



2024 - Volume 60 Number 4

The Michigander

"Family Fun Through Camping in Michigan"



2024 Campout Announcements

March 24-30, Retiree Rally, Dothan, AL

July 20-26, Campvention, Lebanon, TN

Note: click on the blue link for registration forms; web version.

<https://mifcrv.org/calendar/default.htm>

Registration forms are published in the electronic edition posted on our website: www.mifcrv.org, *Calendar of Events*
Please support the many activities scheduled for 2024.

Editor's Note: Please submit campout registrations
(Word preferred) by email:

kkurburski@gmail.com

Be sure to include **DOCUMENTATION** for any
pictures or clipart.

Michigander DEADLINE DATES

DEADLINES for submitting articles to the
Michigander:

December 10 for the January issue

March 10 for the April issue

Friday after State Spring for the July issue

Friday after State Fall for the October issue

You can start **TODAY** by sending articles to

kkurburski@gmail.com

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The Michigander

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Editor's note: Please check your Michigander Subscription

EXPIRATION DATE

Send corrections to:

kkurburski@gmail.com

(Only if you are a subscriber for a Mailed copy)

The Michigander Subscription

Subscription rate is \$8 for 4 issues. Send your
name, address, chapter name and check made
payable to:

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send to:

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For full color Michigander visit:

<http://www.mifcrv.org/Michigander/default.htm>



Join us on Facebook.com/ Michigan Family
Campers and RV'ers

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/349029098472615/>

The Michigander

The **Michigander** is the official publication of the **Michigan State Association of Family Campers and RVers** published four times per year. The opinions expressed in **The Michigander** are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinion of NCHA/FCRV or MSA.

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President's Message

Hello Fellow Campers,

Here we are nearing the end of the 2024 camping season. All the campouts are behind us, Spring, Nationals, Regional, Fall, and the Retiree Rally were a huge success. Hopefully, you can make some of them part of your camping agenda, in the 2025 camping season.

Many things are changing in our state, and I would like to pass on this information to all members.

First, the State constitution and bylaw changes were approved, and will go into effect immediately.

Second, Spring 2025 is at Church of God Campground in St. Louis, MI. Check the Michigan FCRV website for registrations.

Third, there will be a 60th MSA anniversary celebration at the 2025 fall campout.

Fourth, a Southeast District 2025 will be replaced by Spring campout 2025 at Church of God Campground in St. Louis, MI. Time and reservations can be found on the Michigan website. Northern District campout will be replaced by a mid-state summer campout. Time and place to be announced at the spring campout.

Fifth, 2025 is our MSA board elections. Please vote. Looking forward to the upcoming 2025 camping season.

Yours in Camping,

Pete Schaub
MSA President



STATE DIRECTOR NEWS

Do you remember when Camping Today and the Michigander came in the mail? Our household would pass it around to read it. I'd skip everything except the teen section. Mom wasn't much of a reader, so Dad would read it and give her the highlights. Years later, we have so many means of communication, but I feel like we're reaching you, the membership, less. I can admit that I struggle to read all of the correspondence I receive all the time. As such, I try to utilize as many avenues as possible. Which means that I have recently set up accounts on YouTube (MI FCRV) and Instagram (mi_fcrv), in addition to our Facebook page for Michigan FCRV. You can subscribe to the YouTube channel to see the videos Geoff and I have put together. If you're on Instagram, follow us! We want to reach you with the information! If we're not on a platform that would help you stay in-the-know, we want to know what that is! Let us know.

This past weekend was our last campout of the year. I'm guessing yours has already passed or is coming soon. But even though the antifreeze is in the pipes in the camper, doesn't mean we can't be talking about FCRV to our friends, families, and strangers. Winter is a great time to tell people about who we are and what we do.

At the MSA meeting in St Louis, the decision was made to merge the Southeast District Campout and the State Spring Campout into one. As our membership grows smaller, we have begun to consolidate campouts. That doesn't mean that you have to camp less. It just means you have the opportunity to check out campouts in surrounding states! Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin all invite you to attend theirs. (Kentucky would invite you, but their one active member just comes up to Indiana's)

If you're going to do any FCRV promotion and would like to borrow the new "Your Chair Awaits" banner, just let me know! If you want your own banner, you can contact the FCRV office to order it for \$35 plus shipping.

While I'm sad that the camping season has come to an end, I'm already excited for next year! Until we see you again, keep those wheels rollin'!

Marci



Scholarship News

This year's scholarship award recipient is Grace Carey. Grace and her family are active members of FCRV and members of Nature's Nuts Chapter 291. She is attending Ball State University in Indiana majoring in biology to pursue a medical degree. She loves helping people and feels her degree would allow her to make the world a better place through research. Congratulations and best of luck in all your endeavors Grace!

It's never too early to start thinking about next year's scholarship application. Some of the requirements to be eligible to apply for a Scholarship: the applicant **or** applicant's parents must attend at least one (1) Michigan FCRV campout this year and camped/stayed overnight one night. The qualifying campouts are: MSA State Spring, MSA State Fall campout and a District campout.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Teens living at home planning to attend college or a trade school, upon turning 20 years of age, will need to request a 20-year-old honorary membership from the Michigan State Director to apply for a free membership. To be eligible for a National or Michigan FCRV scholarship, you must be a **member in good standing**. (See policy below)

Scholarship applications are available on the MSA website, www.mifcrv.org. Be sure to apply for a national scholarship; the contact information is at the bottom of the Michigan scholarship application. For questions contact: Jane Thornton, Scholarship Director 2084 Madsen Rd. – Saginaw, MI 48601 Ph. 989-777-5958 E-mail: scholarship@mifcrv.org.

Jane Thornton, Scholarship Director

POLICY-TWENTY YEAR OLD HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

1. Any single child of an FCRV member in good standing, may at the age of 20, request of the State/Provincial Director that his/her name be placed on the 20 year old honorary membership list. The name, address, and birth date of the 20 year old will be provided to the national office through the State/Provincial Directors.
2. FCRV will extend the membership of a single child through the age of 24 if that individual is in the military or a student in college or technical school. **This extension ceases upon leaving college, release from the military, marriage, or lack of application to the State/Provincial Director EACH year for a membership extension.** At the end of the extension period the member must pay for a renewal at the going rate.



MSA Board Candidates



Hello, my name is Tim Callahan and I am running for the position of Vice-President. I've been a member of FCRV on and off since 1976. My wife Rachel and I have six children and 13 grandchildren. We enjoy camping and just being outside. FCRV has been a large part of mine and my families life including hosting campouts and holding positions at the chapter and state level. I hope to help this board in any way possible to continue building MSA.

Sincerely,
Tim Callahan



I have been continuously active in NCHA/FCRV for 59 years since the age of 4, when my family (Dad, Mom and 2 older sisters) in 1965 joined Roam'n Oaks chapter #10. During that time, I have attended 36 Campventions and too many chapter, district, state and regional campouts to count. Amazingly, all of that camping has been done in only 2 different trailers. I have also been President of Roam'n Oaks, a committee chair for 3 Campventions, and am currently Vice-President of MSA. I retired 7 years ago from a job as a computer programmer in the pharmaceutical industry. This gave me even more time to not only go camping, but also for my other interests, which include country line and contra dancing, handbell ringing, singing in a choir, traveling without the trailer, playing games, and jigsaw puzzles.

Brian Fuller



Hello, I am Jim Setzler, a member of chapter 88, Early Risers, from the Southgate area, Southeast District. My wife, Donna, and I joined FCRV in 1991. We became Field Staff with Southeast District in 2000 and have been the District Directors since 2013. I have held all chapter offices while in the Early Risers.



Hi, my name is Diane Jones and I am running for MSA Secretary. I am a Life Member of MSA/FCRV. I am an active member of both the Early Risers and The Eager Beavers. If elected, I am looking forward to serving Michigan to the best of my ability. Thank you for your support.



I am running for MSA treasurer. I have been a part of FCRV since 1971, growing up in the organization when my family formed a chapter and joined NCHA. I met my wife at a spring campout in 1981, and we have been married for 40 years. We have been members since 1989, having raised our two daughters in the organization. Our youngest daughter also met her husband through FCRV. I have served as MSA Vice-President, President, Senior Advisor and Treasurer since 2009.



Chaplain's Corner

Fall is upon us and many of us will not see each other until Spring. Remember to uphold each other in prayer. Some of us may have difficult times happen but we need to remember to rejoice in the Lord ALWAYS. It is most difficult at times and may seem impossible, but God will be faithful to help us through any situation. Love Y'All

Isaiah 40:7-8(KJV)

⁷The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people *is* grass. ⁸The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

P.S. At my age, "FALL" is a 4-letter word. 😊

Disaster and Safety Awareness Training

Hi everyone, Happy Fall.

The 2024 camping season for the most part has come to a close. I'm sure there's a few camping left to still enjoy this warm fall weather. I hope it was a safe and enjoyable year for everyone.

My apologies, I'm writing this article at the last minute and it may be a repeat of information but with all the disasters that have occurred and continue to be ongoing concerns, I thought it may be a good idea to review a few things. Especially since we, here in Michigan, can be victims to mother nature's wrath as well.

For instance, to date (Oct 24) the Michigan DNR and US Forest Service have responded to over 250 wildfires this year, with over a dozen fires currently active. This figure doesn't include what your fire department has been dispatched to.

Along with the wildfires Michigan has, we have been struck by 13 tornado's this year to date with an estimated property damage of over \$54,000,000.00, with 15 injuries and 1 fatality.

With all the possible storms and disasters that may affect us, it is suggested by the professionals, such as emergency managers, FEMA etc. that we be self-sufficient for 72 hrs. Here are just a handful of simple suggestions to help you plan.

1. Keep a supply of non-perishable food and water stored in a safe area of your home for emergency situations.
2. It's also suggested to keep some cash on hand as well in case electronic banking is disrupted.
3. Keep your generator in good working condition. Test run it on a regular basis with some type of tool or appliance hooked into it. Store your extra fuel in a proper fuel container and safe location. When running your generator keep it 20 ft from your residence and away from doors and windows.
4. Make an emergency electronic kit. Keep extra charging adaptors for your cellphones, laptops, tablets, flashlights etc.
5. For escape and evacuation plans, have more than one escape route from your house, and more than one evacuation route from your home. When planning evacuation routes keep in mind area bridges, culverts and any low lying areas that maybe susceptible to flooding.

6. Have a Go Bag, backpack, suitcase etc. packed and easily accessible for yourself, kids, and don't forget about your pets.
7. Keep a contact list of names, phone numbers, emails etc. to keep family, friends, neighbors updated in case of emergency.
8. Keep an emergency medical list, health issues, prescription medications, over the counter items, Doctor info, pharmacy info. and have your medications easily ready if you have to evacuate quickly.

These are just a few highlights of suggestions to keep in mind when planning for the unexpected emergency. More detailed information can be found from your local emergency management office, local 1st responder agency, FEMA, Red Cross, to name a few.

A reminder to check your fire/smoke/CO2 monitors and alarms and to replace the batteries when the time change occurs.

Now on a very personal note, it's been a very stressful and hectic year for Doreen and I. During her illness, diagnosis, treatment, several hospital stays with numerous battles of pneumonia, and many lung infections and her current recuperation. Her most recent doctor's appointment she is cancer free and in remission. Doreen and I would like to thank all of you for the thoughts, the many prayers and well wishes that we have received. It will be a very good Thanksgiving for us.

For all you snowbirds traveling, safe journeys to you and Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.

See you all in the spring.

Thank You

Respectfully

Safe Travels

Respectfully,

Tom Lewis

Michigan State DASAT Director

tcl_butch@yahoo.com

989-640-118

Fall Campout

CHURCH OF GOD CAMPGROUND, ST.
LOUIS, MICHIGAN



FALL CAMPOUT



Recipe Corner

Frosted Pumpkin Cookies

Ingredients

Cookie:

Butter | 2 cups

Sugar | 2 cups

Baking Powder | 2 tsp

Baking Soda | 2 tsp

Cinnamon | 1 tsp

Nutmeg | 1 tsp

Eggs | 2

Vanilla Extract | 2 tsp

Pumpkin | 1 can (15 oz)

All-purpose Flour | 4 cups

Frosting:

Butter | ½ cup

Brown Sugar | ½ cup

Milk | ¼ cup

Vanilla Extract | 1 tsp

Powdered Sugar | 3-4 cups



Source: Canva

Directions

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Beat butter on medium speed for 30 seconds. Add sugar and combine. Add in eggs and vanilla. Then add in the pumpkin. In a separate bowl combine dry ingredients. Slowly add dry ingredients to the butter mixture. Bake for 10-12 minutes.

For frosting, in a small saucepan, melt butter and brown sugar. Transfer to a medium bowl. Stir in milk and vanilla. Beat in powdered sugar until smooth. Spread on cookies and sprinkles with additional cinnamon.

Source: Unknown

Campout Dates for 2024

Start Date	End Date	Location	Chapter Sponsoring	Additional Details
March 24	March 30	National Peanut Festival Fairground Dothan, Alabama	National Retiree Rally	
July 20	July 26	James E Ward Agricultural Center Lebanon, TN	National Campvention	



53rd FCRV INTERNATIONAL RETIREE RALLY
National Peanut Festival Fairground
5622 Hwy 231 S, Dothan, Alabama 36301
Rally Dates: March 24 – March 30, 2025
Early Days: March Wednesday 19th - Sunday 23rd

Please Complete All Of The Following: (Please Print)

Last Name _____ First _____ Spouse/Other _____
 Address _____ City _____ St/Pr _____ Code _____
 Mailing Address of Other: _____ # of People In Unit _____
 Cell Phone #1 _____ Cell Phone #2 _____
 Email Address _____ Confirmation Send By: Pdf _____ Word _____
 Mailed: _____ Mailing Address If Different From Above: _____

Registering For Camping: On Grounds _____ Off Grounds _____ Camp Pass _____

Is this your first retiree rally? **Yes** _____ **no** _____ Are you a veteran? **Yes** _____ **no** _____

Special Needs: Must have on file with the registrar: License registration including handicap Plate, or handicap placard. This area is reserved for wheelchairs, walkers, or those with limited mobility.

REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE MARCH 1, 2025 DEADLINE.

Registrations received after March 1st or registering at the gate will incur an additional \$25 fee.

Early Days: Early days fee of \$40 per night per unit will be collected by the treasurer at the registration desk.

Included In The Fee: Full Hook-Ups, (30/50 Amp), Ice Cream Social, 2 Dinners, Entertainment, and a lot of fun.

	Early Registration	At gate
2 People In Unit	\$350	\$375
1 Person In Unit	\$320	\$345

Camp Pass Staying In Unit On Grounds As 2nd Family In Unit:

2 People	\$110
1 Person	\$80

I Would Like To Volunteer For:

Camp Pass Staying Off Grounds:

2 People	\$110
1 Person	\$80

Refunds: All but \$35 will be refunded if cancellation notice is received two weeks prior to the rally. After the rally deadline of March 1, 2025, only the camping fee will be refunded. A refund requested after the rally starts will be made after the rally has ended.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: FCRV/NCHA RETIREE RALLY

Mail to: Mildred Pauwels, P.O. Box 193, Dana, N.C. 28724

NO CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED



FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers 2025 CAMPVENTION

"Spirit of Friendship"

July 20-26, 2025

**James E Ward Agricultural Center
945 E Baddour Pkwy, Lebanon, TN 37087**



REGISTRATION:

Welcome to Campvention 2025. Everyone must complete a registration form, including second families and camp day passes. Submit payment with the completed form. All funds shall be in US currency, including checks and money orders. There will be room for you if you decide to come at the last minute. Simply bring this registration form with you.

****Refund policy:** If you are unable to attend, all except \$25 will be refunded AFTER the conclusion of 2025 Campvention.

Registration deadline May 15th - Pay before December 31, 2024, to receive a \$25 discount (\$325.00).

	<u>Registration</u>	<u>At Gate</u>
One Family in the Unit	\$350.00	\$385.00
Extra Family in the Unit (separate pay)	\$180.00	\$200.00
Week Drive-in Day Pass (June 23-29)	\$175.00	\$190.00
Drive-in Day Pass (per day)	\$30.00	\$35.00

Early Bird Days: July 18 - 19 @ \$30/night (pay upon arrival – cash/check). The gates will be open Friday at 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Are you an FCRV member: Yes ____ No ____ Please provide your Member # if known: _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse/Guest: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____ 2ndEmail: _____

Is this your first Campvention? Yes ____ No ____ Are you a Veteran and what branch? _____

Number of people in your unit: Adults: _____ Teens: _____ Youth: 9 – 12 _____ Youth: 5 – 8 _____

Total number of people in Unit: _____

****Please list the names and ages of all youth and teens on the back of this form.**

We would like to help with event(s) at Campvention. Staff will follow up with a contact if yes: Yes ____ No ____

CAMPVENTION PARKING: (There will be no special needs sites available at the gate.)

Check if you are requesting a special needs site: _____ (Valid Handicap parking proof must be presented upon arrival.)

Please note the LENGTH of camping rig behind type:

Motorhome _____ 5th Wheel _____ Travel Trailer _____ Pop-Up _____ Number of slide outs _____

Electricity: 30 amp _____ 50 amp _____ (50amp is limited. Handicap first. Then first come, first served.)

****Bring extension cords. Water available. Bring hoses and Y connectors.**

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: FCRV Campvention 2025 Funds

Mail checks and completed forms to:

FCRV Campvention 2025

137 Crandon Blvd.

Cheektowaga, NY 14225

For inquiries please call (716) 668-6242.

Confirmations will be sent via Email.

Please allow a month for Processing.