



Cactus Chronicle

Arizona Chapter FMCA

“A Family Oriented RV Club”

Amigos Del Camino Friends of the Road April 2020

President's Report

This is a “special edition” of our Arizona Chapter newsletter which the Board has put together to regain our connections with friends and to encourage our members to share how they are and what they've been up to during quarantine.

Board members started with this edition, and we are now asking you to contribute something that lets us know you are okay, or if you're not okay, to let us know how we can help. We sometimes over-use the phrase “we are family,” but it really seems like the right thing right now.

So please let us hear from you. Send your update to Louis Parker at lep3rd@aol.com by May 10th. We will see how many we get, and if too many for one electronic message, we will break into two or as many as we need.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon!

Georgia Moses
President AZ Chapter FMCA

AZ FMCA 2020

Rally Calendar

To Be Determined

Dan and Grace Fogarty

We never realized how much we love the RV life until we couldn't do it. Dan and I are having withdrawals, staying home, realizing we can't go anyplace except the grocery store. I will say though, we are making a dent in our stuffed freezer, and the money we've saved on gas is a real plus.

I've managed to clean and straighten out drawers and cupboards which needed doing; oh such a thrill. I never realized until now just how the little things in life can make one feel accomplished. I was just thinking, I wonder how long it will take the hair and nail salons and the pet groomers to get caught up after being closed down for so long. This has taught us not to take these services for granted.

We miss our RV family and rallies and can't wait to get back out there, on the road again.

Wishing everyone good health and stay safe until we meet again.

The Fogarty's
Dan, Grace, Mariah,
and the two terrorist terriers, Zoey and Coco

Art and Sharon Simpson

Hello to all our great friends of AZFMCA. We miss all of you. It has been a rough winter for us. We love to travel and now we must stay in Phoenix for a while. We missed three opportunities to see many friends and family and make many more memories. RVing is so much fun and you meet some of the most wonderful people. When RVing you can be fancy, just let it all out or just relax — slow down and enjoy the scenery with old and new friends. No one ever judges you, except maybe your relatives who just don't understand why we do it.

We have been blessed, Art and I and our family members have not been sick with COVID-19 (one of the many names associated with this virus). We stay in most of the time; we are saving lots of money on gas and have enough toilet paper! We have taken up a new hobby. We are working out with weights. I have exercised before but never weight lifting. I am sending pics so you can have a good laugh. (Photos below.)

We can't wait until we get an all clear to travel again. Whether it's an hour away or may hours away. Art and I have been busy trying to set up outings for our next season. We will be ready to get together and have lots of fun. Looking forward to enjoying your company soon!

May God's Peace be with you always,
Sharon Simpson

Rich and Judy Talmon

Judy and I are basically following Gov. Doug Ducey's "Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected" policy.

Judy celebrated her birthday with a Birthday Dinner delivered to our garage by our daughter-in-law and son, standing at the inside garage door receiving Happy Birthday wishes. April 15th was canceled by the IRS, so the tax return crush didn't happen, but will be by July 15th. Too bad, so sad; hopefully we will be on the road by then. And for the first time in history (that we know of) the IRS gave us a check on April 15th.

Our son has been doing our grocery shopping and we also are ordering items online and having them delivered to our home. We feel sorry for the Amazon and Sam's Club drivers.

As far a venturing outside of the house, Judy or I will take the dog for a car ride to the mailbox every two days or so and we realize that we are getting two weeks to a gallon of gas.

After the stay at home policy is lifted, we have plans on trying to leave the valley during the summer heat to head north. Not too sure where; just north.

We will be back in the valley after Labor Day getting ready for the 2020 – 2021 Arizona Chapter rally schedule and we hope to see you there.

Tom and Lisa Phelps

Lisa and I send greetings to all of our Arizona Chapter family. Since our Camp Verde (Distant Drums) rally in February, a lot has happened in our world. The rally ended on Sunday, February 16th, which gave me that evening and Monday to clean up the Motorhome and park it in storage. On Tuesday morning at 10:00 am, I had total knee replacement surgery, and as it turns out, what great timing. Little did we know that just two week later all elective surgeries would be cancelled, and the Governor would issue a “stay at home order.” The only place I would be able to go was Physical Therapy three times a week, and stay at home.

The first two weeks the pain was intense. On several occasions, I thought what in the world was I thinking; why did I do this? After week three, the pain began to subside and my Physical Therapy progressed to a point that I actually drove my truck a couple of miles; however, not very well. Week four is when my tune changed to, “Man I am glad I had this surgery, but I sure am glad the first three weeks are behind me.” Today, I begin week ten and oh what a difference. This morning, I walked two miles up and down the hills here in Fountain Hills. The only thing that hurts are the quad muscles, as I work to get them back in shape. As most of you know, I had not been able to walk 100 yards since I hurt my knee over three years ago. So... if you are considering knee replacement, I strongly recommend it; the only regret I have is I didn’t do it sooner.

I have to say that I am married to an incredible lady who “tolerated” me during those first three weeks. God has truly blessed me with Lisa, who is the love of my life.

If the government ever opens the campgrounds, Lisa and I, along with our good friends, Jim and Cindy Konija, will be Campground Hosts at Bonito Campground. It is located just north of Flagstaff, Arizona, about 12 miles just off highway 89. Come see us and stay awhile.

May God bless you and keep you safe as we deal with this Pandemic, and we look forward to a time when we can all gather again.

TREASURER REPORT

AS OF APRIL 15, 2020

Savings Account

as of 02/09/2020	\$ 7,003.69
Interest earned	\$ 0.06
Balance 04/15/2020	\$ 7,003.75

Checking Account

as of 02/09/2020	\$ 2,310.95
GoDaddy	\$ 9.99
GoDaddy 2 Years SSL	\$ 159.98
Balance 04/15/2020	\$ 2,140.98

Stay Safe
Respectfully Submitted
Judith Talmon
Treasurer

Dave and Georgia Moses

Our plan was to be in Bayfield, CO (north and east of Durango) in a nice shaded campground where we would be staying for most of the summer. They have very limited activities, but have lots of walking trails. Some early mornings they have a visit by a black bear in the campground and lots of time to just do nothing. As we look at that statement, it's what we have now except for the black bear, but we haven't given up our spot and we're still hoping to get up there before too long.

But while staying home, we've caught up on some photo sorting from last year's travels, some rearranging of furniture, and Georgia has been doing a lot of quilting. Dave has finally caught up with "The Last Ship" series and is ready for more, and we are both looking forward to getting back with our Arizona Chapter friends! Hope everyone is well!



Picture of wood carvings by a local artist in tribute to fire fighters who helped save the forests around Bayfield.

May Birthdays

- Dewey David
- Steve Early
- Howard Gossage
- Dan Mangelsdorf
- Georgia Moses
- Allen Reed
- John Stinner
- Adam Sobczak



Dave and Vickie Peterson

I did not realize how much we looked forward to the club rallies until they did not happen. They made the winter and spring fly right by us. Then putting our summer plans on hold has left us wishing for better times and fellow RVers.

We have spent all of March and April holed up like hermits. I have gotten a few projects done at the house like cleaning pool filters, fixing the leaky irrigation system (need to conserve that water), tighten a screw here, and a bolt there. Have a couple other projects. but they require a trip to Home Depot, so for now they wait. Only going out for groceries. Been doing some reading; unfortunately, it is the material I had collected for our summer trip. I got my first hair cut from Vickie and she did a good job. I will NOT be attempting to cut her hair however.

Hoping to restart revised summer plans to visit family in the Northwest when the current situation quiets down.

The Petersons,
Dave and Vickie

Joke of the Month

You don't need a parachute to go skydiving.
You need a parachute to go skydiving twice.

Louis and Sandra Parker

Our 2020 plans have been changed drastically this year. We did not have any large RV trips planned, but we did have two cruises scheduled. Our 15 day cruise to Hawaii was cancelled the day before we were to set sail. Our 14 day cruise to Alaska in August has also been cancelled.

We have been trying to stay healthy during this time. We exercise in our exercise pool/spa almost every morning and evening. We have also been riding our bikes around the neighborhood once or twice a day. It is getting hotter now, so we are bike riding outside in the early morning and riding our inside recumbent bikes in the evening. We have ridden over 500 miles during the month of April. Whew!

We are now looking forward to getting out in the motorhome once the "stay home" order has been lifted. We missed being able to get together with our FMCA Family a couple of weeks ago. We look forward to enjoying fellowship and camaraderie with you all this fall.

Stay safe and healthy. If we can do anything to help you, please let us know.

Sandra Parker
Secretary

Louis Parker
Editor

Commercial Members

We are very fortunate to have Commercial Members in the AZ Chapter and we encourage you to support their businesses whenever possible. Our commercial members are:

AFFINITY RV

3197 Willow Creek Rd, Prescott, AZ 86301
928-445-7910 or www.affinityrv.com

DAVE'S DIESEL DIAGNOSTIC

455 E. Main St, Quartzsite, AZ
605-999-0720

ROBERT CRIST & COMPANY RV

2025 E Main St., Mesa, AZ 85213
480-834-0410 or www.rvsrfun.com

THE MOTORCOACH RESORT

1576 S. Nelson Dr., Chandler, AZ 85226
602-790-8249 or
www.themotorcoachresort.com

RV WORLD

5875 E Gila Ridge Rd, Yuma, AZ 85365
800-762-7448 or www.rvworldyuma.com

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Sharon Simpson



Art Simpson