



www.mifcrv.org

# The Mini-Gander

A supplement to *The Michigander*



January 2009  
Volume 3 Number 1

## From The President

Fellow Campers:

Happy New Year to All! I hope your Christmas season was filled with friends and family all sharing the Holiday Spirit. A new camping season is upon us and if you're like me, I'm already looking forward to a fun-filled year.

At the November MSA delegates meeting, a number of items were discussed that need to be brought to your attention. The first is you are now in receipt of the final printed copy of *The Mini-Gander/Michigander*. The MSA Board has made a decision after careful review and much deliberation that due to the decreasing number of subscriptions and increasing cost of the publication, *The Michigander* is no longer self-supporting. Consequently, the cost of *The Michigander* is bleeding the MSA treasury. With decreasing numbers of campers at state campouts, the gross profit for the campouts has dropped substantially. It is the gross profit that helps fund *The Michigander*. *The Michigander* will now be available on the MSA website for FREE to everyone who wants to view it. It will be placed in a secure area on the website that will require a login and password. This information can be found on the front page of this issue. An email blast will be sent to all members when each issue is posted to our website. Please send your email address to Linda English at lenglish54@twmi.rr.com to receive notification of each publication.

A number of other states have adopted this same strategy and has been very successful. In view of our declining revenues, the MSA Board has decided to follow suit; however, *The Michigander* will still be available by subscription delivered first class mail for \$2 per issue. Please see the new subscription form in this issue.

Concerns were raised about sensitive information that might be inadvertently published. We are taking great strides to ensure that all youth and teen personal information will remain strictly confidential. Addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses will not be published for them. Our overriding concern is to protect our youth and teens from undesirables. All program directors information will be in every issue so you can make contact through them

continued on page 2

## Webmaster Report

The Michigander newsletter is now available at [www.mifcrv.org](http://www.mifcrv.org) Click the button in the lower left column called Michigander.

Another box will pop up requesting:

account name. Enter msamember, msa\_member OR msa-member--each will work.  
password: ncha

If you encounter a problem e-mail me at [webmaster@mifcrv.org](mailto:webmaster@mifcrv.org) or by telephone at 313-928-0182.

Paul R. Jones, MSA Webmaster

## The Michigander Subscription

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Subscription rate **\$8/4 issues.**

Make check payable to: MSA

Send to: John/Linda English,  
Michigander Subscription, to our  
address below.

**Michigander Editors**  
**John/Linda English**  
**23234 Floral Street**  
**Farmington, MI 48336**

**The Mini-Gander**

*The Mini-Gander*, a supplement to *The Michigander*, is an official publication of the Michigan State Association of Family Campers and RVers and is published one time per year. The opinions expressed in *The Mini-Gander* are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinion of NCHA/FCRV or MSA.

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75187 Peters  
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continued from page 1

The next item should be discussed by your chapter and amongst members regarding a proposal that was presented to the delegates at the November MSA meeting. The proposal is to separate the activity fee from the camping fee for state campouts, similar to the regional campout. The activity fee will be a fixed pre-registration fee that is non-refundable and will also be charged to members who wish to attend but not camp. Camping fees will be collected on a per night basis. If you camp one night, you pay for one night. Further discussion and a vote will be taken regarding this issue at the February MSA meeting. If passed, this new structure will take effect the 2010 camping season. The Board will also provide the delegates with actual MSA expenses. The result will hopefully be less money to operate our association and more money being retained for activities at our state campouts.

Enclosed you will find an election ballot. Please take a moment to read the candidates resumes and complete the ballot and mail it in. Your vote counts and the candidates are counting on your support.

Since no one came forward to volunteer to host the 2009 State Spring Campout, it is now the responsibility of the MSA Board. Details are sketchy at this time and we have solicited the assistance of our new board candidates and they are eager to help. The spring campout will be held at the Branch County Fairgrounds in Coldwater. Full hook up is available on every site. Please see the campout registration form for further details.

These are major changes to our state association and I hope that you'll take the time to discuss these items at your chapter meeting and make your collective feelings known to your delegates and/or the board. As usual, your comments and questions are welcome, and will be responded to on a timely basis.

I look forward to seeing you at Coldwater in May. Until then, please drive carefully. Doug

**Western Campout, Sarnia 4TS  
June 5-7, 2009  
Brunner Community Centre  
9999 Wallace Street  
Thamesville, Ontario**

Pre-registration: \$10  
Gate registration: \$15  
Camping fee: \$35

Send: Name, address, city, state, zip, chapter to  
Blake/Betty Willock, 1070 Connaught Cres, Sarnia, ON  
N7S 1C8  
519.336.0843 [kampers@sympatico.ca](mailto:kampers@sympatico.ca)  
US campers please send money order in Canadian funds.  
Saturday potluck (roast beef provided), family games,  
church, hospitality, chili chuckwagon, hobo camping

### News from Chuck & Sue

It's RV show time in Michigan. Thanks to Al and Betty Carl and their volunteers for working the October Novi show. At our workshop a few weeks later, field staff discussed various ideas of attracting show goers to our booth and the importance of following up afterward. All of the districts will focus on a "get acquainted" activity after the show – which may be a campout or social gathering of some sort. First timer ribbons will be provided at the spring campout so the rest of us can recognize the new or prospective members joining us. We know you will each do your part in helping first timers learn and understand what most of us do routinely. We have also begun compiling chapter profiles to help facilitate a good match between a prospective member and an existing chapter. Finally, if you have an RV show in your area, please volunteer to work the booth for a few hours. We guarantee that telling others about your camping experiences and friendships will give you a real sense of pride in YOUR organization. And that's exactly what Family Campers & RVers is – the only non-profit, member-owned camping organization in the world. So, whether you're

working a booth at an RV show, or talking to a neighbor or co-worker, don't miss an opportunity to share the news!

We'd like to let you in on the exchange of ideas the field staff shared at our recent workshop. Divided into three generational groups – silent, baby boomers, and X – field staff were asked to define who, what, where, and why of FCRV. Interestingly, many shared goals were clear across the span of ages: relationships formed among people with similar interests; a very inexpensive way to have a good time; an opportunity to volunteer; the chance to travel and meet campers in other states; a safe environment to bring children/grandchildren; life-long friendships. Have you found this to be true in your experience with FCRV? Can you add to the list? These are simple truths that we hope you will share with others and help our membership grow. Michigan currently has 565 members. There's room for more!

Reminder to Snowbirds: If you change your address with the national office during the winter months, please indicate you wish to remain affiliated with Michigan. You will still receive "Camping Today" at your winter address, but you will remain on

the Michigan roster – which is important for our membership count.

The 2009 Great Lakes Regional is early this year– April 30-May 3 in Berrien Springs, Michigan. We desperately need help with activities. This is Michigan's year to host and we are responsible for providing hospitality and entertainment on Thursday. If you have an idea for a skit or an activity, please let us know. We will also need help with parking. There will be a meeting for all Campvention 2010 committee chairpersons on Saturday, May 2. We expect to have a better-than-average turnout at this regional, so please help make it a success.

Campvention 2009 will be in Sedalia, Missouri, July 3-9. The facilities are excellent with full hook-ups for everyone. Remember, parking is hobo so be sure to coordinate travel with those you wish to be parked with. Michigan will have its annual get-together on Sunday after church services in the central pavilion.

We can be reached at our Florida residence through April. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, concerns or ideas. Our e-mail is MIFCRV@tampabay.rr.com.

Happy New Year to our camping family!

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### Teenie and Youth Pageant Entry Form

| Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
 | Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 | City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 | Circle one: Teenie King Teenie Queen Prince Princess  
 | Chapter Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 | Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 | Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

| Mail by March 31. Confirmation will be sent within 10 days of deadline.

| Youth: attach a typed resume. Teenie: attach information on interests, pets, activities, etc.

| Send to: Brenda Duplanty, 5425 E. Carpenter Road, Flint, MI 48506

| Phone: 810.250.265 Email: eunicedup@comcast.net See Page 7 for rules.



**Dave Mull** is running for **Vice-President** of the Michigan State Association. Dave has been married to Heidi for 24 years and they met 27 years ago through NCHA/FCRV. Dave and Heidi have two daughters; Amber is 20 and Courtney is 17. They have been FCRV member since 1989 and Dave has been a member as a child since 1971. Dave is a third generation FCRV member. They have been field directors since 1996 and are currently Mid-West District Directors. They are also State Insignia Directors. Dave is a member of Traverse Bay Travelers and Rainbow RVers. He has volunteered at many state campouts and the annual Halloween Campout in Hudsonville. They have attended 37 of 38 state campouts since 1989; 7 Campventions; 6 regional campouts. Dave has been employed at Sara Lee Foods for over 30 years and in a supervisory capacity of Spice Operations since 1996.



**Official MSA Election Ballot**

President <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Duplanty <input type="checkbox"/> John "Skip" Malecki <input type="checkbox"/> _____	Vice President <input type="checkbox"/> Dave Mull <input type="checkbox"/> _____
Secretary <input type="checkbox"/> Hope Colpaert <input type="checkbox"/> _____	Treasurer <input type="checkbox"/> Kari Evans <input type="checkbox"/> _____

**Ballot cannot be reproduced and must be postmarked by February 28, 2009. Place each ballot in an unmarked envelope and mail or bring to 2/28/09 MSA meeting.**

Mail to:  
 MSA Ballot  
 Ray/Jane Thornton  
 2084 Madsen  
 Saginaw, MI 48601

**Official MSA Election Ballot**

President <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Duplanty <input type="checkbox"/> John "Skip" Malecki <input type="checkbox"/> _____	Vice President <input type="checkbox"/> Dave Mull <input type="checkbox"/> _____
Secretary <input type="checkbox"/> Hope Colpaert <input type="checkbox"/> _____	Treasurer <input type="checkbox"/> Kari Evans <input type="checkbox"/> _____

**Ballot cannot be reproduced and must be postmarked by February 28, 2009. Place each ballot in an unmarked envelope and mail or bring to 2/28/09 MSA meeting.**

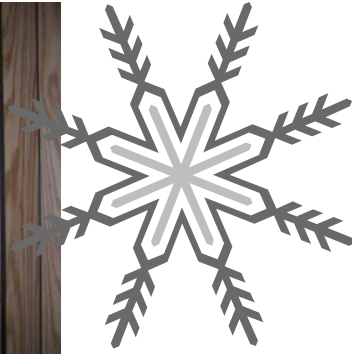
Mail to:  
 MSA Ballot  
 Ray/Jane Thornton  
 2084 Madsen  
 Saginaw, MI 48601



**Kari Evans** is running for the Michigan State Association **Treasurer**. She has been a member of Timbertown Travelers in the Northern District since 2001. She has been a member of FCRV since 2004.

She is the youngest of four children and has been camping her whole life. She has worked 16 years at a hospital in Saginaw and the past six years in patient accounting. Kari has an Associates degree in accounting from Delta College and graduated this past April with an honors bachelor degree from Davenport University. She has recently enrolled for an accounting class to refresh her accounting skills. She is requesting your vote for MSA Treasurer.





**John (Skip) Malecki** is running for **President** of the Michigan State Association. He has been an FCRV member since 1979 and states he has seen a lot of changes in our organization. Skip has worked on many state campouts in all capacities ranging from chairman to just a worker. He believes we have a wonderful camping organization going through rough times and he hopes to build it up to one of the best if elected.



**Jim Duplanty** says hello Michigan as a candidate for **President** of the Michigan State Association. Jim and Brenda have been married for 21 years. They have two children; Sarah is the current Teen Queen and Jacob is a double-digit. Jim is employed as a police officer with the City of Burton where he has served 28 years. The Duplanty family has been members of FCRV for 10 years and belongs to Tails-A-Wagon where Jim has served as chapter president four years. He and Brenda are the current Michigan Youth Directors. If elected; Jim vows to do his very best to represent MSA working on the issues as they relate to the fun of family camping. Jim believes the current MSA board has done a good job of representing us and he will continue to do the same. Jim appreciates the opportunity to work with everyone in this great camping family.



**Hope Colpaert** is seeking re-election for MSA **Secretary**. She has been married to Don for four decades and have three adult children and three grandchildren. Don and Hope joined NCHA in 1984 and are lifetime members. They are members of the Forest Dwellers and also are field staff for the Southeast District. Hope has enjoyed working with the MSA Board the past two years. Hope is retired from the City of Hazel Park after 20 years of service and works part time for the Detroit Tigers. Her experience includes working in the record bureau for the police department for seven years and secretary for the Chief of Police for four years. She also worked in the clerk's office responsible for recording and transcribing minutes and payroll clerk responsible for processing bi-weekly payroll, payroll reports and end of year audit. Hope would appreciate your vote and encourages everyone to PLEASE VOTE!

**Official MSTA Election Ballot**

President

Taylor McClelland

Vice President

Leanne Crookedacre

Secretary

Jessica Duffy

Treasurer

Sarah Duplanty

MAL

Kyle Hoffman

Mail to:

MSTA Ballot  
Ed/Alisa McClelland  
634 E. Greenlawn  
Lansing, MI 48910

**Ballot may be duplicated and must be postmarked by February 28, 2009. Place each ballot in an unmarked envelope and then place inside a second envelope. Put your return address and your TEEN CARD NUMBER (from the back of your Teen Card) and mail or bring to 2/28/09 MSTA meeting.**



**Leanne Crookedacre** is running for **Vice-President** of the Michigan State Teen Association. The reason she believes she would be a good candidate for VP is because she is very dependable and is always on time for things. She is currently first runner-up as Michigan Teen Queen. Leanne is a junior at Grand Blanc High School in Grand Blanc, Michigan. She works part-time at Chuck E. Cheese in Flint, MI. Leanne would appreciate your vote as MSTA's Vice President.



**Taylor McClelland** is running for Michigan State Teen Association **President**. She states she is a very hard-working and trustworthy person, a good leader and would really enjoy being President. This would be a new experience for her that she thinks would be a lot of fun. Taylor is a freshman in high school. She vows to fulfill the duties of MSTA President to the absolute best of her abilities. She looks looking forward to seeing everybody in 2009 and wishes everyone a good holiday.



**Jessica Duffy** is running for Michigan State Teen Association **Secretary**. She is a sophomore at Grand Ledge High School. Jessica is running for secretary because she is responsible and a hard worker. She vows to be at every meeting and help whenever she is needed. Jessica says she receives good grades in school. She plans to attend Grand Valley State University and wants to become a teacher.



**Sarah Duplanty** is running for **Treasurer** of the Michigan State Teen Association. She is currently the 2008 Michigan Teen Queen. Prior to running for secretary, Sarah held the position of Vice President in the MSTA. She is a very hard-working gal and likes to get any job done. Sarah is asking for your vote.



**Kyle Hoffman** is running for **Member at Large** in the Michigan State Teen Association. He wants to be MAL because he can take over any position when needed. Kyle is a senior at Genesee High School and his plans are to attend Mott Community College. He is very active in FCRV and has many other interests also. Kyle runs cross country and track at school and is an outstanding student. Even though Kyle is not a big talker, he says he gets along with everyone. Kyle is our current Michigan Teen King.

### Teenie/Youth Pageant Rules

- Parents must be FCRV members.
- Contestants must be between 3–6 (Teenie) and 7–12 (youth).
- Contestants must complete the official registration form.
- Contestants must be accompanied by a parent or appointed adult.
- All contestants will be judged on dress/dressy attire, communication and poise.
- Teenie Contestants will be judged on personality.
- Teenie parents--please submit information on child's interests, pets, activities, etc with the application form.
- Youth Contestants must prepare and write with minimal adult assistance a short resume.
- Youth Contestants will compete in: talent/skill; interview
- Youth contestants will be judged on resume and talent/skill.

### Farewell Dear Friend

The Michigan State Association lost one of its founders on October 18 when Marv Heft succumbed to pneumonia. Marv and Margaret joined NCHA in 1971 and were members of Chapter 186, Al-Camp-Egan, and 184, the Michigan Retiree Chapter. Marv was a past president of the MSA and a former Lakeside District Director. Upon retirement, he was appointed state retiree director and also served as national retiree director. Marv developed the MSA campout manual. The Heft's chaired some memorable state campouts at the Allegan Fairgrounds and were members of the Steering Committee for Campvention 1988. For their many years of service, Marv and Margaret were awarded a national citation in 1999. They received numerous appreciation awards in Michigan. Marv and Margaret loved travelling and had fulfilled their goal of visiting all 50 states. There are many members of our camping family whose lives were touched by Marv Heft – those he recruited, those he trained, those he encouraged, those he confronted – and always in the best interest of NCHA/FCRV/MSA. Marv set the bar high as a leader and his legacy lives on. So long, dear friend.

### 2009 Campvention Golf Cart Rental Application

1. Must be over 21 to rent or drive a golf cart.
2. Picture is required during pick up.
3. Carts cannot transfer ownership without permission of Golf Cart Director.
4. User must provide a light or rear reflector if cart does not have one.
5. Use hand signals when turning or stopping. Pedestrians have the right of way at all times.
6. No golf carts in parade.
7. Cart must be picked up by Noon Friday, 7/3/09 and returned by 7 PM Thursday, 7/9/09.
8. No more than 2 people per cart...NO exceptions!

2009 Campvention in Sedalia, Missouri golf carts **MUST** be rented in advance. Applications will be accepted 2/1/2009–5/14/09. If you have questions, please call Tony/Marianne Samardich, 586.336.1911.

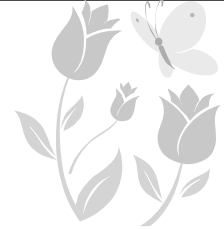
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: FCRV Campvention 2009  
 Mail check and application to: Marianne Samardich, 12996 Excalibur Lane, Romeo, MI 48065 a.samardich@juno.com

By signing this form, you take complete and total responsibility for any damage to the golf cart and/or any personal damage to yourself, your family, and/or any other person. You will not hold FCRV or anyone connected with them responsible or liable in any way.



**A Taste of Spring**  
**MSA/FCRV 2009 Spring Campout**  
**May 15-17, 2009**  
**Branch County Fairgrounds**  
**Coldwater, MI**



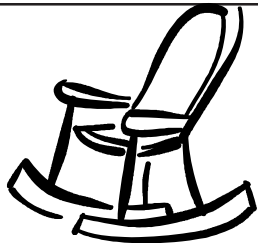
Please join us to welcome in spring in Coldwater as the MSA Board and Candidates host this event along with lots of help and support! Details will be provided at the February MSA meeting!

Make checks payable to: MSA 2009 Spring Campout  
Registration deadline: May 1, 2009

Mail registration to:  
Linda English  
23234 Floral St, Farmington, MI  
48336  
248.473.1457  
lenglish54@twmi.rr.com

\$15 pre-registration (nonrefundable)  
\$30 due at gate  
\$45 total fee  
\$10 early arrivals  
\$50 gate registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Name/No: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit type: \_\_\_\_\_ Size: \_\_\_\_\_  
Handicap parking Y N # Teens: # Youth:  
Please provide names/ages of youth on a separate sheet.



**Rocking Into the Future**  
**MSA/FCRV 2009 Fall Campout**  
**September 18-20, 2009**  
**Church of God Campground**  
**8489 Bagley Road, St. Louis, MI**



Please join us for some rockin', explosive fun as we celebrate our past and look forward to our future. Come and enjoy a weekend of family fun at the Fall Campout!

Make checks payable to: MSA 2009 Fall Campout  
Registration deadline: September 4, 2009  
Questions: Bob/Nancy Linder, 810.434.3733 or tweety.62@juno.com

Mail registration to:  
Linda English  
23234 Floral St, Farmington, MI  
48336  
248.473.1457  
lenglish54@twmi.rr.com

\$15 pre-registration (nonrefundable)  
\$30 due at gate  
\$45 total fee  
\$10 early arrivals  
\$50 gate registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Name/No: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit type: \_\_\_\_\_ Size: \_\_\_\_\_  
Handicap parking Y N # Teens: # Youth:  
Please provide names/ages of youth on a separate sheet.



## Campout Announcements

- Southeast District  
April 24-26; Springfield Oaks O.C. 4H Fairgrounds
- 2009 Great Lakes Regional  
April 30-May 3; Berrien County Youth Fairgrounds
- 2009 State Spring Campout  
May 15-17; Branch County Fairgrounds
- Northern District Mixer  
June 12-14; Church of God, St. Louis
- 4th Annual Mid-State Mixer  
August 21-23, Hillsdale Fairgrounds
- 10th Annual Michigan Retiree Rally  
September 7-12; Church of God, St. Louis
- 2009 State Fall Campout  
September 18-20; Church of God, St. Louis
- Halloween Campout  
October 2-4; Hudsonville Fairgrounds

All registration forms are available at [www.mifcrv.org](http://www.mifcrv.org).

## 2009 MARVAC Campter/ RV Shows

**February 5-8;** Perani Arena & Event Center, Flint

**February 11-15;** Rock Financial Showplace, Novi

**March 13-15;** Northern Lights Arena, Alpena

**March 27-29;** Grand Traverse County Civic Center, Traverse City

## Lansing Family Campter Show at MSU

January 22-25

### Change of Address

To insure that you will receive your copy of *Camping Today* and *The Michigander* after moving, please notify:

**NCHA/FCRV**  
4804 Transit Rd. Bldg. 2  
DePew, NY 14043



## 2009 Great Lakes Regional Campout

2010 Campvention Committee Meeting

Berrien County Youth Fairgrounds

9122 Old U.S. 31

Berrien Springs, MI 49103



**April 30-May 3, 2009**

Hospitalities, Drive-In Movie, games, picnic and much more including information on Campvention 2010. Register by April 24 for meal count. Make checks payable to: Great Lakes Region

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Type of unit \_\_\_\_\_ Length \_\_\_\_\_ # of Slides \_\_\_\_\_

Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Youth \_\_\_\_\_ Teens \_\_\_\_\_

\$12 Preregistration

\$15 Gate registration

\$15 Camping fee per night (Check nights: Thurs Fri Sat)

Send preregistration to: Vickie Roop, 1218 Ferguson Ave., Fort Wayne, IN 46805