

Vol. 65 No. 4

APRIL 2020



Otter River Conservation Weekend April 17, 18 & 19, 2020

The time has come again to gather at the birthplace of NAFCA and as you know that place is Otter River State Forest located in Baldwinville, MA.

No cost to camp and there are no reservations needed in exchange for a few hours of your time helping out with the tasks on Saturday of the weekend. Some of the tasks may include: Raking around each campsite fireplace; raking/ sweeping the pavilion floor and around the large fire pit next to the pavilion; raking the memorial grove area; sweeping and cleaning off the memorial brick area next to the Roger Swallow Bench and any other tasks the forest staff may need us to do.

The Saturday evening meal will be pot luck and I do hope everyone will join this meal. You bring a main dish item to feed your family and one more person. Side dishes are always welcome.

If you can bring a goodie to share for our coffee (I'll bring the coffee) at the Friday and Saturday campfires as well Saturday morning coffee break thanks in advance for that.

Please if you can bring a rake and other hand tools, that would be very nice. Remember there are no hookups or dump station. We will have a handicap accessible porta Jon for our use over the weekend. Generators may be used with caution and consideration of all camped with our group.

Basic directions:

MA Route 2 West to exit #20 – Baldwinville Road, at top of ramp turn Right onto Baldwinville Road and follow this road to its end then turn Right onto US202 North going through Baldwinville Center. Otter River State Forest will be on your left hand side about ½ mile out of town.

From MA Route 2 East to exit #19 (US 202 North), left at the top of the ramp. Follow US 202 to Baldwinville Center and then directions above.

Any questions or concerns please call Don Daniel at 978-664-4294.

I hope to see you at Otter River NAFCAs first campout of the year. Don Daniel - Chairman

Don Daniel - Chairman

North American Family Campers Association National Officer Election Results

The NAFCA election results for the position of NAFCA President are finalized. Linda Ostiguy has been elected for the position of President of the North American Family Campers Association. We would like to thank Don Daniel and George Brown for participating in the election process.

Your NAFCA National Officers for 2020-2022

President – Linda Ostiguy & Jim Ostiguy

1st Vice President – Karen Donnelly Treasurer – Bill & Rosemarie Neeb Secretary – Jim & Marilyn Hurley

Past President – Dennis & Pam Richardson

The Installation Ceremony for the National Officers will be held at the

NAFCA Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 24. The Annual Meeting will take place at Country Aire Campground in Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts. Information regarding the Annual Meeting can be found in the Campfire Chatter.

We hope to see you at the NAFCA Annual Meeting and the Installation of National Officers ceremony on Saturday, April 24.

Marilyn Hurley NAFCA Nominating Committee



Pine Tree Campground

Seasonal Camping opening for the 2020 Camping season this year. .The cost for the year is \$360.00 at the end of the season you can leave your camper there till the spring at no extra cost. All sites have 50 Amp Electric meter and water. .The dump station is close by and honey wagons are there to use with small tractor. We have a good size clubhouse for our Dinners and activities. Activities includeIce Cream Socials, Chinese Auctions, Bingo, Cribbage. Areas near-by are Golf Courses, Lakes for Fishing and Boating, Oxford Casino, Oxford NASCA Speedway, Lewiston Falls, Balloon Festival, Lobster and Clams Festivals at local Towns, come see the brochures at the NAFCA Spring Safari, in Spencer, Massachusetts. Vice President Everett Mitchell, Pine Tree Chapter #33

North American Family Campers Association, Inc. Leadership

PRESIDENT Dennis & Pam Richardson 781-584-6443

1ST VICE PRESIDENT Paula & Dale Bradley 401-683-2890

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

SECRETARY Jim & Marilyn Hurley 603-352-5047

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

> MASSACHUSETTS STATE DIRECTOR Linda Ostiguy 508-867-3294

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE DIRECTOR Marilyn Hurley 603-352-5047

RHODE ISLAND STATE DIRECTOR Dale Bradley 401-683-2890

VERMONT STATE DIRECTOR Michelle Perry 802-879-0900

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CAMPFIRE CHATTER

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President's Message

Hello to all my fellow campers in NAFCA.

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

This is my last President message for the Chatter. I want to thank you all for putting your trust in me, to be the President of this great organization. I have been associated with NAFCA for a long time and it has been great. This is a great family group to be in. We have met so many wonderful people, and been to some great campouts with you. Now we are on to a new adventure in our lives.

The deadline for Proposals for the 2021 NAFCA Spring Safari & NAFCAree has passed. I did get proposals for both.

The articles about both are in this Chatter.

See you at the Annual/Full Board campout at Country Aire CG in April.

Yours in camping, Dennis & Pam Richardson

NAFCA SPRING SAFARI

Spring Safari 'Let's Do Plenty in 2020."

May 14-17, 2020

Are you starting to get ready for Camping?

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

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

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

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

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

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

Change of Address
Incorrectly adressed CAMPFIRE
CHATTER issues are NOT forward-
ed. You can help by using the form
below, or one similar, and sending it
to the office. It takes five weeks to
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Name
Address
City
State,Zip

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

NAFCA P.O. Box 345 Billerica, MA 01821 for the Chinese Auction.

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

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

On Sunday morning the NAFCA Full Board for all members meeting will take place. Plan on attending.

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

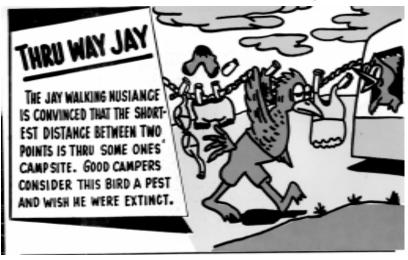
Along with the meeting that includes loads of info for the 2020 camping season, we will draw the winners for the raffles and a 50/50.

NAFCA Spring Safari NON Chapter Reservation Form					
Name					
Address					
ı I City,State,Zip					
Phone					
E-mail					
Rig Type					
Handicap Yes	No				
thursday arrival second family in rig	0 Chapter #				
Electricity needed? YesNo Any special needs? Please indicate location preference: Inside Building Outside Booth fees members @\$20.00 \$ non members @\$40.00 \$ Total enclosed \$					
Make checks payable and mail to: NAFCA, PO Box 345, Billerica, Ma. 01821					

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

Tony and Ellen Migneault

The NAFCA Funny Birds



NAFCA Games Survey

NAFCA is gathering information regarding games played at NAFCA events. We strive to have games that are friendly and fun to play. We are asking members to fill out this survey and return it. This survey is anonymous so you do not need to put your name on the survey.

Please answer the following questions.

1. Do you or other family members play NAFCA games at NAFCA & Chapter events? Yes No

2. If you or other family members do play games at NAFCA or Chapter events please list the name of the games below.

3. If you do not participate in NAF-CA games please list the reasons below.

4. Do you find it hard to play more than one NAFCA game at an event due to timing? Yes No (Having multiple games scheduled at or close to the same times.)

5. Are there additional games not offered as NAFCA games you would like to play?

Please list the games below.

6. How do you think the winners at games during NAFCA events should be recognized?

7. We welcome your ideas as we would like to get more people involved participating in NAFCA games at NAFCA events. Please write your ideas below.

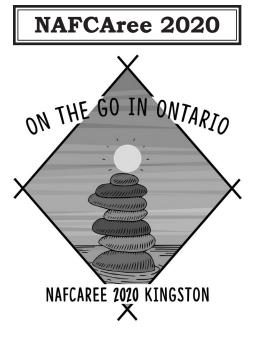
8. We need some help running NAFCA games especially at the Spring Safari. Can you help? Yes I would like to help with NAFCA Games please contact me.

Please return this survey to Joanna Falkof. You can mail the survey to Joanna at the following address.

Joanna Falkof 26 Heelan Avenue Stoughton, MA 02072

You can also fill out the survey & scan the completed survey & send it via email to Joanna at the following email address. jfalkof@hotmail.com

We will also collect the surveys at the April NAFCA Annual Meeting and at the NAFCA Spring Safari.



NAFCAree Trips

TROLLEY TOUR - Sunday - Trolley Tour - We have commandeered our own Kingston Trolley Tour. Explore the history of Canada's first capital aboard our own thirty-two passenger trolley. The trolley will pick up right at the campground and take us to Fort Henry and the Penitentiary Museum, along the way we will hear about the history of Kingston as we make our way from one location to the other. Included in this trip are a guided tour of Fort Henry and a guided tour of the Penitentiary. Explore what Kingston has to offer! (There is a possibility that the Penitentiary will not open this summer - If that is the case we have other stops planned along this historic route)

OTTAWA - Monday - Ottawa "Changing of the Guards" - Please join us for a very full day of activities in the beautiful city of Ottawa. We plan to leave the campground early in a coach bus to travel to Ottawa in time to see the changing of the guards at 10:00 am. There are sooo many things to do in the area of the capital building including restaurants and shops. Our plan is to arrive at Ottawa by 9:00 to see the changing of the guards at 10:00 - this lasts 30 minutes. After that, you will have options. We will plan a walking tour of the area which ends at the restaurant area. A brief lunch stops before heading to a tour of congress then down to the river for a boat ride on the Ottawa River before heading back to the campground. If you would like, you can choose to get

go off on your own and meet us later at the boat to see what you would like to see. There are free museums and activities in Ottawa. This tour does have a 30 person minimum for the cost of the bus, so please reserve early. If we do not have 30 people, we make other transportation arrangements.

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

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

Upper Canada Village Tour

With our tour to Upper Canada Village, you'll get to learn how the people of Kingston lived during the 1860's. The village was founded in 1961 and serves to depict life in a rural English Canadian setting during the year 1866. The site includes over 40 historical buildings including some that are still in operation today, including a cheese factory. Back in the 1860's, cheese was an important revenue source in the local economy. They make the cheese the same way and with the same equipment that they did in the 1860s. Staff dressed in the clothing of this time period discuss aspects of the daily life including social life, music, religion, and politics.

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

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

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

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

Gaurav Garg

NAFCAree Luncheon Cruise

Ahoy Mateys! Have you put down your reservation for the Tuesday Luncheon Cruise on the "Island Star"? We only had 32 seats to sell and I know two of these Luncheon spots are already reserved. Please don't wait to reserve your spot because we anticipate selling out all seats before the deadline.

The menu is impressive to say the lease. As you have seen the full menu in last months Campfire Chatter. Here I'll give you the highlights of the meal choices we'll have;

Bread basket; Arcadian salad; entrees to include "Beef Bordelaise"; "Wild Mushroom Chicken Supreme"; "Fresh Ontario Rainbow Trout; "Mediterranean Stuffed Pepper"; Chef's dessert; coffee & tea. There is also a full service bar for alcohol and soft drinks all to be purchased.

We will be on board our boat for three hours total and beside the cruise and fabulous lunch meal there will be live musical entertainment: Margaritaville a tribute to Jimmy Buffett! Let us not forget the scenery along the rivers we will sail by. What a full time on the water this will Truly will be and one you will not want to miss. The ticket price for food and lots of fun on our cruise is now set at \$85.00 per person which by the way also includes Trolley transportation to the dock and the trolley will be waiting for us after the cruise has concluded to wisk us back to the campground.

I do want to mention seating for the luncheon will be along the outer glass enclosed walls of the dining area as your eating your meal you will also be enjoying the scenery as we cruise along. All seating is reserved for our group.

This very impressive luncheon cruise will not disappoint from start to finish. This is one of the very best trips being offered at this years NAFCAree. I am quite sure this trip may very well be spoken about fondly for years to come in NAFCA circles. Come one and all on our cruise.

Don and Maureen Daniel – Cruise Directors

Reminders for everyone coming into Canada from United States:

Make sure everyone in your traveling party has their passport, including children. Even if you don't get asked for it to enter Canada, you will need it to re-enter the USA. If you don't have a passport, you can get a passport card for only \$30, instead of paying \$110 for a passport book. Note that the passport card is only good for land & sea travel between USA, Canada, Mexico, Caribbean, and Bermuda. If you have AAA, you can get the passport photos for free at any location that offers the service. After you have the passport photos, you can go to the post office to complete your application. You'll want to give yourself at least 2 months for this so you don't have to pay extra for expedited processing.

Be sure to have your vehicle registrations for both car and trailer (if you



are doing so), along with insurance ID cards for both. They are on the lookout for stolen cars at immigration, so you want to be prepared. Having a declarations page in the glove compartment as *Continued on next page*.

Wednesday -- NAFCAree Day Pig Roast Tickets @\$20.00 \$ Thursday -- Gananaque / Music Man Tickets @\$55.00 Thursday -- Gananaque Bus only Tickets @\$30.00 Friday -- Upper Canada Village Tickets @\$58.00 TRIPS TOTAL \$ **Clothing Order Form Tee Shirts** Small @12.00 \$ Medium @12.00 Large @12.00 X-Large @12.00 2X @14.00 3X @14.00 4X @14.00 5X @14.00 6X @14.00 **Polo Shirts** Small @18.00 Medium @18.00 Large @18.00 X-Large @18.00 2X @22.00 3X @22.00 4X @22.00 5X @22.00 6X @22.00 **Crew Neck Sweatshirt** Small @18.00 Medium @18.00 Large @18.00 _X-Large @18.00 2X @22.00 3X @22.00 4X @22.00 **CLOTHING TOTAL** \$ TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ Final Payment Due by June 1, 2020 Make check payable to NAFCA Mail to: Carol Robison 18 Amy Avenue Leominster, MA 01453Liconvocre me ocus silicam li, consulocul

d,

well doesn't hurt.

A special note for MA residents: Since MA doesn't do ID cards, call your insurance company and tell them you will be driving to Canada and need an ID card. Most companies are able to provide you with ID cards for Canada. If your company doesn't do ID cards, keep a declarations page in your glove compartment along with the registration. This will save you a headache if you get asked for an ID card at immigration. If that does indeed happen, this is what to say: "I am a resident of Massachusetts, and in MA they don't do ID cards because insurance is compulsory in order to register a car in MA, so the registration serves as proof of insurance. However, along with my registration, here is my declarations page."

If you are looking to extend your stay in Canada past NAFCAree, Chapter 156, Hands Across the Border, is hosting International Weekend from July 30 – August 2 at Gordy and Tammy Bronson's Orchid, 125 Davis Road, Ogden, Quebec. The information in this article applies for this trip as well if you are crossing back into the United States in between the 2 trips or only going to international weekend. We hope to see you at both trips. In between the 2 trips, I will be going to Niagara Falls, Ottawa, and Montreal. Others have said they will extend their stay in Kingston before going to Ogden.



NAFCAree 2020 Clothing

The body of water that surrounds Rideau Acres Campground is the same water that feeds into Lake Ontario, one of the 5 Great Lakes. This water runs over the river rocks smoothing their surface. For many years these rocks have served as markers for direction when stacked.

You can find our group easily when you are seen wearing this historical image commemorated on the logo of the event. The sun setting or rising at the back of a stack of rounded river rocks. A simple design that looks so impressive complete with our event details.

Wether you are able to attend for the week or you just like the look, we offer you three clothing options – crew neck T-shirt, polo shirt and crew neck sweat shirt!

See the order form in Campfire Chatter to place your order today!



Nafcaree Raffle - Beautiful Hand Knit Nafca Sweaters

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

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

Price: 3 tickets for \$ 5.00

10 tickets for \$10.00

Drawing to be held at the NAF-CARee. You do not need to be at the NAFCAee to win.

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

2021 NAFCA Spring Safari proposals

Spencer Fairgrounds

Spencer Agricultural Assoc.(Spencer Fairgrounds) Spencer Mass.

Wed-5-12, 2021 (Committee)thru Sun. 5/16/21

Rental includes grounds, Buyers Building, tables, dumpster, and bathrooms. Water & Electric

Rate (at this time) is \$30.00 per night per camper. Set up on Wed. and Thurs.

for Committee is free.

We use NAFCA insurance. Dumpster is \$200.00 Bathrooms is \$100.00 Will be happy to answer any questions.

Linda Ostiguy

Durham Agricultural Fair Association

Durham Fairgrounds, Durham, CT The front section of building two, 2,100 square feet with either north or south end bathroom, \$850 per day.

The front section of building two, 2,100 square feet with both north and south end bathrooms, \$1,500 per day.

All of building two, with either north or south end bathroom, \$2,350 per day.

All of building two, with both north and south end bathrooms, \$3,000 per day.

Each camper, with electric and water, will be \$30 per day.

Dump waste will be \$10 per camper.

Facility Charge for toilet paper, paper towels, garbage bags, the dumpster etc. \$50.00

Franklin County Fairground,

The Franklin County Ag. Society Greenfield, Mass.has submitted a proposal for the Franklin County Fairgrounds for May 13 through 16, 2021.

The proposal includes use of the Grandstand Building, Bathroom/Shower, Electric and Water, ten picnic tables, and 15 folding tables and a dumpster.

The proposal has a fixed cost plus a fee per camper. The price per camper varies for the weekend depending on how many people come.

If we have 50 campers, the cost for the weekend comes to \$64.00 per rig.

If we have 60 campers, the cost for the weekend drops to \$58.00.

The cost for 70 campers drops to \$54.00 per camper for the weekend and so on.

We can use the fairgrounds from Thursday through late Sunday afternoon.

2021 NAFCAree proposals Drummer Boy Campground, Gettysburg, PA

I would like to submit this as a proposal for 2021 NAFCAREE at Drummer boy campground in Gettysburg Pa.

Ron Phelps

It was a pleasure speaking with you yesterday regarding booking your NAFCA rally in July 2021 for 50-60 rigs plus rentals. I have provided as much information as I have at this time and have sent an email to the property management team requesting to remaining information.

Drummer Boy does has 23 golf carts that they rent out. At this time the rate for golf carts is \$63 per day, plus tax. I have included in the email to the property management team if there is a discount we are able to offer for your group. I am also requesting information regarding a meeting room and if the facilities are handicapped associable . As soon as I get that information I will send it over to you! Please let me know if I am missing something!

Below is the discounted pricing and site information on the RV Sites:

she information on the Ky Shes.					
Hook Ups	Amps #Ava		ailable Price		
None	0	NA	10	\$392.32	
W/E	30	Back In	11	\$446.64	
W/E/S	30 & 50	Back In	8	\$513.03	
W/E/S	30 & 50	Pull Thru	45	\$513.03	
W/E/S	30 & 50	Back In	6	\$500.96	
W/E/S	30 & 50	Pull Thru	38	\$500.96	

Below is the pricing information on the Rental units. Here is a link to the description of the different types of units at Drummer Boy https://rvonthego.com/ pennsylvania/drummer-boy-campingresort/rentals.

Cabins are available at a cost of \$778.60 to \$1593.42 depending on what you want.

Thank you and I look forward to working with you and NAFCA on this event!

Kelsey Nelson

Weekend Reservation Supervisor & Rally Group Coordinator

Camp River Landing Pigeon Forge Tennessee

Annette & Todd Heim (Chairman) Lauren & Joe Jenkins (Co- Chairs) Committee to be determined NAFCAree 2021 Proposal: Camp River Landing 304 Day Springs Rd Pigeon Forge Tennessee 37863 52 Years in business /Family Own / Own Restaurant that we can also get a group rate too. (They cater as well.) Sat. July 17-24, 2021

\$58.00 Dollars (\$406.00 for 7 days) a night everything included no extra

charges for children, pets (No Breed Restrictions) or cars, W/E/S/C Amperage 20, 30 and 50. There is a limit of 7 people on a site. You can put 2 tents on one site if needed. All campers and tents are the same price.

Same daily rate if you go in early or stay late.

There are Rental Units available: Different prices depending on size of unit needed. (They even have old farm house that sleeps 12 people) There is also camper rental place nearby that can also be utilized.

Amenities:

• Laundry / ATM Machine / RV Supplies / Firewood / Restroom & Shower (Handicap accessibility)

• Worship Services / Cable / Onsite Rentals

 Heated Pool & Splash Pad & Wading Pool

- River & Swimming
- Fishing & Body of water (Little Pigeon River)
- Rec Hall & Game Room
- Planned Activities & play Ground
- Pavilion & Tennis & Bounce Pillow
- Dog park

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Current membership is 604.

At the Springfield RV Show we signed seven new members and one prior member returning to NAFCA.

Historically speaking, the majority of new members are referred by current members. With camping season starting soon, spread the word and invite your friends to join.

We will be discussing membership recruitment at the Annual meeting. So please come to share your ideas and learn how you can help us grow.





CAMP WITH NAFCA

Yes, we'd like to join NAFCA and enclosed you'll find our dues for the membership we've selected below, 1, 2, or 3 years. We understand that our membership covers all the benefits listed, which includes a subscription to Campfire Chatter. We will receive our membership card and privilege to NAFCA activities and benefits by mail.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$25 one year, \$40 two years \$50 three years

(From Canada please remit in U.S. dollars)

Last name, First Name

Last nar	ne, First Nar	ne
Address	i	
City Sta	te Zip	
Phone		
Email		
I would	like to receiv	e Campfire Chatter by
Email		Print
New	Renew	Chapter #

Make checks payable to and mail to: NAFCA

P.O. Box 345, Billerica, MA 01821

12 Monthly issues of NAFCA's own publication Campfire Chatter Membership Card Campground information service Year-round fun and fellowship through chapter, state and regional rallies Group Camping Discounts





Mussuchusetts

Massachusetts State Director



No "fooling", I am writing my article for April Chatter. That means it must be Spring!

The shows are over, time to tend to the winterized rig and hit the road.

Yep, it's time.

Head out to Otter River April 17-19 and the NAFCA annual meeting at Country Aire April 23-26.

Mass. Co-ord is recruiting new Officers. There are new Officers in NAFCA and lots have been planned.

At our March 14 Mass. Co-ord meeting we vote for the location of the 2021 Winter get-away, accept proposals for the 2021 Mass. State Fall Frolic (to be published in Aug. Chatter) and vote for the 2020 Mass. State Fall Frolic.

Thanks to Kathy Lena we are again going to the Cape for our Scusset Beach Campout in June, we will have our Multi Chapter combined with NAFCA board in August at Travelers Woods. And are busy with plans for our Mass. State Fall Frolic in Sept. in Spencer.

We have new NAFCA members and new potential members checking us out so help them get acquainted and let them join in your events. Please WELCOME them!

Lastly let's all join efforts in camping with friends and having FUN!

"We don't have a barrel of money, sometimes we are ragged and funny, but we'll travel along singing our song side by side"! Linda Ostiguy Massachusetts State Director

Pioneer Valley #8

Spring has Sprung! Camping is underway! Please be careful out there and respect the Seven C's.

PV8 had it's Winter Carnival on February 23rd. Thank you to Alicia Lyon for organizing this event. By the pictures I've seen all who attended had a blast tubing the slopes at Berkshire East.

PV8 hosted our annual Open House at the Chapter Hall on March 14th. We would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new members. Looking forward to meeting you and socializing and of course gathering around the campfire!

Congratulations to our newly elected officials voted for and installed in a lovely ceremony on March 14th. Thank you to our nominating committee Mike DiMauro Jr. and our election and installation committee Karen and Angelo Zeni.

Save the date for PV8's Conservation Weekend July 31 to August 2.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Cosby

Squaw-No-Cook #30

Hello,

Hope everyone is doing well. Spring is right around the corner.... At least the calendar says so!!

I did see Lenny, Carol, and Lisa earlier today, but was only able to wave to them. Here's hoping Lenny has left the flu far behind him.

I was thinking about what I had written last year at this time, and I could pretty much use some of the same comments. Especially about the weather!!

What I wrote last year - "Well, what a strange winter we've had this year. It's currently raining!! Snow, warm weather, rain, and later tonight - strong winds. Crazy, but this IS New England. You know the saying - If you don't like the weather in New England now, just wait a few minutes." Yup - crazy New England weather. There is very little snow and a bit of rain coming

Katie did a nice job with the trivia and activities, for the February meeting. It was a Valentine's theme with plenty of candy and hearts as prizes. One of the activities was to name songs with the word love in it; and another was coming up with the title of the song from the clues given. When Katie provided the answers, we often laughed with surprise at the answer or groaned because we missed the answer. The games were a lot of fun.

Carol Robison talked about the NAFCAree and also passed around two sweaters someone had knitted that will be raffled off. There will be more information provided about the raffle, and I think anyone can buy tickets (not just the people going to the NAFCAree). Or maybe both! If we do have a meeting, it might be an afternoon meeting so more people will be able to come.

Guess that's all for this month. All the best, Barbara Starr

Canvasback #157

Spring has already arrived even though the weather is still somewhat off. March 19th is the Spring date so by now we must be in the good camping weather, ain't we?

Those chapter members that did attend the Mass Dinner Dance in January had a great time. There wasn't even any bad Winter weather to contend with over that weekend of January 23-26, 2020. There was a very good crowd of people for the dinner and dance, I was told 80 people attended. There were some great costumes for the theme of "Come Sail Away". You should mark this event down as one not to miss next year.

The chapter said our goodbyes to our good friend and fellow Canvasback member Bucky Lane on February 8th. Bucky along with his wife Nancy, have been long time members of our chapter. Bucky & Nancy joined Canvasback when Charles River #22 disbanded. We have been fast friends ever since. Cards can be sent to Nancy Lane, 242 Oak Street, Natick, MA 01769-1309.

As of this writing the chapter outing at Wadleigh Falls Campground in Lee, NH is set for the dates of July 1-5 (Wednesday through Sunday). We don't have our weekend plans set yet and you will need to call the campground to make your reservation at (603) 361-7871 (their off season contact number). You may need to leave a call back number. All are welcome to attend. We will be camped in the field, water and electric hookups. There is a dump station, swimming pool, river access, campground activities and we will have a group campfire each evening.

Also in July are NAFCAree 2020 at Rideau Acres Campground, Kingston, Ontario, Canada the long week of July 17-25. See Campfire Chatter for reservation form and deposit info. Reservations all due June 1st.

Next up is the ever popular International Weekend July 30 & 31 – August 1&2 in Ogden, Quebec, Canada. This weekend is put on by Hands Across The Border Chapter #156 and is open to all of NAFCA. See Chatter for reservation information. Canvasback will be there in force, won't you join us for a fun filled weekend only a short drive into Canada from Vermont. Come one and all!

I hope to see some, if not all, of you out camping with our NAFCA friends. The Canvasback campfire is always welcoming.

> Until next we meet, Don Daniel – Correspondent



At our February meeting we had a serious discussion about the Corona Virus and discovered it was not a problem a Mexican brewery was having with its beer. Since all of us are at a vulnerable age for contracting serious ailments, we vowed to be pro-active in fighting off this new risk. As it was, we had 2 families absent from that meeting. One was recovering from knee surgery and the other was painfully trying to pass a kidney stone. I was wondering if one gets a certificate of completion upon passing a stone or a small trophy verifying that you participated.

Our March meeting took place at Ed and Jan Lacaillades' home. It was held outside in 40 degree weather to prevent cross contamination. We were bundled up in thick winter coats and sat in a circle 10 feet apart from one another. As chapter secretary I did find it difficult to take notes with thick gloves on my hands.

Lee Hart and Charley Bayha are planning a 4 day campout at Quichee Gorge, New Hampshire, possibly in early August and hope other chapter members will join them once they get definite dates. Milt and Annette Baisley aim to cut back on some of the labor involved in camping preparation and have obtained a seasonal site at Nelson's Family Campground (a pretty good campground). We wish them good luck and hope to visit them at their new camping home. The 4-Wheeler's club have again invited Mattabessett to a campout at Brialee Campground in July.

After the meeting, we had something to eat, paying strict attention to our new vow to stay healthy. We all brought quarts of orange juice to drink with our meal. Jan Lacaillade made kale and carrot sandwiches and put them into her microwave to nuke any stray bacteria or virus. She was wearing dump gloves (unused I hope) as she removed the sandwiches from their nuke bath and put them into sterile plastic bags. Jan brought the food outside and tossed it to each families' waiting hands. For those that were still hungry, dessert consisted of sunflower seeds and sprouted wheat kernels.

Jeff Bell, Mattabessett Secretary

Wolf Den #103

Happy Easter!!

I'd like to think Spring will be early this year with the couple of warm days we've had.

Our winter was pretty mild, and I really think it may come late with more snow. Let's hope I'm wrong!

The Goodwin's have been pretty busy traveling, and haven't had time to sit down to determine a date for Wolf Den's first meeting of the season to discuss camping dates. Hopefully, by the time you've read this, we've scheduled a date and time.

We're looking forward to gathering our members together to figure out our summer campouts. Until then, stay warm and healthy!

Submitted by Arlene Goodwin Wolf Den 103 Secretary



Pine Tree #33

Hello everybody. So far it has been a pretty mild Winter with Spring onstarting March 20, 2020. We are anxious for Camping to begin. We have talked to quite a few members and everybody is anxious to go camping. We have kept in contact with quite a few members throughout the Winter. Its so nice to do that which I enjoy.

Our first meeting of the season is coming soon. It will be on April 5, 2020 which you will notice is Psalm Sunday. We picked that date because the following Sunday is Easter. The meeting will be at the South Paris Fire house. We will have a Roast Turkey Dinner with all the fixings, hosted by Roberta White. Please reserve your seat so she will be expecting you. Also be prepared to pay your Lot dues and membership is also due. Also a reminder on May 2 a Saturday will be Lot Assignment Day. If you decide to change your lot and cannot attend, please have someone represent your voice for you. There will be a Dinner that evening at 5:00pm.

Here"s hoping the snow holds off. From what I am told the Campground has about 7 inches on the ground. Brian Hodgdon is my weatherman. A birdie told me Rita Taylor has a new Camper, good luck with it. My Crocus started growing about one inch, but our temperature is only 20 degrees. This happens every year.

Well its time to close for now, stay warm and healthy, see everybody at April meeting.

Sincerely, Doris Mitchell

Penobscot Valley Acres #37

Well... It's getting closer! We turn the clocks ahead, the days are getting

Continued on Next

Please Support Our NAFCA Sustaining Members

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

Connecticut

DJ'Z Creative Designs 130 Ruden St

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

Hide-A-Way Cove

1060 North Řoad 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

\$\$ 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 - lambeity.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. Narragansett RI 02882

401-783-4902



Vermont

Abel Mountain Campground

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

\$\$ Pete's RV Center

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

Continued from page 9

longer and the weather is taking on a warmer tone. I can almost smell the spring in the air.



We, of P.V.A. had our annual prespring meeting February 29th. We met at the Governor's in Old Town for a wonderful meal and great conversation. It is so nice to catch up after the long winter. It's when many of us pay our dues and lot rent as our treasurer, Shelda is always prepare to get us all taken care of and she can give out our receipts without having to mail them and waste the postage. Also new ideas are kicked around for the up coming season. Like maybe some road trips to some of the local wineries for some tastings or maybe greenhouse shopping trips. Okay, maybe these are just a few of my personal favorites. Let's hope March comes in like the lion and goes out like the lamb and we can make it an early opening.

So after seeing everyone I'm more excited than ever to get out to our little camping spot on Hudson Stream. Hope to see you all there.

Save Travels Janet Bagley





CORN CASSEROLE Submitted by David And Paula Colvin

¹/₂ cup butter 1 (8 ¹/₂ oz) box corn bread mix

- 1 (16 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz) can creamed corn 1 (16 $\frac{1}{2}$ can whole kernel corn, drained
- 1 cup sour cream
- 2 eggs, beaten

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a 13 x 9 baking dish. Combine butter and corn bread mix; mix well. Add creamed corn, whole kernel corn, sour cream and eggs; mix. Pour into prepared baking dish. Bake 30 minutes. Serves 8

BISCUITS Submitted by David and Paula Colvin

2 cups self-rising flour 1 tbsp sugar ¾ cup milk ¼ cup oil

Preheat 400° degrees.

Stir sugar into flour. Add milk and oil all at once. Stir until mixed. Turn out on lightly floured board. Roll or pat to desired thickness. Cut into biscuits. Bake for 10-12 minutes. Make 12.

TACO MEATLOAF Submitted by David and Paula Colvin

1 lb lean ground beef ½ cup bread crumbs ¼ cup milk 2 eggs 4 (1.25 cm) couplene toos co

1 (1.25 oz) envelope taco seasoning 1 cup salsa

Preheat oven to 350°. Line a baking sheet with parchment or aluminum foil. Mix all ingredients, except for the salsa, in a large bowl. Shape into a loaf and place on prepared sheet. Bake 50-60 minutes or until center of loaf is 160° per a meat thermometer. Top with salsa if desired. Serve 4

BEEF & BROCCOLI STIR FRY

Submitted by Paula and David Colvin

- Tenderizing Marinade 2 Tbsp white wine 4 tbsp soy sauce 2 tsp cornstarch 1 tsp baking soda 8 oz lean sirloin steak, thin slice (best if partially frozen) 2 tbsp oil 2 cloves garlic, crushed 2 cups fresh broccoli florets Cooked rice STIR FRY SAUCE
- 4 tbsp soy sauce 2 tbsp dry sherry 1 thin slice ginger, crushed 1/8 tsp white pepper 1⁄2 tsp sesame oil 1 tsp ketchup 1⁄2 cup water Thickener 1⁄2 cup cold water

2 tbsp cornstarch

Mix tenderizing marinade. Our in a zipper pouch and add the sliced sirloin. Seal bag and mush the beef around in the marinade until completely coated. Place bag in the refrigerator for 1 hour

Meanwhile, ix stir fry sauce ingredients in a small dish and set aside. Mix the thickener ingredients in another small dish; set aside

Remove meat from the bag, draining off marinade. Heat a large wok or a large deep skillet over high heat. Add the oil. When oil begins to shimmer, add the drained meat and garlic. Stir fry, for about 1 minute or until broccoli is bright green in color. Add the stir fry sauce and stir. Bring sauce to a boil. Whisk the thickener until no lumps are present and add to meat/broccoli mixture. Stirring constantly until sauce begins to bubble. Cook for 1 minute and serve immediately over rice. 4 servings

ROSIE O'DONNELL'S MARSH-MALLOW MUD SQUARES. Submitted by Dena Rickson

- 2 cups sugar 1 cup shortening 4 eggs 3 tsp vanilla 1 ¹/₂ cup flour 1/3 cup cocoa 1/3 tsp salt 1 (6 ¹/₂ oz) bag mini marshmallows Frosting 2 sticks butter, room temperature ¹/₂ cup cocoa 1 box powdered sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1/2 cup evaporated milk

Preheat oven to 300°. In a medium bowl, add sugar and shortening and cream together. Add eggs and vanilla and beat 30 seconds. In a separate bowl, sift the flour, cocoa and salt together. Add to the mixture and beat until well combined. Pour the mixture into a greased and floured 9 x 13 inch pan. Bake for 35 minutes. Make the frosting while the cake is baking. Beat together the butter, cocoa, powdered sugar and vanilla. Slowly add the milk. Set aside. Once cake I baked, remove pan from the oven. Spread the marshmallows on top of the cake and return the pan to oven for 5 more minutes. Remove the pan from oven and cool for a few minutes. Evenly apply the frosting. Allow this to stand for 2 hours before cutting into squares.

Note: if the marshmallows are too hot, the frosting will sink right through. The frosting should be the top layer. It will darken once it hits the heat of the cake.



Campfire Chatter PO Box 345 Billerica MA 01821

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

2020 Calendars

NATIONAL EVENTS

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

STATE EVENTS

June 25-28 Scusset Beach Campout Scusset Beach State Res. Sandwich MA

- Aug. 7-9 Mass. Multi-chapter Travelers Woods Campground 152 River Road Bernardsten, MA.
- Aug 20-23 Annual Quilting Weekend Country Aire Campground Charlemont, MA.
- Sept 10-13 VT/NH Fall Frolic River Meadow Campground 3125 Dartmouth College HWY N. Haverhill, NH 03774
- Sept. 24-27 Massachusetts Fall Frolic Spencer Fairgrounds Spencer MA

CHAPTER EVENTS

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



SICK LIST

The following members of PV8 are on the sick list, Bob Recoulle, Richard LaValley, Jean Savoie, Joe Keeler and Carole Barclay. Get better soon!

DIED

Jay Welihan, 57, former member of

Ch. 8 and NAFCA Newsletter editor passed away recently. He served in the US Air Force during Desert Storm and earned many awards and medals. He worked for the US Post Office and served as supervisor at the Hartford, CT. office. He was buried on Fe. 24 at the Mass. Veteran's Cemetery in Agawam, MA. He leaves his wife, AnnMarie and two children.

JoAnn Whitney, former member of Mystic Valley Ch. 5 and NAFCA died on Feb. 17. She and her late husband, Bob, camped with their NAFCA family for many years. Cards may be sent to the family at 16 50th Ave, Chelmsford, MA. 01863

Jeanne Davis, mother of Carla Ford of PV8. doed recently. She was a former member of PV8 and NAFCA.

HAPPY NEWS

Sarah Adams, daughter of Jack and Donna Adams, is getting married in October. She and Adam Curtis will be "tying the knot" Seems like she was just a little kid playing in the pine needles at Otter River!!

IN THE SERVICE

Please keep all our men and women serving in the US Armed Forces in your thoughts and prayers.

NAFCA CARES

Doris and Dena

bobndoris04@gmail.com

This intent of this column is to share with NAFCA any news, happy and sad, with others. Input from you is what makes it happen :) The support of friends is priceless :)