

**Nov 2022 Wagon Tracks**  
**Twentieth Century Wagontrainers, A Chapter of FMCA**  
<https://tcw20cent.homestead.com>

2023 TCW Schedule						
Start Day	Dates	Rally Name	Location	Host	Co-host	Sponsor
Monday	March 6-10	Silver Palms	Okeechobee, FL	Hoetzel	Needed	TCW
Wednesday	March 15-18	FMCA Convention	Perry, GA	FMCA	FMCA	FMCA
Thursday	April 27-30	Lancaster	Gordonville, PA	Veri	Burdge	TCW
Thursday	May 11-14	Fort Valley	Fort Valley, VA	Hoetzel	Needed	TCW
Thursday	June 1-4	Miller Air Park	Berkeley Township, NJ	Russo	Winter	TCW
Thurs	August 3-5	Northeast Area Rally	Herkimer, NY	FMCA	FMCA	FMCA
Wednesday	August 23-26	FMCA Convention	Gillette, WY	FMCA	FMCA	FMCA
Thurs	September 7-10	Seaside	Seaside Heights, NJ (Bay Front Piers and Park)	Burdge	Veri	
Wednesday	Oct 4-7	GEAR	Lewisburg, WV	FMCA	FMCA	FMCA

**TCW President's Letter**

**Matt Hoetzel**

Hello TCW members/friends. Hope y'all (practicing my SC talk) had a great summer. I know it was a bit warm. As this is being written, the cooler temps are upon us. It won't be long before the cold temps and snow arrive. And yes, Happy Thanksgiving and Joyous Holidays.

The 2022 season is coming to an end with just a holiday get together on November 26 (See write up on page 6). The 2023 season will be here before you know it and I know Rich Russo will be looking for these locations and names of hosts and co-hosts for the 2023 rally season. Ellen and I will be hosting rallies in Florida in March and Virginia in May for 2023. Write ups included in this newsletter.



Ellen and I unfortunately missed some great rallies. The NE area rally was unfortunately cancelled. The GEAR rally in July did take place in beautiful West Virginia and Ellen and I were able to attend that great rally. The entertainment was phenomenal and a whole lot of information was offered at the seminars. Even volunteered which added a wonderful element to the overall enjoyment of the rally. It is scheduled again for 2023 and I am strongly promoting and asking that many TCW members plan to attend. Let's support the area we belong.

A change of subject, just wanted to mention the discussion that was had at a round table that I attended. It covered a subject that is very important to our chapter, the addition of members to TCW. To help all the chapters in the GE area, we are receiving a list of all the new FMCA members. The list of all are through out the whole country, so we just need to go thru the list and send invitations to join our group to those who are in our area. Also had attended the chapter fair with the help of Phyllis Britz (VP GE area) who helped tremendously to promote our chapter. It was also suggested that each member, have in their coach a number of old FMCA magazines to hand out to prospective members. The prospective member then can learn about all the great benefits, area rallies and new places to travel to. And certainly a whole lot more info. So, let's get out and promote TCW.

So until we see y'all again, remember, "It's All About Fun." Matt (President)

## **Rally VP**

**Rich Russo**

There's time to schedule additional rallies and we would welcome the chance to have some new venues. The Halloween rally was always popular if someone would step up and revive it. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone next year.

Please see the rally schedule on top of page 1.

## **Sunshine VP Report and Other News**

**Helen Caserta**

I sent sympathy cards to Ruth Flechsig upon husband, Jim's passing and to Karin Dowgin when her brother passed. Get well cards were sent to George Hicks (he had Covid during Seaside), Naomi Theisz (had a knee replacement), and Jack Peters ( after a recent fall). Thomas Dockerty suffered a stroke while visiting family in NY. A card was sent, and I'm happy to report he is recovering nicely. Carole Ricigliano is in the hospital with stomach issues and a card was sent. In closing, 2022 is drawing to a close. Stay well until we get together again in the Spring.

## **Editor's Comments**

**Dennis Lawyer**

The next newsletter will be published around February 15, 2023. There is a new requirement that chapters must send all email correspondence to FMCA for distribution to its chapter members. This is to add certain elements to the email so that it meets Federal Law. This will add delays so please see our TCW website if you haven't seen the newsletter by the published expected date.

If you attend a rally and take pictures, please send them via email to me so we can have pictures in the newsletter for TCW rallies. [yorklawyer@comcast.net](mailto:yorklawyer@comcast.net)

## **Wrap-up Seaside Heights Rally - Sept 8 - 11, 2022**

Another successful rally was held at Sunset Beach in Seaside Heights. 17 coaches made their way to Seaside on Thursday. The parking lot was a bit wet from heavy rains the day before, but soon the water evaporated and we were able to fit everyone in. Thanks to our host, Rich Russo, and co-hosts Bill & Mary Burdge & helpers Joe & Lydia Veri, Vic & Holly Stivaly & food servers Eileen Tittle and Helen Grube for all of their efforts! We appreciated it.



A welcome party in the center host area was enjoyed by all on Thursday. The hosts provided wine & cheese/grapes, salsa and chips, etc. It was soon time to get out the camera phones as a beautiful sunset followed. Friday morning's breakfast consisted of fresh bagels, cream cheese, butter, lox & onions and a delicious blueberry crumb cake. We had a discussion regarding future rally sites, how far members are willing to travel for rallies, a request for new hosts for Seaside 2023. Nick Theisz advised that he would collect 2023 membership dues for anyone wanting to pay now. Rich mentioned happenings in the area going on over the weekend (beach plum festival at Island Beach State Park, Wine on the Beach music festival on the Seaside beach, etc).

John Reynolds & Helen Caserta were experiencing electrical problems with their coach. They took matters into their own capable hands, did their research, located a battery dealer clear across the state, picked up the new batteries, installed the batteries after carefully taking photos to the battery cable positions, and they were back in business! Crisis averted!!



Former TCW RVer's Jerry & Karen Dowgin visited by car on Friday. Owen & Barbara Tidwell's son, Barry, also spent the weekend. Assorted pizzas were delivered on Friday and Mary & Lydia prepared a delicious caesar salad to go along. Saturday morning you had your choice of breakfast sandwiches provided by Stewarts...Egg, Cheese with Bacon or Egg, Cheese with Taylor Ham (aka Pork Roll).

Bill & Mary brought their two man kayak for anyone who wanted to use it. Naomi could be seen paddling around the bay in her boat and/or swimming too! We had several more visitors on Saturday including Ed & Myrna Patterson, Tom & Diane Docherty, Carole Ricigliano, Judy McGinley & a large contingent of Rich Russo's family...sons, daughters, grandkids, greatkids, etc. I can't put a name to all of them so I won't even attempt. They all came to honor their late mother/grandmother/great grandmother, Nancy Russo.

After another great meal provided by a local Italian restaurant (chicken parm, eggplant rollatini, antipasto salad, rolls) and wonderful desserts provided by our members, we gathered on the beach for a candlelight vigil for our good friend, Nancy. Holly started the memorial with a short story and ended with the following comforting words..."Those whom we love and lose are no longer where they were before. They are now...wherever we are". - author St. John Chrysostom. More stories and memories and thank you's were shared by family members. We lit lanterns on the beach and launched them up to the heavens (although a few landed in the bay due to a bit of a west wind). I'm sure Nancy was watching from above with a giant smile!

Sunday came much too soon...a few coaches stayed until Monday enjoying another day in lovely Seaside Heights. Hope to see you at the beach next year. Submitted by Holly Stivaly

### **TCW Wrap-up of Penn Coachman Pocono Raceway**



Nick and Naomi Theisz, John Reynolds and Helen Caserta went to the Penn Coachmen-Pocono Raceway 500 Rally. As we were escorted to our lovely, large full hookup site we learned there would be more than 75 coaches from approximately 6 chapters. There was a full schedule with so many options - and with this being the apparent prime leaf peeping weekend, what could be better.

On site rally activities started on Thursday. There were seminars, round tables and demonstrations. Games included race car race and a bean bag baseball tournament - quite lively with lots of spectators. Friday and Saturday breakfast and dinners were in 2 shifts and were in the onsite Cafe. They were provided by the track and co-sponsored by the Pocono Mountain Visitors Bureau. We had 2 sittings, one night Italian, the other turkey, with a fabulous array of homemade desserts both nights. Then there was bingo and movie night.

Added to all this the racetrack was busy with activities we could (for additional fees) enjoy as well. There were track tours, stock car ride-alongs and, for the brave, you could drive your own stock car.

When signing up you paid your camping fee to the track, and could add extra days. So glad we did. The hosts provided sheets of



attractions within a 20 mile radius. There was Jim Thorpe - with the scenic railway & trolley, etc, state parks, museums, breweries, wineries & distilleries and, of course, dining. We chose to go to the Blue Mountain Antique Gas & Steam Engine Assn fall Harvest & sawmill show. What an interesting day!

## **TCW dues are due**

If you haven't renewed yet, then send a \$15 check payable to: Twentieth Century Wagontrainers.

Please enter your F number and any changes you would like made to your membership information.

Mail to:  
Nick Theisz

## **Holiday party/get together. November 26th. Host. Matt and Ellen Hoelzel**

Mark your calendars for November 26th, 2022. The holiday get together is on at Jozzanas Casual Italian Restaurant. The time is 12 noon until 3:30pm. The cost is \$20/person. Gratuity not included.

The restaurant is located at 409 Lincoln Blvd. Middlesex NJ. The parking lot cannot accommodate motor homes so just bring your car. The restaurant is located in the same general area as The Willows Restaurant in Green Brook a number of years ago and the Chinese Buffet in Manville that TCW has been going to for the last few years.

The meal will include house salad, appetizer, a choice of entree ( 3 items including chicken, eggplant, and flounder francais. All with pasta.) Also a dessert and coffee, tea, or soda. The gratuity is not included in the above mentioned price. You can, if you desire, bring an alcoholic beverage. The owner may even sing for you. He has a great voice, sounding like the Italian singer Mario Lanza.

Please call Matt to let me know you are going so I can give a count for the reservation by November 15th. Ellen and I have been there numerous times and have enjoyed the food, atmosphere, and singing every meal. Again give me a call to let me know you are attending.

## **Silver Palms RV Resort Okeechobee Fl March 6 to March 10, 2023**

<https://www.silverpalmsrv.com/> 4143 Highway 441S Okeechobee Fl 34974

(Take Rt 70 to Okeechobee and turn south on Rt 441, then right onto a feeder road just before McDonald's to Silver Palms entrance).

The winter snow bird season is coming to an end so why not start the 2023 rally season a bit early for those that are in Fl. Or even those who want to travel south. Join Ellen and I at Silver Palms RV Resort. It is only a 1/2 mile from Lake Okeechobee. The resort is full of amenities starting with E/W/S. They have a beautiful pool that can be enjoyed while listening to music from a band or having lunch from the kitchen at the pool. Walk around on the black top roads and enjoy the beautiful landscaping of the resort and all the sites before heading north. If you like to stay busy, we have cornhole, shuffle board, horseshoes, organized card games, and a billiard room.



The menu is not put together yet, but we are looking at happy hours and ice cream social. Cost is #75/night. It is regularly \$105, so I was able to negotiate a decent discount considering it is prime time. Cost for meals will be forth coming. Be prepared, for some, the resort will ask how old your coach is. If over 10yrs old, they may ask for a picture of the coach to verify it is presentable, which I don't think anyone in the chapter should have a challenge with.

PLEASE call the resort at 888-323-4967 to make your reservation and pay for the number of nights you will be staying. Absolutely mention you are with 20th Century Wagontrainers so you will be placed in the correct area of the resort, BEFORE Dec 15th 2022. I have 6 sites, not counting mine, reserved. If we have over 6, I will talk to the resort and attempt to get more. Due to Hurricane Ian, and the destruction to the west coast, the resort is filling up sooner than normal since many of the west coast campgrounds were devastated. After making the reservation, please call me, the host, (Matt) to let me know that you are attending. Again please reserve before Dec 15th. See y'all soon.

### **Fort Valley Ranch and Campground Fort Valley VA May 11 - 14, 2023 Host - Matt and Ellen Hoelzel**

<https://www.fortvalleystable.com/> 299 S. Fort Valley Rd., Fort Valley, VA

**Attention, Attention**, new rally, new location, fun, fun, fun. May 11th to the 14, 2023, at Fort Valley Ranch Campground near beautiful Shenandoah National Forest in Fort Valley, Virginia. Search the name to find out some information on the area. Cost for the campground will be \$40 per night for 2 nights and \$35 for the third night for \$115. Arrive on a Thurs and depart Sunday. Cost for the rally/food has not been determined. PLEASE call the campground at 540-933-6633 by Jan 30th, earlier would be better, and tell them you are with TCW to make the reservation. After making the reservation, please call me, the host, to let me know that you are attending. If you desire to stay longer, or come earlier, do not hesitate to ask.

The area is only minutes away Luray Caverns, wineries and a zoo. The campground offers trail rides for the adventurous person. We will have water and electric with a dump station near the exit. There are specific directions to get to the campground instead of following GPS. Upon making your reservation, you will receive a confirmation email that will give you those directions. Looking forward to some fun.

#### Directions:

From Virginia Beach take I-64 West to highway 81 North, then take exit 279, follow signs for 675 east, then left on 11 (it may not be marked.. but it is the next intersection "T", then turn right on 675 east to go through Edinburgh Gap Road and at Kings Crossing, turn right and then take an IMMEDIATE right onto South Fort Valley Road (at the fork). Continue about 1.5 miles to driveway on right.

If coming from the north on I-81, take exit 279, follow signs for 675 east, then turn left. Turn left on 11 (it may not be marked.. but it is the next intersection "T", then turn right on 675 east to go through Edinburgh Gap Road and at Kings Crossing, turn right and then take an IMMEDIATE right onto South Fort Valley Road (at the fork). Continue about 1.5 miles to driveway on right.