



## NEWSLETTER

## FEBRUARY 2024

ISSUE # 2024-1

FAMILY MOTOR COACH ASSOCIATION  
(MD, DE, PA, VA, WV, NJ)

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### NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT . . .

Greetings Capitol Chapter,

We are off and running in 2024, our 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year! The Chapter will be holding an anniversary rally in July at The Old Mill Stream Campground in Lancaster PA. Katie Taddeo, ([randktaddeo45@gmail.com](mailto:randktaddeo45@gmail.com)) has volunteered to be on the Anniversary Committee, and we need **2** more members to assist to make this a success. The current dates of the rally are July 17-21. More information to follow.

The Chapter Board is evolving and needs your help!! We need members to step up and take leadership roles or assist on committees and the board. Len Mierzwa is putting together a Nominating Committee (per chapter by-laws) and needs 2 members to join him. Contact Len ([len.mierzwa@verizon.net](mailto:len.mierzwa@verizon.net)) to let him know you're onboard.

Joanne Becka has been doing an outstanding job taking on the Treasury Position, and getting the Chapters Finances in order. However, she needs your help!!! Joanne will be sending out **dues notice** and needs you to pay promptly. If you do not plan to continue with the chapter, let us know and we can remove you from the membership roll.

There will be a **Chapter Wide** zoom meeting on February 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Mark your calendars now. An invite and agenda will be sent via email. This will be a business meeting, and we need your input and support.

Robyn Needel, our secretary, along with Joanne Becka, have taken on the huge task of updating our membership list. You will be receiving an email to update your information, and they need you to update and return promptly. Once they get your information, they will send out the complete updated roster.

We still need some hosts for rallies for the 2024 season! There are several rallies scheduled and please plan to participate in one or all. Information is listed below on how to organize a rally.

### UPCOMING RALLIES

## 2024

**July 17-21 2024**

**Olde Mill Stream**  
Lancaster, PA

Hosts: Capitol Anniversary  
Committee

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**August 8-11 2024**

Impromptu Rally  
w/ Bay Travelers  
**Sun Outdoors Luray Resort**  
Luray, VA

Hosts: Barbara and Steve

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**September 12-15, 2024**

**TBD**  
Lancaster, PA

Hosts: Len and Diane Mierzwa

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**October 23-27, 2024**

**GEAR Rally**

Western North Carolina  
Agriculture Center  
Fletcher, NC

Information on the Eastern Area  
website:

[www.fmca-ea.com](http://www.fmca-ea.com)

If you are planning to attend the FMCA national rally in WA, let us know as we will need delegates to vote on behalf of the chapter for any by-law changes.

We are reviewing the Chapter By-laws and Standing Rules. We need your help, ideas and time to help in the revisions. As we move forward in 2024, I want to thank all Capitol Members in advance for pitching in and being the change to grow the chapter. A chapter is only as strong as its members.

Until next time, keep on traveling!

Steve Tessier  
Acting President

## **December Chapter Meeting Summary . . . . .**

By Steve Tessier

The December Chapter Meeting was held at G&M Restaurant in Linthicum MD. We had a great turnout. G&M is famous for their crab cakes and did not disappoint. New board members were announced.

## **Annual Dues**

2024 dues are now due. Please send them to Joanne, as soon as possible. Include your name and FMCA number with your check for the \$15. Please make your check payable to: **Capitol Chapter-FMCA**.

Mail dues to:

Joanne Becka-Treasurer  
4814 Osage Steet  
College Park MD 20740

## **2024 Rallies**

**July 17-21, 2024**  
**55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Rally**

**Olde Mill Stream Campground**  
Lancaster, PA

Hosts: Anniversary Committee

We have reserved sites at the campground as well as the rally room. Plans are to go as a group on Saturday to a local restaurant at 2 pm then return to the campground to continue the celebration.

**August 7-12, 2024**  
**Luray RV Resort and Campground**  
Luray, VA

[www.lurayrvresortshenandoahriver.com](http://www.lurayrvresortshenandoahriver.com)

Hosts: Steve and Barbara Tessier

This impromptu rally will be held as a joint rally with the Bay Travelers. This is a book your own rally as there are no rally rates. The resort does offer lots of discounts such as 20% off five days, military and first responder. Barbara and I will be in site FHU 654, and there are still sites open in that row as well as the rest of the campground.

The campground is on the Shenandoah River and has kayaking, canoeing, and rafting opportunities. There are also vendors that we could make rafting down the river a group activity if there is interest ( <https://shenandoah-river.com/canoe-kayak-tube-raft-rentals/tubing/> ).

Plenty of attractions are nearby. The world-famous Cooter's Garage (<https://cootersplace.com/>) is across the road with Ben Jones and the Cooters Garage Band playing Saturday afternoons for free as well as free Bluegrass music on Sunday afternoon. Shenandoah National Park and Fort Valley are a short drive away as well as some OHV trails. The town of Luray has some eclectic shops and a museum in the train station. Wineries and distilleries are nearby. The owner of one of the distilleries, being a former moonshiner, is very proud of his ATF Permit and being legal and proudly displays it.

If antiques are your thing, the town of Sperryville is just over the mountain and quite quaint.

**September 12-15, 2024**

TBD

Hosts: Len and Diane Mierzwa

**October 23-27**

**GEAR Rally**

Western NC Agricultural Center  
Fletcher NC

Great time to join Chapter Members as well make new friends from the other chapters. There are R.V. seminars as well as vendor displays. One of the best ways to meet new people is to volunteer to help out.

Go to the Eastern Area Website for more information.

[www.fmca-ea.com](http://www.fmca-ea.com)

**FMCA NATIONAL RALLIES . . . .**



If you do not go to the FMCA website very often you are missing out on lots of information. In addition to information about the Greater Eastern Area Rally (GEAR) there are several FMCA rallies listed that you may be interested in attending. Go to [www.FMCA.com](http://www.FMCA.com) and explore the possibilities.

## **Rally Hosting . . .**

When sending the Editor information about a rally you plan to host, please include (when possible) the following information:

1. Start and End dates of rally
2. Campground name, address, phone number, and contact person name
3. Link to Campground website
4. Activities planned
5. Schedule of planned events

Rallies for 2024 need hosts. Some activities that may spark enthusiasm to host a rally may be FMCA events, kayaking, canoeing, sailing, bike trail, zoo, State Fair, museum, bull roast, crab feast, car, RV, or some other theme show/event. The FMCA magazine and their website have lots of information on various locations to host a rally. Also, since we had so much fun the first time at rally destinations, we can go back to locations we have been to in the past.

New members may want to buddy with Steve, Len, Robyn, Joanne, Pat or others that have hosted rallies in the past to provide guidance and support.

## **INFORMATION SHARING . . . .**