

EAMA Zoom Workshop

March 26, 2024

FMCA-ea.com

Attendance: Sue Cipa, Phyllis Britz, Bruce Taylor, George Wolfe, Ron Hazelett, Chris Holtzman, Jerry Clemmer, Glenn Himes, Gary Bowman, Angelo Del Bosco, Hilton Hall, Gaye Young, Santa, Rusty Labarre, Gary Lambert, Lynn Nelson, Penny Gortemiller, Tim Keppler, Doug Graves, Frank Bodkin, Bill Pepper, Berkley Alexander, Jim Giffin, Wilt Greenwood, Leon Whitt, Matt Hoelzel, Steve Tessier, Gary Lyons

Tax Time: Phyllis reminded all the presidents to check with their treasurers to make sure the chapter taxes were mailed in. See attachment from Berkley.

Communications:

- Tim Keppler said he linked FMCA's recruiting video to our EAMA website. (FMCA-ea.com). Remember to send a PDF copy of your chapter newsletters to Tim. He will post them on the EAMA website. Send to webmaster@FMCA-ea.com You can also send pictures to be posted if you have a nice group picture of your chapter, or a special event you would like to announce.
- Chapter Brochures: Please make sure Phyllis has several copies of your chapters recruiting brochure/chapter application so she can pass them out when she runs across a member from your area.
- Always remember to recruit new FMCA members when you are out. The campgrounds are filled with lots of potential members. If they already belong, see if they belong to a chapter.
- Phyllis turned in her FMCA phone. Please only use her personal number ending in 0609.

By-Laws:

- The Eastern Area By-Laws have been updated. The Executive Board will vote on these at GEAR in October. We had further discussions regarding the dates on when our area audit needs to be done. Jim Giffin was going to update this information and send it over to Phyllis to be entered into our latest version of the By-Laws.

GEAR 2024

- Registration will be in the May 2024 Family Rving magazine.
- Chairs & Co Chairs: Co-Chair for Activity Carts, Chair for the FMCA Store and Games were secured at the Tucson Rally.
- The “Planning Session” is still scheduled for May 14-16, 2024, in Fletcher, NC at the W.N.C. Ag Center.
- Vendors: Phyllis talked to several vendors out in Tucson at the Convention. She said there was a good bit of interest. She thought people were more interested in coming to North Carolina than Lewisburg, WV.
- Entertainment seems to be all lined up. For Wednesday night, the Maestros would like to sponsor a “Talent show.” It would be opened to all the members. See the attached information.
- Phyllis is also looking for people to do seminars at GEAR. Some of her suggestions are cooking class, first aid, bird watching, etc. Anything that might interest our members. Please ask your chapter members. Have them contact Phyllis if they have an idea and would like to participate.

GEAR 2025

- Jim Giffin reported on a few issues we are facing for GEAR in 2025. The committee is looking at “Ocean Lakes Campground” in Myrtle Beach for next year’s GEAR. We will need to sign a contract by May of 2024 for next year. More information will follow on this next month.

FMCA updates:

Phyllis went over several issues FMCA is having as well as some items that are currently in the works.

- Membership is down. Again, Phyllis said we all always need to be recruiting.
- Magazine: The magazine is continuing to lose money. She mentioned that it will be published by-monthly starting in July of 2024. This was voted on at the Tucson Convention by the Executive Board.
- Long Range Planning Committee recommends Chapters and Areas adding a position to enhance chapter membership and chapter development.
- It was asked if there could be an easier way to find the “Areas” on the FMCA website. Phyllis said she would send the recommendation over to FMCA.
- The Executive Board voted to increase the dues by \$5.00/year. It will now go to the Governing Board out in Redmond for approval.
- “Share the Love” recruitment tool. If you recruit one new member you will get one free year of membership yourself. If you recruit two or more, you will get the \$10.00 Recruitment Bonus Bucks /per new member, to spend at an Area Rally or FMCA Convention.

- The next FMCA Convention will be in Redmond, Oregon in August. The Governing Board will meet. Check now to see if your National Directors are going or if you have a temporary delegate lined up. Please let Phyllis know who is going to represent your chapter. It is thought there won't be many Eastern Area members going and that it was discussed that they might include a Zoom meeting during the Governing Board meeting to have enough for a quorum. More information to follow.
- Chris Holtzman spoke about the Membership Services Committee of FMCA. Once the committee agrees on a benefit, it then goes before the Executive Board. If someone has an idea that would benefit FMCA, present your recommendation to the committee. New discounts/benefits include: Klean Tank (Discount) Briter Solar Products (discount), Element 3 Health (To be renamed Grouper)-members who qualify via qualified Medicare advantage plan will have Element 3 reimburse member's annual FMCA dues and Blaupunkt e-bike (\$500 discount).

EAMA Information:

- **Open EAMA Positions:** Phyllis Britz (EAMA President) will complete her term of office August and Sue Cipa (EAMA Secretary) will be leaving office the end of 2024. The National Directors have been contacted for nominations for the Area President and the nominating committee is looking for someone to fill the secretary position. Jim Giffin recommended that more than one person run for these positions. Please announce it to your chapters. If anyone would like more information, please have them contact Phyllis or Sue directly.

Next meeting: April 16, 2024, at 3:00 pm

Submitted by: Sue Cipa, F431859

EAMA Secretary

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INFORMATION

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EAMA website: FMCA-ea.com

Attachments:

“Got Talent” (GEAR 2024)

FMCA Chapter Membership Coordinator & Chapter Developer Position Description,
Chapter Tax Filing guidelines