

September 2011

Discovery

Club of California Newsletter



A Chapter of FMCA

Presidents Message

We had a great rally in Chula Vista that was hosted by Ray and Jackie Ouellette and Glenn and Marilyn Turner.

I want to thank them for their efforts that made this an outstanding event.

One of the highlights of the rally was the San Diego boat cruise which was a great way to see the City from a different prospective.

We are looking forward to the January rally that takes place in the RV and swap meet capital of the world, Quartzsite, AZ. We will see you there!

Thank you
Carl



**Carl
Johnson**
President

WAGONMASTER'S REPORT

Chula Vista Rally - Sept 13-16, 2011

Our Chula Vista Rally was a lot of fun and I want to express my personal thanks to Jackie, Glenn and Marilyn for their hard work in putting together three days of good food, games and a side trip consisting of a two-hour "Hornblower Cruise" out of the San Diego Harbor.

Our first night consisted of a "Potluck Dinner" with very special dishes from our members. Thanks for your participation with the first night potluck, it makes things a little easier for the trail boss.

Our games consisted of bingo and the assembly of different wood model kits which could be taken back to individual motorhomes for further construction and fine tuning. The model kit winners were Bud Robinson (Potential new member) and Dolores Walker. Larry Benson was a lucky bingo winner but the luckiest of all was Dick Rody who managed to win two games. We also had several more winners during our white elephant sale which netted over \$100 for our club.

Sheriff Muriel Benson kept everyone on their toes by working undercover and revealing her badge only when necessary in collecting hefty fines for failing to wear name tags and failing to display their small motorhomes as required. Her presentation at the end of the rally was most informative and kept everyone in stitches with laughter.

Another person who kept us laughing was Noe during his DDD Award presentation. We had four candidates which included Jackie, Muriel, Lois and Norm. Each one had a legitimate excuse except for Norm who was the lucky recipient.

The Chula Vista Resort is a great place for a rally during these hot summer months. Unfortunately, we were unable to book the large clubhouse and had to settle for a smaller upstairs clubhouse. I frankly did not expect such a good turn-out when I booked this resort last January.

We got our new banner with some help from Fleetwood. I think our banner should be displayed on or near the coach of the trail boss for the benefit of other members attending the rally. We also purchased a new bulletin board which was overdue for replacement.

Several changes were made in our forthcoming rallies for 2012. I canceled Pechanga, Pahrump and Lone Pine because of several comments from members who wanted to try different resorts. So, our next rally is Quartzsite



which seems to be attractive to most of our members. I've also scheduled a rally at Wine Country Paso Robles because this has been voted as number one on everyone's list. Our next rally will be at Pismo Creek RV Resort thanks to Pismo Creek Member Art Valenzuela and Dick Rody who have volunteered to be trail bosses. Our last rally of 2012 will hopefully be near Sequoia National Park. Please check our website <http://www.discoveryclubonline.com/> from time to time for recent updates. Our website is up and running thanks to our Webmaster Alan Johnston.

Please remember that your comments and suggestions are always appreciated. Simply drop me a line at ray.jak@verizon.net or give me a call at 951-699-2567.

C U
there,
Ray Ouellette
Wagonmaster



Chula Vista ralliers going on a boat tour.

WAYS AND MEANS REPORT

Thank you all who made our “White Elephant Sale” such a huge success. Some great articles were available for our silent auction. All the ladies, men too, who did the bidding on the over 25 items had so much fun out bidding each other. After our dinner on Thursday evening the “winners” were announced, and the final total monies collected totaled \$102.00.

I have many other “ideas” for fun fund raising for the club. Keep reading the Discovery Club web site for updates.

**Happy and Blessed Holidays to you all,
Jackie Ouellette
Ways & Means Chairperson**







NATIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT

I attended the Governing Board meeting in Madison, WI at the FMCA's National Summer Convention, held on August 10, 2011. The meeting was called to order by Acting National President Judy Czarsty at 0905 CST. A quorum of 78% was certified with 373 National Directors present out of a possible 487. The President's report covered the events that took place after Judy took over as Acting National President. The new Executive Director, Bradford Koshland came on board the third of January and a special mentoring committee was established by the Executive Board to assist with his initial transition. Much has been accomplished in these short seven months. The second major event that occurred was the creation of FMCA's own medical evacuation program called FMCAssist. Due to unresolved issues beyond our control, FMCA and the provider mutually terminated their contract and a new firm, OnCall, began providing FMCAssist services to the members. FMCA has entered into new member benefit contracts with Michelin Tire and Fantasy and Creative World Travel. Another new initiative is underway to increase campground membership with greater discounts for FMCA members. Finally a "tool kit" has been created to assist members in recruiting efforts. Realistically, where is FMCA now? While the balance sheet and its ratios may be positive, the income Statement and the change in equity are not as rosy as it had been reported in the past. The decline in membership is really a decline in membership revenue. The current membership is about 89,000. FMCA conventions are not getting the attendance to produce the necessary cash flows to help operate FMCA.

Highlights from the FMCA Executive Director's report showed the resignation of a 42 year employee, Beverly Spurgeon, Director of Member Services who was not replaced. Another full-time staff member in mail forwarding was replaced with a part-time worker both resulting in salary and benefit cost savings. On 6/1/2011 all Directors took a \$5,000 cut in salary resulting in \$25,000 salary savings. On 8/1/2011 the Director of Administrative Services and The Executive Director took a \$10,000 cut in salary. FMCA is a member of the American Recreation Coalition (ARC) and has been for many years. We pay yearly dues of \$10,000. The Executive Director recommended to our Executive Board that we drop our membership and do our own marketing. The Board agreed resulting in \$10,000 yearly saving. It is obvious that our Acting President, Executive Director and

Executive Board are very focused on income and expenses and have worked very hard in exploring every avenue to ensure a viable FMCA in the future.

The next major subject was the Finance Committee report by Treasurer Wil Young. The 2011 budget (six months, - \$620,000) has not been as good as projected in terms of revenues and as a result expenses have been reduced. Office reorganization and wage review are in progress as well as evaluation of real estate holding at our two locations. Emergency evacuation switching to ONCall resulted in increased cost. Operating expenses have been reduced. An amended IRS return was filed resulting in a 1.3 million dollar refund which was invested. The proposed 2012 budget was adopted by the Governing Board with minor changes. The National Directors voted to eliminate their convention registration reimbursement for 2012. A Policy & Procedures committee report proposal was adopted resulting in eliminating double compensation in a single vehicle for members of the setup crew at conventions.

The upcoming conventions are 2012 Summer in Indianapolis, IN. 2013 Summer (FMCA 50th Anniversary Celebration) in Hutchinson, KS. 2014 Winter in Perry, GA. The Governing Board voted not to allow any more towables at the convention.

The Governing Board also voted not to hold a winter convention in Pomona, Cal in 2012 or 2013. I was very disappointed in this action because it will result in the loss of a \$100,000 deposit.

The last item of business was the election of four National Officers. The results were: President, Charlie Schhrenkel, Senior Vice President, Allen Rein, Secretary, Vicky Ferrari, Treasurer, Wil Young.



Susan Salit

Temporary
National
Director

**DISCOVERY CLUB OF CALIFORNIA
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

September 15, 2011

Chula Vista RV Resort, Chula Vista, California



**Jackie
Ouellette**
Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Carl Johnson at 10:07 am. Carl then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Jackie Ouellette posted the minutes of the May 13, 2011 meeting. Joanne Johnston made a motion, seconded by Evelyn Teixeira to accept the minutes. Motion passed.

President Carl Johnson thanked Rally Trail bosses: Ray and Jackie Ouellette and Glenn and Marilyn Turner for their outstanding efforts in making this such a good Rally.

Treasurer's Report has been posted. Motion made by Chuck Walker and seconded by Lois Jones to accept the report, motion passed. In the absence of Treasurer Ralph Norris, Ray Ouellette gave a "brief" explanation of expenses for this rally and other outstanding bills.

Ray Ouellette gave a history of our banner, and the need for the new one. It was suggested that the Trail boss for each Rally put the banner on his/her motor home for display. Ray presented a bill for \$151.37 for the cost of the new banner. Motion made by Mary Johnson and seconded by Lois Jones to pay the bill for the banner, motion passed.

Ray Ouellette, National FMCA Director for our Discovery Club, gave a brief report regarding the FMCA National Rally in Madison, Wi., held August 10, 2011. Member Susan Salit, acting Assistant Director, attended the Rally on behalf of our club. All information regarding this Rally can be read in our Discovery Newsletter. A brief discussion was held regarding the \$500.00 given to the attendee by our club.

Alan Johnson gave a report regarding our Discovery Web Site. Alan and his son put many hours of hard work into making this web site so valuable. A motion was made by Mary Johnson and seconded by Joanne Johnston to pay the annual \$80.00 fee for this web site. Motion approved.

Carl Johnson, on behalf of absent Membership Chairperson, Tammy Norris, gave a report on our current membership and possible future members. Currently our membership is at 28 coaches.

Wagon Master, Ray Ouellette, gave a report regarding future Rallies. 2012 Rallies are:

January 20 – 23, 2012 – Quail Run RV Park, Quartzsite, AZ. Trail bosses: Bob and Pam Johnson and Harry and Susan Salit
March 27 – 30, 2012, Wine Country RV Resort, Paso Robles, CA. Trail bosses: Chuck and Delores Walker and Leo and Marion Aragon
May 15 – 18, 2012 – Pismo Creek RV Resort, Pismo, CA. Trail bosses: Dick and Lillian Rody and Art and Barbara Valenzuela
Also late September or early October at rally near Sequoia, CA. (Trail bosses needed)

There was also a discussion regarding possible places for 2013.

Ray also discussed our Hornblower boat trip and the costs for each person were reduced by \$2.00. With the extra money Ray will be purchasing a \$25.00 gift card for gasoline. At tonight's final dinner, a drawing will be made and one member will be awarded the gift card.

Lois Jones, Hospitality Chairperson, gave a report regarding Muriel Benson, Betty Wickersham, Bill Richardson, and Pam Johnson. All are doing well and recovering nicely. Lois also submitted a bill for \$36.60 for cards and stamps. A Motion was made by Barbara Wilkinson and seconded by Jackie Ouellette to pay this bill, motion passed.

Ways and Means Chairperson, Jackie Ouellette, gave an explanation of today's White Elephant Sale. A discussion was held regarding putting "ways and means" monies toward a special project. It was decided to keep all monies in the treasury general fund as always, and if a special project becomes a discussion then a vote to be made on usage at that time.

New Business: Member Glenn Turner made the suggestion for the need for a second person to be able to sign checks on behalf of the club. It was discussed that the secretary should also be able to sign checks. A motion was made by Lois Jones and seconded by Joanne Johnston to have the Club Secretary also able to our checks. Motion Passed.

Marilyn Turner made a suggestion to use some treasury funds to donate to charity. A discussion was held and decided the club never has done this, tax numbers would be involved, and to keep monies in treasury to be used for club use events only.

With no further business, President Carl Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, motion seconded by Barbara Wilkinson, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:05 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Ouellette, Secretary,
Discovery Club of California

Forthcoming Discovery Club Rallies 2012

Friday January 20 - Monday January 23, 2012
(Contract Signed)

Quail Run RV Park

918 N. Central Blvd (During Quartzsite R.V. Show
1-21 to 1-29)

Quartzsite, AZ 85346

Glenda at 928-927-8810 Quartzsite

Trail Bosses Bob & Pam Johnson,

Harry & Susan Salit

Tuesday March 27 - Friday March 30, 2012
(Contract in the mail)

Wine Country RV Resort

www.winecountryrvresort.com

2500 Airport Road

Paso Robles, CA 93422 or 93446

Sheryl Taylor cell 805-459-4690 or (805) 238-4560

Trail Bosses Chuck & Delores Walker,

Tuesday May 15 - Friday May 18, 2012 (Agreement
Signed)

Pismo Creek RV Resort

98 So. Dolliver Street

Pismo Beach, CA 93449 Phone 805-773-4434

Trail Bosses Dick & Lillian Rody, Art & Barbara
Valenzuela

Possibly Oct 2012

Kaweah Park Resort,

40457 Sierra Drive,
(HWY 198)

Three Rivers CA 93271 559-561-4424

OR??

Sequoia Ranch RV Park,

43490 N. Fork Drive,

Three Rivers, CA 559-561-4333

TRAIL BOSSES NEEDED

Proposed 2013 Rallies

(Subject to Change)

Trail Bosses Needed

Tuesday January 22 - Monday January 25, 2013
(Proposed Only)

Quail Run RV Park

918 N. Central Blvd

(During Quartzsite R.V. Show 1-19 to 1-27)

Quartzsite, AZ 85346

Glenda at 928-927-8810 Quartzsite Trail Boss??

Tuesday March 19 - Friday March 22, 2013
(Proposed Only)

Bakersfield RV Resort

5025 Wible Road | Bakersfield, CA 93313

PH (661) 833-9998 | FX (661) 833-9994 Trail Boss??

Tuesday May 21 - Friday May 28, 2013
(Proposed Only)

Pechanga RV Resort

45000 Pechanga Parkway (Tour Old Town)

Temecula, CA 92592

951-587-0484 or 877-997-8386 Trail Boss??

Tuesday Sept 17 - Friday Sept 20, 2013
(Proposed Only)

Boulder Creek RV Resort

2550 South Highway 395

Lone Pine, CA 93545 (760) 876-4243

OR??

Tuesday Sept 17 - Friday Sept 20, 2013
(Proposed Only)

Terribles Lakeside RV Resort & Casino

5870 S Homestead Road

Pahrump, NV 89048

(775) 751-7770 or (888) 558-LAKE (no cable)