

October 2014

Discovery

Club of California Newsletter

Susan Salit, Editor



A Chapter of FMCA

Wagonmasters Report



Our September Rally at the Bakersfield RV Resort was our last rally for the year 2014. As usual it was well attended and enjoyable, but we had some hot days. Initially we had 15 rigs signed up. Unfortunately Lois Jones informed us that Curtis suffered an injury from a fall, and therefore they were forced to cancel. Alan and Joanne Johnston also were not be able to attend. We ended up with 13 rigs including two guests. Our guests were Ed Brennan and Yvonne Sims and Bill and Patsy Miller. Trail Bosses: Richard and Lillian Rody and Art and Barbara Valenzuela did an excellent job on the catering arrangement provided by the on site restaurant. The manager, Peter, was very helpful and supportive to our needs.

We kicked off the week on Monday with dinner buffet style arranged by Art at a nice restaurant. We had eight rigs on Monday so more and more club members are coming out a day earlier to a rally. That is **AWESOME**. Tuesday we had catered hamburgers and fixings for dinner then played R C L or is it L C R, anyway Pat Roman won \$48.

Wednesday we had scrambled eggs, bacon and pancakes for breakfast. We had our regular meeting of the board and then the membership meeting because the tour was scheduled for Thursday. The high light of the meeting was the election of the new club officers and chair-persons for 2015-2016. The new officers are listed at the end of this report. Afterward, all the ladies decided to leave the men and go shopping. What a relief for the men. The ladies all returned a few hours later with bags and bags. Thursday was the busiest day starting with breakfast of eggs, bacon, and biscuits and gravy. Later in the morning our Trail Bosses took us all on a nice 36 mile drive to Maricopa for a tour of the Kern Oil Museum. It was very interesting and we learned all about the oil boom in early 1940s and 1950s. At one time there were 1000 oil wells in the Maricopa region. This was a very enjoyable tour and we all liked it. Well done Art. In the evening we had enchilada dinner with beans and rice and ice cream for dessert followed by a short presentation by representatives from SkyMed. Then we all enjoyed a game

introduced by Barbara Valenzuela. We passed an orange from person to person using our necks and chins, no hands allowed. Funny-funny. Next, of course, Noe had to do his thing and bring up the DDD Award, WHO WILL GET IT? The candidates for the infamous award were Leo Aragon, Ed Edman, and John Swanson. It was close but at the end John got the DDD award for getting lost going to the Oil Museum, even with his GPS. HaHa, only his first time.

Our guests, Ed Brennan and Yvonne Sims and Bill and Patsy Miller joined the Discovery Club which was excellent response from them. WE WELCOME YOU TO THE DISCOVERY CLUB.

I want to acknowledge and THANK our Newsletter Chairperson, Susan Salit, for being so kind and willing to handle the task of preparing our newsletters. Susan, you are doing an outstanding job, we are blessed by your dedication to the Discovery Club. We hope you will be able to join us at one of our rallies next year. Stay in touch.

2015-2016 ELECTED BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	RAY OUELLETTE
VICE PRESIDENT:	GLENN TURNER
SECRETARY:	JACKIE OUELLETTE
TREASURER:	MARILYN TURNER
NAT'L DIRECTOR:	JOAN EDMAN
ASST NAT'L DIR:	CARL JOHNSON

CHAIR-PERSONS:

WAGON-MASTER:	LEO ARAGON
NEWSLETTER ED:	SUSAN SALIT
MEMBERSHIP:	MARY JOHNSON
WAYS & MEANS:	EVELYN TEIXEIRA
HOSPITALITY:	JACKIE OUELLETTE
HISTORIAN:	MURIEL BENSON
WEB-MASTER:	RAY OUELLETTE
LIBRARIAN:	(vacant)

Don't forget our next (and first of the year) rally is in January 13th-16th. See you there.

TO ALL DISCOVERY CLUB MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES, HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING; A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS; AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Respectfully,

Leo Aragon, WagonMaster



new members



Wendell & Gloria Whittington
whwhittington@aol.com



Bill & Patsy Miller
bp2837@aol.com



Ed Brennan & Yvonne Sims
epb5150@gmail.com





FMCA NATIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT

I attended the FMCA's 90th Family Reunion and motorhome showcase in Redmond, Oregon on August 13 - 16, 2014. There were just under 1500 coaches in attendance. The Governing Board Meeting was very interesting and informative with over 400 voting members from chartered motorhome clubs from throughout the US and Canada.

Membership continues to be an important area of focus for the association. The active count as of January 2013 was 80,475 member families. As of June 2014, the number of active family members was 75,599. Over this period of time, FMCA has recruited 15,282 new members. That number is pretty impressive. The downside of the recruitment scenario is that during the same eighteen month period, 20,463 families were made inactive, for a net loss in membership of 4,776 families. Based upon the numbers provided, FMCA does have a respectable combined renewal rate of 75%. A professional organization has been retained to review and improve the FMCA recruitment program. The FMCA remains financially secure with a budget of over \$7,000,000. Investments yielded a profit of approximately \$1,000,000. this past year.

There were several minor policy changes. Items of discussion included reimbursement of travel cost and council member complaints. Bylaw changes included the one vote per family unit to one vote per adult member.

The most significant item of discussion was the recommendation of an association-paid FMCAssist medical evacuation program with Seven Corners for a minimum of three years. This item was voted on and passed by a large margin. This benefit costing approximately \$30,000. per year will go into effect October 2014 and should have a positive effect on recruitment.

The FMCAssist medical evacuation program with Seven Corners was formerly available to FMCA members for a cost of \$85. per individual or \$105. per family. There will be no increase in dues for this benefit which will be fully funded in the current FMCA budget. This benefit will offset current yearly renewal dues of \$40.00.

Ray Ouellette
FMCA National Director



Discovery Club

Bakersfield Rally
September 16-19, 2014
Bakersfield R. V. Resort, Bakersfield,
CA



The DDD Award



And the winner is..

John Swanson





Playing games





Fun at the Fair



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

September 17 2014
Bakersfield R. V. Resort, Bakersfield, CA



Jackie Ouellette
Secretary

Being both President Alan Johnston and Vice President Carl Johnson were absent, the remaining Board selected Secretary Jackie Ouellette to conduct both the Board and General Membership Meetings.

The Meeting was called to order by Secretary Jackie Ouellette at 10:08 AM. Jackie then lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Jackie Ouellette said the minutes from the May 15, 2014 meeting were posted on the bulletin board for membership review. Marsha Swanson made a motion to accept the posted minutes, Noe Roman seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Jackie then introduced our guests: Bill and Patsy Miller and Ed Brennan and Yvonne Sims. She then thanked Trail Bosses Art and Barbara Valenzuela and Dick and Lillian Rody for putting on such a wonderful rally.

Treasurer Marilyn Turner stated the Treasury Report was posted on the bulletin board for membership review, showing a balance of \$6,648.08. (This balance does not reflect any monies from this Bakersfield Rally). A motion was made by Joan Edman and seconded by Marsha Swanson to accept the posted report. Motion Passed.

National Director Ray Ouellette gave a report regarding his recent trip to Redmond, OR for a FMCA Convention/Rally. He spent a full day in meetings and was happy to announce that FMCA has reinstated the FMCAssist Program as of Oct. 1, 2014. Ray also reminded all that our club is insured for \$1,000,000.00 at each rally.

Web Master Ray Ouellette encouraged all to log on to our newly remodeled web site. All current and past information & pictures are available for our viewing pleasure, www.DiscoveryClubOnline.com Ray also announced that fortunately Susan Salit will continue doing our Newsletter.

Membership Chairman Mary Johnson was absent. Mary had sent a message to remind everyone that the dues are \$20.00 and due by the end of the year. We have currently six coaches paid. It can be noted here that by the end of the rally we have 16 paid coaches.

Wagon Master Leo Aragon stated that the Kern County Fair was going on a very short distance away. It was decided to move our dinner plans tonight up one hour to 5:00 PM and caravan to the Fair for a fun evening together. Leo then announced that after breakfast tomorrow morning (Thursday Oct.18) we will be going to the Taft Oil Farms. Leo passed out directions to Taft and several people will caravan. Leo then told of the full schedule of Rallies for 2015: January 13-16, 2015 Emerald Desert RV Resort, Palm Desert, Trail Bosses John and Marsha Swanson, with helpers Mary Johnson and Jackie Ouellette. March 17-20, 2015 Desert Willows RV Resort, Hesperia, Trail Bosses Larry and Muriel Benson and Robin and Judy Goodman. May 5-8 Pachanga RV Resort, Temecula, Trail Bosses Tom and Dee Thomas. September 22-25, 2015 Vines RV Resort, Paso Robles, Trail Bosses Ed and Joan Edman and Chuck Walker and Marlene.

Hospitality Chairman Lois Jones was absent. It was noted that Curtis Jones has taken a serious fall, and not doing well. It was also noted that Carl Johnson's father had passed away. Jackie Ouellette said she'll send cards on behalf of the Discovery Club to both of these people. It was also noted a thank you from Ray Archambeault to all that attended his wife Mary's funeral and to all the cards and prayers he received. Jackie passed around two thank you cards the club received from guests at our May Rally.

Ways and Means chairman, Jackie Ouellette said there is no fund raising project for this Rally, However, she did asked everyone to bring an "unwanted NEW white elephant Christmas gift" to our January Rally for a fun "silent" auction.

New Business: Marsha Swanson passed out fliers for the January 2015 Rally. Deadline for applications will be December 13th, so don't miss out on the fun. A discussion was held regarding the balance in our treasury. A few years back when our balance was quite high it was decided at that time to pay all the expenses for the Trail Bosses and Assistant Trail Bosses UNTIL our balance gets close to \$5,000.00 The board is recommending since our balance has come down significantly to only pay the camp site fees for the Trail Bosses and Assistant Trail Bosses beginning 2015. A motion was made by Marsha Swanson and seconded by Joan Edman to only pay the camp site fees for the Trail Bosses (4 nights) and Assistant Trail Bosses (3 nights) beginning January 2015. Motion passed.

Nominating Committee Chairman Jackie Ouellette presented the following slate of officers for 2015-16. President: Ray Ouellette, Vice President: Glenn Turner, Secretary: Jackie Ouellette, Treasurer: Marilyn Turner, National Director: Joan Edman, and Assistant National Director: Carl Johnson. A motion was made by Jackie Ouellette and seconded by Marsha Swanson to accept these officers. Motion passed.

Jackie also announced the following chairmanships: Wagon Master: Leo Aragon, Membership: Mary Johnson, Ways and Means: Evelyn Teixeira, Hospitality: Lois Jones (Jackie Ouellette will do Hospitality until Lois Jones returns from her husbands sick leave). Newsletter: Susan Salit, Web Master: Ray Ouellette, Historian: Muriel Benson. We are in need of someone taking over Librarian duties.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Ouellette,
Secretary, Discovery Club of California



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We have 16 members paid for 2015. Please send me your dues so Jackie will be able to send in an accurate membership report to FMCA by December 31st. If you are planning to attend the January Rally in Palm Springs you will be able to turn in your dues then and Jackie will send in a revised membership report. Remember to keep your FMCA membership current. The FMCA insurance benefits are incredible. If you have friends that may be interested in our club invite them to a rally. Call or email me if you have any questions.

Mary Johnson, Membership Chair (mary30500@gmail.com).



FMCA Chartered November -1998

**MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL FORM**

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN 'DISCOVERY CLUB OF CA' FMCA CHAPTER:
You must be a member in good standing of Family Motor Coach Association. FMCA membership and a Class A, B or C motorhome mandatory. Please remit before January 1st or at our January rally. Please fill in bellow information so we can update our records.

Website: DISCOVERYCLUBONLINE.COM

Date _____ FMCA# _____

Last Name _____ Pilot _____

Last Name _____ Co-Pilot _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Pilot cell# _____

Co-Pilot cell # _____

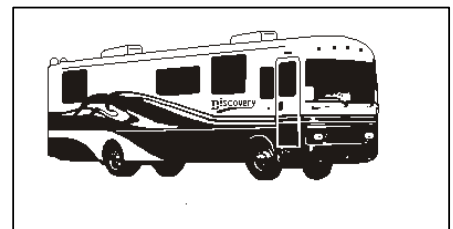
Year & Make of Motorhome _____

email address _____

Please enclose renewal amount of \$20.00

Make checks payable to: Discovery Club of CA and mail to:

Mary Johnson, Membership Chairman
30500 Caliente Place
Canyon Lake, CA 92587
(951) 768-7021



If you have any questions, feel free to call

**WELCOME!! WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING
YOU SOON!!!!**

BENEFITS INCLUDED IN FMCA DUES

FMCAssist coverage is available to members free of charge as long as you are more than 100 miles from home. You can be traveling in a motorhome, car, plane, ship or motorcycle to be eligible for this benefit. This coverage is provided by Seven Corners and is underwritten by Lloyd's of London. What you need to do to enroll in this program? Absolutely nothing! As long as you continue to keep your FMCA dues current.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION/REPATRIATION - The plan will pay covered expenses incurred if any covered injury or illness that commences during the period of coverage results in the medically necessary emergency medical evacuation or repatriation (i.e., the member's medical condition warrants immediate transportation from the medical facility where he or she is located to the nearest medical facility that is capable of furnishing the required level and type of care for the applicable illness or injury as determined by the attending physical in consultation with the Seven Corners medical director). The maximum amount of this benefit is \$500,000.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL REUNION - When emergency medical evacuation or repatriation is ordered and the attending physician recommends that a family member travel with the member, Seven Corners will provide transportation for one individual of the member's choice to be at their side while they are hospitalized and then accompany them during their return to their permanent primary residence. Costs incurred for transportation and lodging are covered by the insurance policy. Approval and coordination of this benefit must be provided by the Seven Corners medical director in consultation with the attending physician to be considered a covered expense. The maximum amount of this benefit is \$50,000.

RETURN OF DEPENDENTS - Should the member be traveling alone with dependent(s) and the dependent(s) is left unattended, the plan will arrange a pay for one-way economy fare to the one location stipulated by the dependent's legal guardian. The maximum amount of this benefit is \$50,000.

VEHICLE RETURN (LIMITED TO TRIPS IN NORTH AMERICA ONLY) - Should the member, due to medical condition, be unable to drive his/her vehicle back to his/her permanent primary residence within the United States, Mexico, or Canada, Seven Corners will arrange and pay to have a designated service return the vehicle to the member's home, provided: a) The member has been transported under either the "emergency medical evacuation/repatriation" or "return or mortal remains" benefits; and b) no one in the member's traveling party is capable of driving, or proficient and competent to drive, the member's vehicle. The vehicle must be in good condition and capable of being safely driven on the highway in compliance with local laws. The insurance plan will also cover the return of any additional vehicle that is legally hitched to their vehicle at the time of the "emergency medical evacuation/repatriation" or "return of mortal remains" to the destination of the pulling vehicle. The member will be responsible for any costs incurred during the return of the vehicle to maintain the safe operation of the vehicle. Alternatively, the member may choose to have his or her vehicle returned by a friend or family member. In such instance, and provided the return has been approved by Seven Corners and the vehicle is returned directly and expediently to the member's permanent primary resident within the United States, Mexico, or Canada, Seven Corners will arrange and pay for transportation of that person to the location of the vehicle, and will also reimburse the member for gas and tolls during the return. In addition, the plan will provide a \$100. per day benefit, up to a maximum of five days for incidental expenses while driving. In no event shall the total expense of a vehicle return exceed \$5,000. for all expenses associated with the vehicle return. If the member chooses to have a friend or family member perform the vehicle return, Seven Corners will no pay more than what it would have cost to have the company arrange the vehicle return. The maximum amount of this benefit is \$5,000.

PET RETURN - Should the member be traveling with his or her pet and become unable to care for it due to a medical emergency, Seven Corners will arrange for the return of the insured's pet to his/her domicile. The maximum amount of this benefit is \$1,000.

Dozens of other benefits are available including the expanded Michelin Tire Program. Please review the "Executive Director's Commentary" on page 10 of the October issue of your "Family Motor Coaching Magazine".

Discovery Club of California Rally

EMERALD DESERT R.V. RESORT, PALM DESERT

Tuesday, January 13th--Friday, January 16th 2015
76000 Frank Sinatra Dr., Palm Desert, CA 92211 (760)345-4770
Trail Bosses John & Marsha Swanson (Helpers Jackie & Mary)

Please bring table service and your coffee cup for every meal

- Tuesday Jan 13 3:00 PM....Welcome & Check In
Please bring your White Elephant **unwanted** Xmas gifts@5:00
5:00 PM....Happy Hour BYOB
6:00 PM..... Dinner Catered El Pollo Loco
7:00 PM.....Surprise, Famous Models to show off and
explain White Elephant Fundraiser!!!
- Wednesday Jan 14 8:30 AM....Breakfast Casserole (cooks while we sleep)
10:30 AM....TOUR Cabot's Pueblo Museum?
5:00 PM.....Happy Hour, BYOB
6:00 PM.....Dinner Pulled Pork, Beans & Coleslaw
7:00 PM..... Night at the Races \$\$\$
- Thursday Jan 15 8:30 AM.....French toast, Bacon and sweets
10:00 AM...Board Meeting
10:30 AM...General Membership Meeting, Installation of
New Board Members . Lunch, Shopping, Golf, on your own.
5:00 PM.....Happy Hour, BYOB
6:00 PM.....Dinner Left-Over Turkey Dinner With all the
trimmings ☺
7:00 PM.....Christmas White Elephant **Sale Results**
- Friday Jan 16 8:30 AM.....Juice, muffins and goodbyes BYO coffee

Applications must be received by December 13

Name _____ Phone _____

Rally Fees for two people.....\$ 85.00
Campsite fees @ \$55 X 3 nights.....\$165.00
TOTAL.....\$250.00

Make checks payable to : Discovery Club of California
Mail to: Marilyn Turner, 620 Gary Place, Newport Beach, CA 92663