

**Communication to the Attendees and Board of Directors of the NWTFC
Business Meeting held at the Port Hudson Marina in Port Townsend on
Friday Evening, August 12, 2016**

Dear Members,

Please find the minutes of our Business meeting for your records.

In addition I am attaching documents that were not part of the printed agenda I presented at our meeting because they were either introduced at the meeting or missed the printing deadline.

They are in the order of appearance:

NWTFC GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES at Point Hudson Marina and
RV Park August 12, 2016 (2 pages)

Sue's Treasurer's report as of 6-30-2016 (1 page)

Two reports from our NWTFC National Director Al Zimmerman on the
National FMCA Convention:

- 1 A summary (1 page)
- 2 A full report (3 pages)

Highlighted Comments by Al Zimmerman on the actions of the Board of
Directors Executive Meeting some of which he would like read into our
record and all of which is pertinent to our relationship with the various
FMCA and NWA relationships. Please read the important parts on
Volunteerism. (3 pages)

**I wish to ask you again to consider joining with Al as we need a
Member to attend the NWA Planning Meeting with Al Zimmerman in
September at the Cowlitz County Convention & Events Center in
Longview, WA. Northwest Area Business and Planning Meeting, September
20-22, 2016. Please contact either Al or myself.**

NWTFC GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
Meeting at Point Hudson Marina and RV Park
August 12, 2016

1. Meeting called to order by President, Steve Webber-Plank, at 6:20 PM and Mary Carlson determined there is a quorum.
2. Introduction of New Members and Guests:
 - Fran Zaft and Harry Salit - Tempe, AZ
 - Steve Ward and Sue Chidester - Freeland, WA
 - Alan and Kathy Kempen -Port Orchard, WA
 - Keith and Laura Kovacs - Richmond, BC
 - Henry Fusco - San Diego, CA
3. Thanks to Volunteers at FMCA NW Meeting in Albany: Beers, Lindhorsts and Ashbridges
4. **Minutes of last General Business meeting, August 25, 2015 approved. M/S/A.**

REPORTS

1. Treasurers Report (see attached): Statement of Financial Condition as an alternative to a Balance Sheet was explained by Steve. A problem has arisen in that State Parks and other rally venues are requiring payment as much as a year in advance. Our bank account is usually between \$2500 and \$3000. This does not allow for large cash payments for the venues so far in advance of the actual rally.
 - Two alternatives to increase cash available for such pre-payments are being discussed by the Board.
 - (1). Raise the NWTFC dues.
 - (2). Require pre-payment from those anticipating attending rallies.
2. Membership Report: We now have 77 member coaches and 3 honorary members. New members in 2016 currently number 18 coaches.
3. Nominations Committee Introduction and Status: Slate of candidates is due by September 25th. Nominations from the floor close on October 1st and a finalized roster of candidates will be presented to the membership. Election will be held by email by November 1, 2016. Officers to be nominated include Vice President, Treasurer and Alternate National Director. The members were reminded that almost all monthly Board meetings are held by email because of the great distances between members so no travel is required by officers.
4. Award of a Certificate of Appreciation to Past Presidents was made by Steve;
 - Bob Beers 2004-2006
 - Ed Block 2006-2007
 - Stan Shackell 2008-2009
 - Penny Braden 2010-2011
 - John Turner 2012-2013
 - Al Zimmerman 2014-2015Steve was happy to announce that all of these Presidents are still active members of NWTFC.
5. Rally Report: We will have 4 rallies in 2016 and have 4 rallies planned for 2017. These proposed rallies are reported on the website. Helen reminded members that we have mentors available to help anyone who would like to host a rally.
6. Report on FMCA NW Rally: We had only 4 coaches from NWTFC attending. FMCA also announced that FMCA dues would be increased by 25% as of this October. Thus our members were encouraged to extend membership now if they wish to save money.
7. Report on new NWTFC website from webmaster, Mary Carlson: The new beta website on WordPress is up. She encouraged all of us to register on the new site now to allow the membership directory to be regenerated. Trek Tracks has raised money to

contribute to NWTFC so that we continue to have them on our website. Both TrekTracks and NWTFC must make the transition to the new site at the same time. The new site for both should be completed by January 1st.

8. Report on Executive Board Retreat held in July: Steve indicated that ways to improve the club were discussed. One result is that the Board wants to set up a “New Member Wrangler” who would personally contact new members to welcome them and facilitate their assimilation into the club.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Items ratified by the Board are included in agenda package.

NEW BUSINESS

1. An announcement that we need a member to volunteer to attend the FMCA-NW Planning meeting with Al in September.
2. Nominations of new officers from the floor: None.
3. Survey by Al and Ken regarding the general willingness of club members to volunteer at regional FMCA-NW rallies and at National Rallies held in NW: After discussion, **the members attending this meeting voted that our club should agree to operate the FMCA Store with the important proviso that FMCA will provide enough volunteers in addition to the volunteers from our club to properly staff the Store. If FMCA cannot agree to this proviso, then our club members should join the general Volunteer Pool as individuals. M/S/A**
4. New Business from the floor: None
5. **Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM M/S/A**

NORTHWEST TREK FUN CLUB										
INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT (1 APR - JUN 30 2016)										
BEGINNING BALANCE - 1 APR 2016									\$ 1,615.30	
<u>Income</u>										
Member Dues									\$120.00	
Rally registration fees - Traveling									\$376.37	
Antique Powerland									\$1,129.00	
Port Townsend									\$308.00	
Wallowa									\$2,606.00	
Website income (Trek Tracks)										
Fundraising and gift income										
FMCA income										
Miscellaneous income (lapel/badge pins. etc.)									\$6.00	
Total income									\$4,545.37	\$ 6,160.67
<u>Expenses</u>										
Membership expenses (postage, supplies, newsletter, etc.)									\$14.80	
Rally expenses (vendor pmts, campground pmts, refunds, coverage of rally losses) - Kelso Pre-Rally 6/2017									\$100.00	
Traveling Rally									\$1,388.00	
Overpayment of dues									\$10.00	
Wagonmaster campsite fees (club expense, not rally expense)										
Website expense (Trek Tracks)										
FMCA expenses										
Miscellaneous expenses (historian, etc.)									\$9.20	
Total expenses									\$1,522.00	\$ 1,522.00
ENDING BALANCE -30 JUN 2016									\$ 4,638.67	

From: AI Zimmerman zimmeralz@gmail.com 

Subject: Report from FMCA National Convention

Date: August 10, 2016 at 6:28 PM

To: Don W-P donwebberplank@mac.com, Dean Bjornson dsbjornson@gmail.com, David Pierce suedavidpierce@gmail.com, Susan Bjornson skbjornson@gmail.com, AI Zimmerman zimmeralz@gmail.com, Anderson Ken k2enand@gmail.com, Helen & Ken ANDERSON helen-anderson@comcast.net, Webmaster@NWTFc.com webmaster@nwtfc.com

ZA

On behalf of NW Trek Fun Club I served as a delegate to the Governing Board meeting in West Springfield, MA August 1-7.

Following actions are particularly noteworthy:

- FMCA Membership has stabilized and may even show a breakeven or slight increase this year.
- Executive Board took \$250,000 from investment funds to invest in RVillage, a social media website. (Members are encouraged to try it out. I did and after a couple months got off and cancelled my membership in RVillage.)
- Approved an increase in annual dues of \$10 to \$50 per year, effective October 1, 2016. (Now is the time to renew your membership or go for a multi-year renewal under the existing rates.)
- Approved the continuation of FMCAssist Medical Evacuation Insurance program.
- Approved a proposal to ask the membership to revise the Articles of Incorporation so that RVs other than motorhomes in the future may be included in a related organization. Membership will be asked to approve this change through a ballot in the October magazine.

Of particular interest - future FMCA national conventions:

March 7 – 10, 2017	FMCA 95th Family Reunion, Chandler, AZ
July 12 – 15, 2017	FMCA 96th Family Reunion, Indianapolis, IN
2018	FMCA Summer Convention, Gillette, WY
2019	FMCA Winter Convention, Chandler, AZ
2020	FMCA Summer Convention, Redmond, OR

For more information see my complete report that is attached.

AI Z
National Director
NW Trek Fun Club

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National Director FMCA
Convention 2016.docx

NORTHWEST TREK FUN CLUB

Al Zimmerman
National Director

94th FMCA International Convention
West Springfield, Massachusetts

Eastern States Exposition Center
August 3-6, 2016

The 2016 FMCA Family Reunion (or International Convention as it will now be known) was held at the Eastern States Exposition Center in West Springfield, Massachusetts. The understanding is that this is largest fairgrounds type venue in New England. The fairgrounds has been in existence for over 100 years. The Coliseum where the general meetings were held reflects its age.

The official count of coaches in attendance was 1,305 – that figure includes 1,059 family coaches and 246 commercial coaches.

The FMCA NW Area delegates met in the holding area on Monday, August 1, and parked together. There were 8 coaches representing the Northwest and we gathered a few more to act as delegates representing chapters.

Safari International had a pre-rally in Massachusetts and we joined them for happy hour one evening. There were about 7 Treks in attendance at the convention.

On Monday, the Northwest Area delegates met to discuss the issues that would be presented during the Governing Board meeting. Kathie Balogh, National Vice President, represents FMCA NW on the Executive Board.

Executive Board Actions

The Executive Board manages the affairs of FMCA during the year and reports its actions to the Governing Board at the annual summer convention. The Executive Board is composed of the officers plus national vice presidents representing each of the geographic areas of FMCA. During the year the Executive Board manages the affairs of FMCA and makes decisions on behalf of the organization. Executive Board actions are reported to the Governing Board.

Here are some of the actions taken by the Executive Board during 2015 – 2016. (Fiscal year for FMCA runs from October 1 – September 30).

- A door hanger card to be hand distributed to potential new members that includes member benefit information, contact information, and a \$10 discounted offer for membership.

- Approve each area receiving up to \$2,000 for education seminars following its annual area rally, pending submission of the proper paperwork.
- In an effort to amplify FMCA's membership marketing effort and utilize social media venues, invested \$250,000 from investment reserves in RVillage, an online social network website. In return, the FMCA logo is displayed on the RVillage website as a means of encouraging the recruitment of new members.
- FMCA is acquiring new members – the challenge is retaining members. Many join for the tire discount program but then fail to renew their membership. A call center is being used to follow-up of membership renewals. The initial results from the call center are positive.

Governing Board Meeting

The Governing Board is composed of a delegate from each FMCA chapter in attendance, plus those appointed as temporary delegates because no members from a chapter were able to attend. Delegates are grouped according to membership area. A quorum of delegates is needed for any action to occur. The meeting was held on Wednesday morning. The meeting lasts until the agenda items are covered.

Membership

As of June 20, 2016 membership was 70,049. The rate of loss has decreased, and during the first half of the calendar year 2016, FMCA has experienced a membership increase in five out of six months. For the first six months of calendar year 2016, FMCA had a net membership gain of 763 members. During the same period in 2015, there was a net loss of 3,756. FMCA reports there may be a net membership gain for the fiscal year. (This is potentially good news.)

Finances

Finances for FMCA are positive. As of May 31, 2016, a positive financial trend continues with an operating profit of \$81,539 compared to a budgeted operating profit of \$33,955. FMCA is operating under budget in the expense areas and expenses are under the prior year. Part of the reason for this is that the salary for the executive director is not being paid.

FMCAssist medical evacuation insurance program has been retained for a 3rd year. Claims are exceeding anticipated figures resulting in losses. Premiums will be increasing to cover these losses. At the present time, FMCAssist premiums are being paid from investment earnings. \$410,279 withdrawn from investment account to cover FMCAssist premiums.

An additional \$250,000 was withdrawn from investment funds to cover the payment to RVillage.

FMCA Investment Account

9/30/2015	\$8,066,626
5/31/2016	\$7,940,200

1. Approved the renewal of the FMCA Assist Medical Emergency Assistance Program for 2016-17.

2. Approved a \$10 increase in annual membership dues. Annual dues will be \$50 per year effective October 1, 2016. Last dues increase was in 2008(?).

3. Approved annual operating budget for FMCA based on the increased revenue from the dues increase.

4. Approved future convention dates

March 7 – 10, 2017	FMCA 95th Family Reunion, Chandler, AZ
July 12 – 15, 2017	FMCA 96th Family Reunion, Indianapolis, IN

2018	FMCA Summer Convention, Gillette, WY
2019	FMCA Winter Convention, Chandler, AZ
2019	FMCA Summer Convention, St. Paul, MN
2020	FMCA Winter Convention, Perry, GA
2020	FMCA Summer Convention, Redmond, OR

5. FMCA Articles of Incorporation limit FMCA activities to people owning a “motorhome” that is a motorized chassis that includes cooking, sleeping, and restroom facilities that can be accessed from inside the vehicle.

In an effort to reach younger people and new groups, FMCA may want to create a division or separate company that can include towable RVs. At the present time FMCA cannot do anything with RV owners who do not own a motorhome. The first step in considering possible future actions is to “loosen” the statement in the Articles of Incorporation.

Governing Board approved this effort to modify the Articles of Incorporation. A vote by the membership will be conducted through a mail-in ballot contained in the October magazine.

Additional activities at the FMCA National Convention:

- Nightly Entertainment: Texas Tenors on Thursday, Dave and Daphne on Friday, and Ayla Brown on Saturday night.
- Numerous seminars on motorhome maintenance, travel, consumer items. One seminar focused on historic motorhomes.
- Vendor booths and new coach displays.
- Times of fellowship with friends and new friends.

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From: **Al Zimmerman** zimmeralz@gmail.com

Subject: Meeting agenda comments

Date: August 10, 2016 at 3:36 PM

To: Don W-P donwebberplank@mac.com, Dean Bjornson dsbjornson@gmail.com, David Pierce suedavidpierce@gmail.com, Susan Bjornson skbjornson@gmail.com, Al Zimmerman zimmeralz@gmail.com, Anderson Ken k2enand@gmail.com, Helen & Ken ANDERSON helen-anderson@comcast.net, Webmaster@NWTFC.com webmaster@nwtfc.com



I regret that I cannot attend the Port Townsend rally and board meeting. Virginia and I are camped just north of Burlington, VT. We go into Canada tomorrow and will be traveling through Quebec and Ontario for the next week. Then, we enter the states again into Michigan. Because of the expense we will have limited phone and internet contact until our return to Michigan on Wednesday, August 17.

I will also send a report on the FMCA national convention in Massachusetts as soon as I get it finished tonight.

My comments on the agenda items follow.

Reports:

Minutes from the last General Business meeting Aug 25, 2015

Motion to approve

Membership Report:

Treasures Report, Income statement, Sue,

Statement of Financial Condition, Steve

Motion to Accept above reports

Nominations Committee introduction and Status, Dean

Slate of Candidates are due by September 25, Nominations from the floor close on October 1, and a Finalized roster of candidates are presented to the membership by the Secretary and Election is held by email by November 1, 2016

Officers to be Nominated are:

Vice President, Treasurer, and Alt National Director

[Wish Dean and committee good work in enlisting folks to run for the offices. Think of receptive hearts and new blood or renewed blood in familiar faces.](#)

Rally Reports

2016 Rallies, Past and Future, Helen

[Please provide updated rally schedule so I will have it for the next newsletter.](#)

I believe we are still seeking a wagon master(s) for a spring rally for 2017?

Report on NWA Rally, Ken and Steve

Report on Web Site Migration, Mary

Report on Executive Board Retreat in July, Steve

Old Business

Executive Board items ratified by Membership

Ratification Vote [Under new constitution items approved by executive board do not need to be ratified by the general body. Actions of executive board do need to be reported to the general body. We only ratified items in past years, because there was no provision in the old constitution for the executive board to act. Executive board acts between general business meetings and reports what it has done to general body. General body does not ratify actions of executive board.](#)

New Business from the Chair:

We need a Member to attend the NWA Planning Meeting with Al Zimmerman in September at the Cowlitz County Convention & Events Center in Longview, WA.

Northwest Area Business and Planning Meeting, September 20-22, 2016

Nominations of new Officers from the floor

Survey on two issues By Ken Anderson

Pay Pal for web Site and

General willingness and commitment to Volunteer at Area and National Rallies

FMCA is a member run organization - on a national and regional and chapter basis. FMCA provides benefits to chapters and individuals. FMCA chapters are represented in the area (NW Area for NWTFC) where decisions are made affecting NW and recommendations are carried forward to the FMCA national Governing Board and Executive Board. FMCA individual members are encouraged to become involved on a chapter, area and national basis. Without member involvement, FMCA will cease to be an effective and long-standing organization.

NWTFC is represented on a NW area and national basis through the National Director and Alternate National Director and President. Each chapter can have two delegates at area business and planning meetings. Each chapter can have one delegate at the Governing Board meeting held in conjunction with the summer national convention.

Chapter officers represent NWTFC to FMCA and also represent FMCA among the chapter. To be a chapter officer, one should understand the role of FMCA and positively represent FMCA to the chapter. If the officers are not willing to be involved with FMCA activities - what does that say to the membership about FMCA? Now it also behooves the national director and others to bring constructive criticism and suggestions to FMCA NW so that the organization can respond to chapters and improve.

Key volunteer areas for chapters and members area the annual area rallies and the national convention when it is held in a chapter's area. NWTFC has assumed responsibility for door prizes (no longer done) and the store at area rallies and national conventions. Additionally, other members have volunteered for seminars, welcome bags, activity cart drivers, security, and tram hosts. We have had as many as 14 coaches caravan to area and national conventions.

NWTFC has several new members. Some of our long standing members have volunteered at several area and national conventions. We must find new ways to stimulate new and old members to become involved in FMCA NW area activities.

A survey of various responsibilities members would like to choose to volunteer at area rallies may be a good idea to stimulate more involvement and inform new members of the opportunities and responsibility of the chapter.

It is important that any survey be worded appropriately and ask the right questions. It is also an educational tool to inform the members. As national director who reports chapter activities, I would request that I be involved in designing the survey if it is to be used.

Finally, several NW FMCA chapters are struggling with some of the same involvement issues. Kathie Balogh, FMCA NW Area National Vice President has requested that NWTFC defer any action on this item because she wants the NW Planning Meeting in September to discuss this item. The results of that discussion will then be reported back to chapters (NWTFC).

I would be happy to report the comments, constructive criticism, and suggestions to the FMCA NW Planning Meeting.

Items from National Director

(see report from FMCA national convention in Massachusetts to be sent separately by email)

- Report on FMCA membership numbers
- Membership retention initiatives
- Membership dues increase
- RVillage social network website
- Future national conventions - Redmond in 2020

New Business from the Floor

Motion to Adjourn

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