

# The Villages RoVers

An FMCA Chapter



## Rovers March Newsletter

March 25, 2020

### E-mail Newsletter During This Critical Time

**W**ell I just took office as the Villages Rovers President and now we are making some big changes. We will not have our monthly meeting in March and may not have a meeting in April, so what do we do. We will be sending newsletters out to all of our Chapter members with information on FMCA, rallies, RV education and recipes for cooking on the road. I am not the expert and hope you will send in some of your thoughts relating to rallies, cooking and RV maintenance. We can extend this newsletter over the summer months when we are traveling. We want to have rallies and we want to have events such as casual get together maybe a day at a storage

facility, a picnic at a park, lunch at a restaurant. It does not have to be traveling in your RV to a destination; it can be a small group or medium size group. It is just a way to get together and meet our Chapter members. This is not to take away from going on a rally; it's just another avenue to meet each other.

This edition of the Rovers Newsletter may be a little rough around the edges I have not written articles in years and I thought that those days were over, but let's give it a try. Not all of the newsletter will be exclusive stories we will place some interesting articles from the RV world and FMCA.

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#### Possible Rallies:

Rocket Launch  
Big Cypress National Park  
Cedar Key  
Florida Caverns  
Just Do Nothing Rally

#### Destination Rally:

Albuquerque Balloon Fest

#### Possible Events:

Meeting AT A Park For Lunch Or Snacks  
Gathering At A RV Storage Center or Campground-  
Maintenance Talks



Tampa Super Show  
Photo by Don Lavallee





## RoVers Survey Results



*Last month we did a survey to explore a few ideas we wanted to know, A) Where are we today, B) Where do we want to be tomorrow and C) How do we get there. We asked that Chapter members fill out the survey and after our questions were answered here is what we think you want from the fifty seven surveys returned in person and online.*

### **57 surveys completed. Includes online and in-person**

The most popular duration of a rally was 2-4 days with no more than 2 travel days or 600 miles. One week and no preference were tied for second place

Times not to rally June-Sept, Dec and Easter

Number of rigs 5 or more. with 3-5 coming in second

Most popular travel distance was 100-200 miles with no preference coming in second. (again, max 2 days travel or 600 miles)

Club provided meals and happy hour snacks are somewhat important, but members said they do enjoy getting together for happy hour and it is where they really get to meet each other.

As far as activities (most votes to least)

Events (Festivals) 40 votes

Rocket launches 38 members expressing interest. Educational 38 votes with 26 interested in an RV maintenance focused rally and 16 interested in a photography focused. Music 35 votes (mostly interested in Country and Bluegrass with Pop, Rock and Jazz also mentioned)

Times not to rally June-Sept, Dec and Easter

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Club provided meals and happy hour snacks are somewhat important, but members said they do enjoy getting together for happy hour and it is where they really get to meet each other.

As far as activities (most votes to least. Anything not mentioned got less than 2 votes)

Events (Festivals) 40 votes

Rocket launches 38 members expressing interest. Educational 38 votes with 26 interested in an RV maintenance focused rally and 16 interested in a photography focused.

Numbers don't add up because not everyone who responded selected "Educational" but they did chose "Maintenance" or "Photography".

Music 35 votes (mostly interested in Country and Bluegrass with Pop, Rock and Jazz also mentioned). Arts, Theater and Culture got 28 Votes (house tours, factory tours, museums, galleries, performing arts/concerts) Outdoor adventure got 26 votes, with hiking, kayaking, animal encounters, boat cruises, NASCAR, local car races, air races/show and geocaching

History got 25 votes with Civil War and Florida history being the most requested, the American Revolutionary. Also, National/State parks were mentioned. Relaxing (do nothing) got 23 votes. Holiday themed got 23 votes

Golf got 21 votes. Wine, Spirits, Beer got 18 votes Shopping got 10 votes Fishing got 4 votes.



Specifically requested rallies were to Strawberry Fields in Chiefland, Fl, Creekfire Motor Resort in Savannah, Ga and St Augustine (no rally location indicated). One member requested an east coast rally or a west coast rally.

*Survey conducted by Doris Carder*

*Now that we have your answers our next phase is how we get there. We were impressed that nineteen of our members want to help with organizing a rally, event or assisting with a rally or event. We will contact these members on a one on one basis.*

*With all this information we will be hosting very small meeting in the near future for those who are not opposed to a small group of six or less. This is for a couple of reasons, the first, is the coronavirus and second we may get more done in small groups.*



## FMCA Alternate Director Position Open

Fred Holland our Alternate Directors will be stepping down from his one year position as the Villages Rovers Alternate Director. Since we will not be having any meeting this month and possibility next month we will be taking nomination for Alternate Director by e-mail. If you or you know a Chapter member who would like to run for this position please e-mail the entire Board with a nomination.

Copy and paste Board Members below:

[BHarchar@aol.com](mailto:BHarchar@aol.com), [dough645@gmail.com](mailto:dough645@gmail.com), [stevebotts@aol.com](mailto:stevebotts@aol.com), [dannyatvillages2@gmail.com](mailto:dannyatvillages2@gmail.com),  
[fpholland9@gmail.com](mailto:fpholland9@gmail.com)

Names will be posted by e-mail and we will have an election if there is more than one member nominated. Members will have one vote by their FMCA membership number.

## Nutty Strawberry Crisp

2 quarts strawberries, cut up  
2 teaspoons lemon juice  
1/3 cup sugar  
1½ tablespoons minute tapioca  
1 cup crisp rice cereal  
½ teaspoon ground nutmeg

½ cup sugar  
½ cup almond or pecan meal  
1/3 cup shredded coconut  
1/4 cup canola oil OR ½ stick butter, melted

Set the oven to 350 degrees and grease a deep 9-inch-by-13-inch baking pan. Mix the strawberries, lemon juice, sugar, and tapioca in the pan. Mash down slightly. In a bowl, mix the dry ingredients and sprinkle

over the fruit. Drizzle with canola oil or butter. Bake 35 to 40 minutes or until the strawberries are bubbly and the top is toasty. Makes eight servings. *From an RV article*



## Have a Problem Or Question About RV'ing?

Family Motor Coach Association offers virtual RV classes, exclusively to its members through FMCA University, an online hub of RVing resources. Members can log into FMCA University 24/7 — anytime, anywhere.

- Access decades of know-how all in one convenient location
- Trust your source — Content provided by industry - leading RV experts
- Search for topics that interest you
- Learn at your convenience
- Read articles and take quizzes to test your RVing knowledge
- Earn badges and rewards as you learn new skills
- Have fun and feel more confident about operating your RV



St. Augustine Rally  
Photo by Hernan

*Have some RoVers pictures, send them to us!*



## Discounts At Staples & Office Depot For FMCA Members

*Did you know that you can receive discount at Staples and Office Depot. For years Staples has offered discounts all you do is register a credit card with Staples and let them know you're an FMCA member and enjoy some great discounts every time you make a purchase.*

**Staples** - FMCA has teamed up with Staples Business Advantage to offer members an exclusive program. So make sure you're taking full advantage of great perks, including special pricing on copy and print services at Staples stores PLUS discounted pricing on more than 100,000 products on SaplesAdvantage.com and fast, free shipping on it all. Copy & Print services, Coffee and snacks, Desks, chairs and

*office décor, Technology, Office essentials and, organization, and cleaning supplies*

**Office Depot** - has a Discount program which started a few months ago you register with Office Depot and print a discount card. FMCA members now have access to exclusive FREE discount benefits at Office Depot® OfficeMax® to save on office essentials, ink & toner, paper, cleaning/breakroom items & more! Members receive up to 80% off on over 96,000 Office Depot products and other exclusive benefits. Member discounts are available online and in-store at any of the 1,300+ Office Depot/OfficeMax locations nationwide. END

### Board Members:

Bernie Harchar, President/ National Director  
Doug Huttenstine, 1<sup>st</sup>. Vice President  
Danny Brown, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vice President  
Cheryl Botts, Secretary / Treasurer  
Fred Holland, Alternate National Director

Rally Coordinator, Doris Carder

Web Master Bob Holzmann & Chuck Wyrick  
Please be patient we are working to update and improve our website.

Contact Information Available On The Website

*See You Soon!!*

