has made him a bionic man!! This is according to his wife, Nancy :) No details !! His address is 6 Carlisle Ave., Turner's Falls, MA 01376.

Shay Clarke, Ch. 84, is recovering from rotator cuff surgery, his address is 10 Ash St., Wrentham, MA 02093.

Lenny Trinkle, Ch. 30, had surgery on his stump recently, hoping to get some relief from the pain. Carol spilled boiling water on her leg and suffered bad burns but they are both improving, slow but sure. Their address is 294 Ridgewood Dr., Leominster, MA 01353.

GOOD NEWS

Phil and Candace Nadeau , Ch. 8, were married recently, friends and family helped celebrate. Wishing them many happy years.

IN THE SERVICE

Please keep our men and women in the US Ars Lemed Forces in your thoughts and prayers.

Doris Lewis

bobndoris04@gmail.com

978-s 302-4003

Please send in info about our NAFCA members, sad or happy, to be shared with others in our organization. It's nice to be able to keep in touch with each other.

Please notify the NAFCA office if your Officers change.