



Campfire Chatter

"All About Family Camping"

Official Publication of the
North American Family Campers Association

Visit us at www.NAFCA.org



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**Campfire
Chatter**

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President's Message

Hello to all my fellow campers in NAFCA. Well summer is over; it sure went by pretty quickly. Onto fall with only a few campouts. The big campout is the Council of Chapters/Full Board campout at Country Aire in Charlemont, Ma. October 4 – 6. The info has been in the Chatter. As a reminder I am still looking for someone or some group to for a committee for the 2020 NAFCAree at Rideau Acres Campground in Kingston, Ontario Canada. If we don't get one this event could be cancelled for next year. I heard we did get a chairperson for the 2020 NAFCA Spring Safari. Remember to travel safe to all of your outings this fall. Yours in camping,
Dennis & Pam Richardson

SNOWBIRDS REMINDER

It's that time of year again when many of our members travel south for the winter. We need your address as soon as you know when you are leaving since all of the mailing work with the Chatter is done weeks in advance. We can email the Chatter to you and then you don't need to change your address and you will receive it at least a week earlier. Just send an email to membership@nafca.org and also please include your name.

The Chatter does not get forwarded by the post office because it is considered a periodical. These get returned to the NAFCA PO Box and we in turn have to pay for returned mail and you do not receive the Chatter.

We send the list to the publisher on the 14 or 15th of the month for the next month's edition, so please send us your change of address early so we can make sure you continue to receive your Chatter or a membership renewal card.

Address changes can be made quickly by email to: membership@nafca.org. Include your name, updated address and the date you will be at the address.

If you do not have email, send in the form that is in the Chatter.

Have a safe trip to your destination and enjoy the winter!



Change of Address

Incorrectly addressed CAMPFIRE CHATTER issues are NOT forwarded. You can help by using the form below, or one similar, and sending it to the office. It takes five weeks to process any changes.

Send change of address to:
NAFCA, PO Box 345, Billerica, MA 01821

Or email this information to:
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Otter River Conservation

Otter River Conservation Weekend October 18-20, 2019

Just a friendly reminder that your Otter River Weekend is just about upon us and as such, I hope you're being among those who will help out with that Saturday in exchange for a fee free weekend.

Arrive on Friday after 10 AM and set up in the parking area at the end of the Otter River driveway. There are no hook ups or dump station. There will be a handicap Porta John for our use over the weekend.

If you can, please bring a lawn rake as we will be doing some raking and various areas of the area.

Carpool to King Phillips Restaurant for the Friday evening meal, Dutch treat.

Campfire on Friday and Saturday evening with coffee, please bring a goodie to share and have with our coffee.

Saturday supper will be potluck Up under the pavilion. If you have food problems then bring your own meal for yourself and eat with the group.

Basic location: U. S. ROUTE 202 in Baldwinville, MA. From MA Route 2, to exit number 20, turn right onto Baldwinville, Road. and follow to its end. Turn right onto U.S. 202 North. Otter River State Forest Will be on your left side about a half mile out of Baldwinville town center.

Questions? Please call Don (978) 664-4294.

See you there,
Don Daniel

MASSACHUSETTS MULTI-CHAPTER CAMPOUT

August 9-11th

Another Massachusetts Multiple Chapter weekend is in the books. We had 18 rigs for the weekend. For the few that arrived on Thursday we had a thunderstorm at night. On Friday we welcomed everyone. Most of us ventured over to Four Leaf Clover res-

taurant in Bernardston for dinner. They were able to handle 36 of us in one sitting. The food was great as well as the service. We returned to the campground for coffee and some great deserts. Then we all enjoyed the campfire.

Saturday we welcomed the NAFCA board for their meeting in the morning. After the meeting many ventured out the Kringle Candle and other local sites. Everyone returned back to the campground for our potluck supper. What good cooks we have. After supper we had our reusable bag auction. Thank you Ben Mattson for being the auctioneer. He did a great job. We then enjoyed coffee and deserts alongside the campfire. A few clouds that rained on us for a bit did not dampen the night activities. Sunday everyone packed up to head home.

We booked the campground for next year's Mass. Multi-Chapter on Aug 6-9th. Next year we will offer Thursday arrival at the rally price.

Ed & Diane Gauthier
Multi Chapter Wagonmaster

NAFCA SPRING SAFARI

NAFCA Spring Safari May 14-17, 2020

Ellen and I have agreed to be the chairman for the 2020 spring Safari at the Spencer Fairgrounds. Please let us know if you would like to be on our committee or do gate duty 12-2, 2-4, 4-6, 6-8, 8-10 or volunteer to run a game Cribbage, Domino's, Grunt, Bocci, NAFCO, Potti, or Horseshoes. You can call us at (413)-289-9020 or e.mail us at tiger6542@gmail.com. We got 3 volunteers to help us at the Multi Chapter Weekend.

Thank You
Tony Migneault

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



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)

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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



SMOKE SIGNALS



Massachusetts State Director



Our Multi-Chapter Weekend at Traveler's Woods on Aug. 9-10 was really great. Our thanks goes to Diane & Ed and Irene and Ron for a great time. It was also great to share the weekend with the NAFCAs Summer Full Board. If you missed it we have already left our deposit for next year and hope to repeat a great weekend.

Talking about a great weekend, the Mass. Fall Frolic, "No Theme in 2019" (Sept. 26-29) may be about to happen or happening when you receive your new (Oct.) Chatter. I'll fill you in of what happened in the next Chatter.

Massachusetts is also hosting the Fall Council of Chapters the weekend of Oct. 4-6 at Country Aire in Charlemont, MA. We are hoping for a good turnout....we welcome all.

We move indoors to the Rutland Public Library, on Nov. 3, 2019 for our Mass. Co-ord meeting. The library is located on 280 Main Street, Rutland, MA. The time is 10AM. We'll have the coffee pot on along with donuts to bribe you. Let me know if you need directions (508-867-3294). This is NOT a double meeting, so should not be too long! Help us plan, get the newest "dirt", enjoy the company, see old friends and get involved.

Jan. 5, 2020 (looks funny!) we go back to Rutland Library.

Plan on coming to Sturbridge, MA for our dinner dance "Winter Get Away" Jan. 24-26. New location...new

set-up. NOT "stuffy" just fun!

Don't forget the Springfield RV & Camping Show at the Big E in Springfield, MA Feb.14-17!

NO Winter nap for US.....lots of DO!

Linda Ostiguy
Massachusetts State Director

Pioneer Valley #8

So being an active camper away on a long campout I missed last month. I know many of our group attended the NAFCAREE and had a blast. Congratulations to all involved in the preparations and working holiday!

Thank you to Matt and Megan Chartier, Mike Samson and Donna, and their committee, many of whom were first timers, the August campout was great! Who doesn't love diving for pinata treats?

September's campout, yet to happen at this writing, will be on September 27th-29th hosted by Cody and Kristienne Pennington and Kim and Jim Hansen chairing. It will be at Odetah Camping Resort, in Bozrah, CT. Pirates Weekend, Arrgh.

Welcome Fall! With all your unpredictable temperatures and beautiful colors. We New Englanders find it a challenge to dress appropriately each day, Pants in the morning, shorts in the afternoon, then back to pants and sweatshirts. However Fall brings us baking apples, maple sugar, country fairs, and campfires you can actually sit close to.

While some may pack away our second homes for the winter, many will enjoy some Autumn camping, PV8ers don't forget October 18-20th, at Otter River! State Reservation The cost for the weekend is a little Saturday cleanup labor of the beautiful conservation area and camping grounds. We camp in the parking lot so it is dry camping. Come help out, take pride in our origins, and meet some other chapter members or reunite!

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Cosby

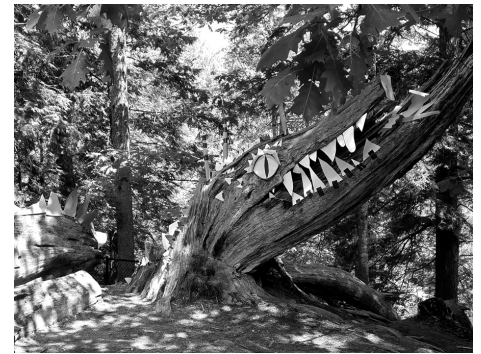
Squaw-No-Cook #30

Hi Everyone,

Continuing my NAFCAREE notes -

The picture last month was from Bug Light Park in Portland, where there was a memorial to the local shipbuilding efforts of World War II. One of the photos there mentioned Wendy Welder, which the Portsmouth Shipyard guide mentioned some women were called. Made me smile, since I had never heard that before, and I heard / saw it twice in one day!

Thursday we went to Cascade Falls, the Camp Ellis rock jetty, and Ferry State Park. The Falls weren't too far into the woods, and we saw a dragon!!! Honest!!



A group of young campers decorated the tree trunk; it was really cute. I'm glad Jim took a picture as the dragon was gone when we walked by again. The Camp Ellis jetty was really long, but we only walked a short way. At Ferry State Park, we walked to the beach and then wandered the trails. The day was just another beauty.

Friday was the trolley ride to Old Orchard Beach. Off to the beach and hot hot hot was the sand!!! The water was quite nice. We checked out the Museum in the Streets signs and visited the Harmon Historical Museum. The guide talked about music and events from previous years, with big names like Aerosmith, Cher, Beach Boys, Van Halen as well as big band acts like Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, and Glenn Miller. Jim had fun at the candy store with wax lips, Nik-L-Nips and root beer candies.

Most nights we ended up at the main tent, hoping to win a door prize or playing games or dancing. I saw my cousin Michelle Perry again!! Jim and Ted had a great chat - they realized that when they were in the Navy, they had the same type of job on the same type of equipment!

Thanks to Peg for bringing the game Quiddler that Carol, Katie, Peg, Jim, and I played during the evenings. We laughed a lot, coming up with various words with the letters we were dealt.

Saturday was the drive home and boy, were we glad we weren't going north! Lots and lots of traffic.

Harry's back in rehab, but doing better.

Rich Bishop turned 90, Carol Bishop turned 89, and they've just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary!

All the best,
Barbara Starr

Canvasback #157

Next up for our chapter is the Fall Council of Chapters weekend at Country Aire CG in Charlemont, MA. The campground is 13 miles west of Greenfield, MA on MA Route 2 (1735 Route 2). Make your reservation by calling the campground at (413) 625-2996. The dates are October 4-6, 2019.

Please remember the Otter River Conservation Weekend is October 18-20, 2019. Saturday evening meal is pot luck. No camping fee in exchange for help with the Saturday tasks. See Campfire Chatter article for details.

Seems like the season just got started and now I'm talking of the end of this season's camping. Our indoor meetings and get together are on the doorstep. This will be a time to be with camping friends and gear up for the 2020 camping events.

Also, NAFCA Elections will be in January and all board positions are open for any chapter, state or national elected officers to run for our NAFCA board. NAFCA need you and the leadership skills you can bring to the "table". If you can run and serve, please do. You're one vote per family is also very important to exercise in our upcoming election.

On behalf of Canvasback Chapter, thanks to our officers and all those who were part of the different committees and volunteers. You all have helped lead NAFCA and make us the best camping club.

See you soon,
Don Daniel – Correspondent



Connecticut

Wolf Den #103

Happy Halloween!!

We ventured out to our first campout for the season on the weekend of August 9, 2019 to Country Aire Campground in Charlemont, MA., on the Mohawk Trail. It started out pretty rough for the Goodwin's. Not far into our travel on the Mass Pike we were delayed by camper problems with our side panel hanging just a tad. Luckily, the Supina's saw us and met us at the Lowell Service Station to lend a roll of Duct Tape. Thanks also to a kind gentleman, Ken, from Bellingham, MA. He was also on his way camping and lent us a ladder, gorilla tape and a few screws to get us to the campground.

When we arrived, we went to the local Aubuchons and got the supplies needed to make our repairs. When we got back to the campground, we saw the Taylor's new RV rig. What a dream house on wheels, sweeet! We then decided to let problems lie, and go out to dinner. We went to the Golden Eagle on the Mohawk hairpin turn. The meals were scrumptious as always! We've never had a bad meal there, and always make sure we plan to go. It's such a great countryside ride through the mountains, and the views are amazing overlooking the three states. We had a fire when we returned for a short while to relax, and catch up on the summer excursions that we missed. Even had a couple of visitors to chit chat.

Saturday morning, we ate breakfast, and then we began our repairs.



THANKS to Dave and Carol for helping us out. It was quick and painless! We packed up lunch, went to the Mohawk park and had a picnic followed by a Thunderbolt coaster ride. We planned to do our traditional tubing down the river, but it was a bit cloudy and cool. The coaster ride was a blast!

Then we were off to explore through bear country. We saw the damn dam, and the underground visitor center. We ended up doing a little bit of 4wheel'n off the beaten bath, and still no bears. We returned to have dinner with fresh corn on the cob. Then a roaring fire was lit for the evening surrounded with good company.

Sunday morning was the end of our weekend... it went so fast.

See you at the Camp-O-Rama in September!!!

Submitted by Arlene Goodwin
Wolf Den 103 Secretary



Maine

Pine Tree #33

Hello everybody, well we see temperature changes coming real quick, 50's in the mornings, but days are comfortable. I want you to know I will be doing the Campfire Chatter Newsletter now. Pine Tree campground has had some changes, so bear with me, hoping I don't forget anything. If you see I have forgotten please let me know.

We have good news, Gene Bard is home and doing well. We did a Sunshine Basket to cheer her up. Also Lorraine Burnham has had a Pacemaker put in and hoping she is doing well, thinking of you also. This past weekend Cribbage ended, also Card Bingo had 3 and members love this game and want more. It's different. We had 32 members attend. OK Jim Brown you won twice, but remember that is only beginners luck. ha-ha.

We had a Potluck on August 17th, hosted by Bette Pomerleau. What a turnout over. 50 members and food of

Continued on next page

all kind, crockpots, and homemade pies delicious.

This Saturday August 31 in the morning we will have our Planning Meeting for next years activities. We will let you know how that turns out. Also Aug. 31 we are having a Whoville Christmas Supper, with a Yankee Swap. Men bring a men's gift and ladies bring a ladies gift. I had to ask what is a Whoville Supper and what does it mean? Whoville, I am told it is Cat in a Hat.

September 1st. will be our Chapter Meeting. I will let you know details in the next Newsletter. September 2 Labor Day we talked Charlie Berry into doing a bean bag baseball game again. September 4th. will be a boiled dinner. Hosts are Judith Allen, Brenda Hodgdon, Pat Witham. You will have a choice of either ham or corned beef. September 21st, Potluck, Host is Bette Pomerleau.

I also want to thank Dan Kinney, for doing a wonderful job as our new Secretary. Hhas spent a lot of time and dedication helping us out with this difficult job. Also thank Brian Hodgdon for keeping out Campground in tip-top shape, lot of hard work, also his crew helping Roger Boucard, and John Hammond. THANK YOU.

Well this is all for now, see you next month. Happy Camping, Sincerely Doris Mitchell.

Penobscot Valley Acres #37

Well once again the evenings and early mornings are taking on a crisp chill and a few of our members have pulled out and headed to warmer areas but P.V.A. is still going strong.

Our Family Fun Day was just that, fun for young and old-er. The children truly enjoyed the home made water slide throughout the weekend and the annual Fry Pan toss was a bit hit. I must say the women seem to draw the biggest crowd as the Madigan girls were showing their mother no slack. Daughter, Kelly took 1st, daughter, Amy took 2nd and Mom, Shelda came in 3rd but Shelda has recently recovered from some hand surgery (just saying). Men's was won by Dan McPhee and children's was won by Parker, (the grand-son of Shelda, son of Kelley).

The next weekend Christmas came to P.V.A. Many lots were decorated for the holiday. I did come across these three "Wise Men" Joe Madigan, Tom

Continued on page 7



Come and Get It!

Email your recipes to russrider@aol.com

CHINESE HASH Submitted by Peg Hatch

Cook in frying pan until vegetables are soft...

- 1 lb Hamburg
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup chopped celery
- Mix together...
- 1 can mushroom soup
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 soup can water
- 1 small can mushroom pieces
- ½ cup uncooked rice
- ¼ cup soy sauce (optional)

Combine both mixes.

Put in 2-quart casserole. Bake covered for 30 minutes in 350° oven. Uncover and bake 30 minutes longer. In last 5 minutes of cooking add 1 rpkg of frozen peas and top with can of Chow Mein noodles.

CABBAGE ROLLS Submitted by Peg Hatch

Cooked at home and take along for first big meal at camp.

- 1 ½ lbs Hamburg
- ½ cup rice
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ tsp basil (or more to taste)
- 1 small onion, chopped

Mix together and shape into good sized balls. Then roll in cabbage leaves which have been blanched until wilted. Then cook slowly in the cabbage juice for 2 hours. During last hour, add 1 can of tomato sauce or can of tomatoes

Thank you Peg for that trip down memory lane!!!!

NO BAKE ÉCLAIR DESSERT Submitted by Dave and Paula Colvin

- 1 (4 serving size) instant vanilla pudding
- 1 ¾ cup milk
- 2 (8 oz each) tubs of whipped topping
- 18-22 whole cinnamon graham crack-

ers or regular/graham crackers

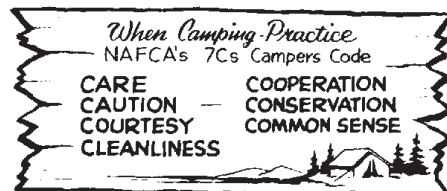
- Chocolate Ganache:
- ½ cup chocolate chips
- 3 tbsp heavy cream

Whisk pudding mix and milk for 2 minute; let stand for 2 minutes. Fold 1 tub of whipped topping into the pudding; set aside. Place 1 layer of graham crackers on the bottom of a 9 x 13 pan. Spread half of the pudding mix over the graham crackers. Repeat graham cracker layer; add remaining half of the pudding mixture. Place another layer of graham cracker on top. Frost the remaining top of whipped topping.

Make ganache by placing the ingredients in a microwave safe bowl. Microwave on high for 30 seconds. Remove and stir until there are no lumps. You may have to microwave for another 10 to 15 seconds if you still have some lumps after stirring well. Be patient-chocolate should be melted slowly. After the initial 30 seconds, you may have to stir for 2-3 minutes. If you still have lumps after this time, heat for the additional time stated previously.

Drizzle the chocolate over the top of the dessert. Chill Very thoroughly. You may want to partially freeze or even completely freeze this dessert until almost ready to serve. If the dessert is completely frozen, thaw for about 30 -60 minutes before serving.

Note: if using regular graham crackers, you can sprinkle some cinnamon sugar on top of each layer.



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*10 or more rigs (no holiday weekends)

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



Dyson and Bob Hartley relaxing & enjoying an early morning cup of coffee around the fire. We started with a brown bag auction. Our auctioneer, Randy Ramp, once again, did a wonderful job and all of the money raised will go into the till for use on upcoming projects. We had an old fashion cookie swap and an opportunity for the children to decorate cookies. We ended with a wonderful pot luck.

Next weekend we will be having our annual harvest dinner once again headed up by Chris & Tom Dyson.

I'll close for now and wish you all safe travels.

Janet Bagley

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NAFCA CARES

SICK LIST

Frank Higgins, former NAFCA president was recently diagnosed with bladder cancer. He is still undergoing tests to determine what treatment the Dr.s think is best for him. He is going to Dartmouth/Hitchcock Hospital in NH,

a long ride (90min) but the best hospital in the area. He has been faithfully sending cards to NAFCA members on the sick list for years, I hope he gets a lot of cards in return, now that he needs them. The address Box 1, East Haven, VT 05837.

Harry Schofield, Ch. 30, has been in the hospital again with pneumonia and is now in St Francis Rehab. Hosp. in Worcester. Please send him some cheery cards at 508 Flat Hill Rd., Lunenburg, 01462. In the mean time, his wife Elise,

has had surgery on her eye and will be laid up for at least a week with no bending over. When it rains, it pours.

Happy News

The Bradley/Kelly clan from RI is celebrating the arrival of Jolina Kelly, wife of Andrew, to the United States. They were married a few years ago and it has been a long wait for her to finally come here. Please wish them well, I'm sure they will be at Camporama.

IN THE SERVICE

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

NAFCA Cares
 Doris Lewis
 bobndoris04@gmail.com
 9780302-4003

2019 Calendars

NATIONAL EVENTS

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

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

STATE EVENTS

Nov. 3 **Mass. Coord Meeting**
 Rutland Library
 Rutland MA

CHAPTER EVENTS

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

2020 Calendars

NATIONAL EVENTS

May 14-17 **NAFCA Spring Safari**
 Spencer Fairgrounds
 Spencer MA

STATE EVENTS

Jan. 5 **Mass. Coord Meeting**
 Rutland Library
 Rutland MA

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

CHAPTER EVENTS

Feb 14-17 **Springfield RV, Camping & Outdoor Show**
 Eastern States Exposition
 Grounds
 West Springfield MA

