#### OCTOBER / 2023 / VOL 1

## **SEAS THE DAY**

### Southeast Area FMCA

"Make the most of the present moment"



FMCA National Executive Board

# Greetings to all FMCA members in the Southeast Area.

From: Bill Dees F354115 Southeast Area President

As your newly elected FMCA Southeast Area President, this is my first newsletter after being sworn into office at our FMCA 107<sup>th</sup> International Convention on August 26, 2023. I would like to thank you for your vote of confidence and pledge my dedication to making SEA the best that it can be.

I am sending this newsletter to all FMCA members who reside in the Southeast Area. This area is comprised of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi. I would like to invite members who are not currently a member of a chapter to research chapters near you and visit one. You will instantly enjoy one of the most important benefits FMCA offers. Chapters are the "backbone" of FMCA. Most importantly, you will make new friends sharing a common interest.

A great way to learn about chapters is to attend the SEA Rally in February. You will be known as a "First Timer," if this is your first rally. There will be a special gathering for "First Timers," followed by a chapter fair. The chapter fair is when chapters decorate tables with information and goodies to let you know about their chapters and of course, invite you to attend one of their rallies. This is always a fun time for all. Don't miss it.

The SEA Executive Board, Rally Captains and Chairs are currently in the planning stages for the 'Pirates Find Yer Treasure at Lakeland' SEA Rally scheduled for February 7 – 10, 2024. The rally will be at the Sun 'n Fun Aerospace Center located in Lakeland, FL. Registration and information for this rally are available at FMCA.com, SEAFMCA.org, and in the FMCA family RVing magazine. We have numerous educational seminars scheduled that will focus on "First-timers'" interests, officers' duties, as well as RV technical subjects. There will also be food, fun, entertainment, and shopping opportunities.



It's the FRICNDS we meet *along* the way THAT help us APPRECIATE the *journey* 

### HOW TO LOCATE A CHAPTER

Locating information about chapters can be found on the **FMCA.com** website and the Southeast Area website, **SEAFMCA.org**.

- -On the FMCA.com web site simply chose *CHAPTERS* then *FIND A CHAPTER*. You may search by categories to view chapter options.
- -On the SEAFMCA.org website select the state you want, and chapters are listed in alphabetical order.

### LOTS OF OPPPORTUNITIES

The SEA has 42 active chapters in the area. I'm sure you will find one near you. If I can assist you with finding a chapter feel free to contact me.

#### **CONTACT INFO**

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### **Congratulations!**

There are six SEA chapters celebrating anniversaries in the last quarter of 2023 and sixteen in 2024. So far, I have scheduled visitations with three in 2023 and another in the first quarter of 2024. I may not be able to visit all the chapters myself but if I can't I'll ask your Regional VP to schedule a visit to present your certificate to your chapter.



The Treasure Coasters have chosen to celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary by having their celebration/chapter rally at the SEA rally in February. Their certificate will be presented one evening during the rally.

### IT'S NOT DISRESPECTFUL

A comment/question was submitted after the last SEA rally. The writer was upset because the Canadian National Anthem was sung before the American National Anthem. They felt it was disrespectful to America. However, the accepted practice calls for the visitor or guest to be honored first followed by the host when the National Anthems of various nations are played. This practice is followed at FMCA events, as well as sporting events and other international meetings. Canada follows the same protocol.

### **MILESTONES**

#### 2023

Georgia Mountaineers – September 18 – 30 years Lake Ashton Travelers – November 25 – 20 years Shalom Roamers - December 23 – 10 years

#### 2024

Monaco Travelers & Friends – January 25 – 35 years SE Trek Fun Club - January 26 - 5 years Sun Roamers of Florida - February 6 - 40 years Florida Roll'n Gators - February 9 - 50 years Florida Crackers - April 7 - 15 years Villages Rovers – April 18 – 5 years Sun Wheelers - April 26 - 50 years Sand Dollars - April 29 - 40 years Treasure Coasters - May 4 - 40 years Southeast Bus Nuts - May 13 - 35 years Sandpipers-June 4 - 30 years Central Florida Roadrunners – July 13 – 50 years Florida Space Orbiters - October 9 - 40 years First Responders – October 19 – 5 years Gamecock Cruisers – November 27 – 15 years Mt. Olive Shores North - December 16 - 25 years



### **International Conventions**

FMCA currently hosts two international conventions each year - one in the Winter/Spring and one in the Summer. We had a "Groovy" time at the summer 2023 convention in Wyoming.

The two upcoming 2024 International Conventions will be Fiesta Del Sol in Tucson, Arizona, March 20-23, and Redmond, Oregon, (theme to be announced later) August 14-17. Registration is now open for the Tucson convention. Visit FMCA.com, find a registration form in the October edition of your magazine or call 800-543-3622 to get all the details.