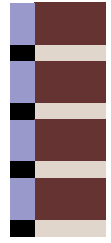


Ramblin' NoDaks



September 2023

Inside this issue:

- ♦ 1—Rallies
- ♦ 2—Pres Dave's report
- ♦ 3—Pres Dave's report (cont), Humor
- ♦ 4—Officers
- ♦ 5—Information
- ♦ 6—Governing report
- ♦ 7—Governing report (cont), 90th BD
- ♦ 8 & 9—BD's & Anniv.
- ♦ 10—BD's & Anniv, Recipe
- ♦ 11—Dues
- ♦ 12—Aug Rally re-cap
- ♦ 13 & 14—Photos
- ♦ 15—Sept Rally re-cap
- ♦ 16 & 17—Photos

Hello, and Happy Fall!

Wow! What a wonderful camping season we have had! Thank you to the hosts that have hosted and for the people that have attended. You are all what make this group so great. Have a wonderful winter!



Pam

Rallies for 2024

- May 2-5, 2024—Mandan, ND (need hosts)
- June 23-July 3, 2024—rolling to Montana (Richard)
- July 11-14, 2024—Icelandic Park, Cavalier, ND—Joint rally with the Canadian Northern Lights (Hunt)
- August 2024—Dickinson (Weidner & Sutheimer)
- September 2024— NoDaks 30th Anniversary—TBD (officers)

Rallies for 2025

- May 2025—
- June 2025—Medora, ND (Eckenrode & Meier)
- July 11-14, 2025—Spearfish, SD—(need hosts)
- July 14-19, 2025—International Convention—Gillette, WY
- August 28-31, 2025—Canadian Northern Lights/Ramblin' NoDaks joint rally—Canada (CNL)
- September 2025—New Leipzig, ND (Bohnet & Roehl)

Rallies for 2026



President's Report—Dave Eckenrode—September 2023

Well, another camping season has come to an end. We had two great rallies in August and September. The August rally held on August 18-20 at the Elkhorn Ridge RV Park in Spearfish, SD had 16 RVs attending of which 10 went on to the 107th International Convention and RV Expo held in Gillette, WY. The September rally was held on September 7-10 at the Lewis and Clark RV Park in Hazen ND and had 21 RVs and 2 Drive-Ins attending.

The Ramblin' NoDaks' election was held at the September rally in Hazen, ND. Here is the results of the election: David Eckenrode (President), Pam Meier (Vice President), Sandy Eckenrode (Secretary), Duane Heinrich (Treasurer), John Emmett (National Director) and Wayne Bohnet (Alternate National Director). The following people were elected to the Nominating Committee: Pam Meier, John Ringland, Karen Grimm and Darlyne Roed. These individuals will serve in their respective positions for the next 2 years.

The other positions where people have volunteered are: Newsletter Editor (Pam Meier), Parliamentarian (Karen Grimm), Webmaster (Pam Meier), Chaplain (Kathy Heinrich, Kent Roehl, Wanda Sutheimer, Kim Hunt, and Laurel Tveit) and Security (Dean Little, Larry Grindy, Garda Hoirup and Irene Beckman).

We still need rally hosts for May 2024 and May 2025. Here's the rallies already scheduled for 2024 and 2025.

2024: May 2-5, 2024 – Midway Lanes, Mandan ND, host(s) is still needed. Date/location could change.

June 23-July 3, 2024 – Rolling Rally to Chico Hot Spring and other parts of Montana (Yellowstone, Livingston, Bozeman,) hosted by Dennis and Beth Richard.

July 11-14, 2024 – Icelandic State Park, Cavalier ND, hosted by Mark and Kim Hunt. This will be the joint Ramblin' NoDaks/Canadian Northern Lights rally.

August 22-25, 2024 – North Park RV Campground, Dickinson ND, hosted by Wade/Pam Weidner and Marvin/Wanda Sutheimer.

September 12-15, 2024 – Ramblin' NoDaks 30th Anniversary Rally, location TBD, hosted by Ramblin' NoDaks officers.

2025: June 19-22, 2025 – Medora ND, hosted by Dave/Sandy Eckenrode and John/Pam Meier.

July 11-14, 2025 - Elkhorn Ridge RV Resort, Spearfish, SD. Hosted by TBD.

July 14-19, 2025 - FMCA's 111th International Convention & RV Expo, CAM-PLEX Multi-Event Facilities, Gillette WY (July 16-19), hosted by FMCA.

August 28-31, 2025 – Canadian Northern Lights/Ramblin' NoDaks, location in Canada TBD, hosted by Canadian Northern Lights.

September 11-14, 2025 – Location TBD, hosted by Wayne/Jackie Bohnet and Kent/Char Roehl.

I would encourage everyone to consider hosting a rally in the future. If you don't want to host on your own, find someone to partner with. If you would like to volunteer to host a rally or have a possible location for a rally, please contact me.

President's Report (cont)

I would like to thank the people who hosted rallies in 2023: John Ringland/Garda Hoirup (May), Dave/Sandy Eckenrode and John/Pam Meier (June), Ron Chesla/Anne Malyon and George/Margaret Jaeger (July), Peggy Roberts-Titze and Don Roberts (August) and Clayton/Irene Beckman, Francis/Diana Dukart and Jim/Doris Mutzenberger (September).

Please have a healthy, safe and wonderful winter. See you all next spring.



Father Is Shocked When He Discovers This Horrifying Letter From His Son.

A father passing by his son's bedroom, was astonished to see the bed was nicely made, and everything was picked up. Then, he saw an envelope, propped up prominently on the pillow. It was addressed, "Dad." With the worst premonition, he opened the envelope and read the letter, with trembling hands...

"Dear, Dad. It is with great regret and sorrow that I'm writing you. I had to elope with my new girlfriend, because I wanted to avoid a scene with Mom and you. I've been finding real passion with Stacy, and she is so nice, but I knew you would not approve of her because of her piercings, tattoos, tight motorcycle clothes, and because she is so much older than I am. But it's not only the passion, Dad. She's pregnant. Stacy said that we will be very happy. She owns a trailer in the woods, and has a stack of firewood for the whole winter. We share a dream of having many more children. Stacy has opened my eyes to the fact that marijuana doesn't really hurt anyone. We'll be growing it for ourselves, and trading it with the other people in the commune, for all the cocaine and ecstasy we want. In the meantime, we'll pray that science will find a cure for AIDS, so Stacy can get better. She sure deserves it! Don't worry, Dad. I'm 15, and I know how to take care of myself. Someday, I'm sure we'll be back to visit, so you can get to know your many grandchildren. Love, your son, Joshua. P.S. Dad, none of the above is true. I'm over at Jason's house. I just wanted to remind you that there are worse things in life than the school report that's on the kitchen table. Call when it is safe for me to come home!



Our Ramblin' NoDaks Officers for 2023-2025:

President—Dave Eckenrode—701-202-5411

Vice President—Pam Meier—701-440-1189

Secretary—Sandy Eckenrode—701-426-7757

Treasurer—Duane Heinrich—701-535-0830

Parliamentarian—Karen Grimm—701-371-3093

FMCA National Director—John Emmett—605-228-4075

FMCA Alt. National Director—Wayne Bohnet- 701-400-3258

Webmaster & Newsletter Editor—Pam Meier-701-440-1189

Chaplains—Kathy Heinrich, Kent Roehl, Wanda Sutheimer, Laurel Tveit, Kim Hunt

Security—Dean Little, Larry Grindy, Garda Hoirup, Irene Beckman

Nominating Committee—John Ringland, Darlyne Roed, Karen Grimm, Pam Meier



Important Information

Our chapter has tri-folds to hand out to prospective new members. If you would like to have some, please contact our Secretary Sandy and she will mail them to you. It's a great way to inform others about our chapter!

701-426-7757

Would you be interested in a Ramblin' NoDaks rolling rally caravan trip to Alaska? George & Bonnie Brackin lived in Alaska for 9 years. They said they would be willing to organize and lead a caravan. It would be approximately 4-6 weeks and possibly in 2025 or 2026. Please let President Dave know if you have any interest. We are not looking for commitment at this time, only trying to see if there is interest.

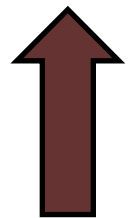
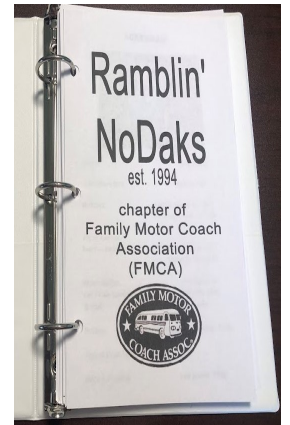
Ramblin' NoDaks membership books for sale

We have membership books for sale. They are \$10.00 each. There is a page designated to each member unit. In the book you will also find the chapter standing rules, the by-laws, past Presidents, and Charter Members.

If you have a book and in comparing it to the roster you find that you are missing someone, please let me know and I can email you their page. You can also contact me if you need the information changed on your personal sheet.

To purchase a book for \$10.00 or to have pages emailed, contact Pam Meier,

jpmeier@midco.net or 701-440-1189.



Don't forget to check out our website:

www.ramblinnodaks.com



**GOVERNING BOARD REPORT FOR
FMCA'S 107th INT. CONV. GILLETTE, WY
Reported by: Gene Grimm**

The meetings were lengthy affairs which became a bit tedious at times, but very interesting. Operating an organization of this magnitude is a challenging proposition.

Above is a pie chart that represents how FMCA funds are utilized. The expenses break down as follows for the pie chart that was presented to us:

The largest expenditure represents **Administrative Costs - 27.35%**

Salaries, benefits, training - 15.52%

Monthly magazine - 14.77%

FMCAssist - 12.46%

National Events Costs - 10.07%

Bank & CC Processing Fees - 3.28%

Postage, Printing, Member Costs - 3.19%

The remaining small areas

Advertising

Staff, Committee Travel

Other Member Benefits

Liability Insurance

IT/Web Expense

Building Maintenance, Utilities

Equipment Rental, Office Supplies, Trade Shows

Chapter Area Governor Support

Real Estate Taxes, Legal Fees

The expenditure breakdown looked reasonable to me, except the magazine costs were a great surprise. I had no idea it cost that much to print and distribute our great magazine. Many of us pass the magazine on to others after we've finished with them. This helps to get not only the FMCA name before the public, but it also explains what we do as an organization.

It is of utmost importance for FMCA to attract more new members and to find ways to keep current members. During most recent years, the membership numbers have been in a state of decline.

Medical evacuation is not a selling point to many of the new younger buyers because everyone is invincible at that age. Some of the entertainment at our club level rallies is geared more towards old people as opposed to younger people who are looking for more action. Many new FMCA members *who do not join a club* tend to be short term members. However, WE KNOW that great life-long friendships are developed at the club level. So, there is an obvious way that we can promote growth for the organization. We all have friends, neighbors, and business associates who have RVs. Each one of us needs to get these individuals to our club events by personal invitation. FMCA is developing a video that you will be able to pull up on your phone or tablet that will help.

Governing Board Report (cont)

Much of the GOVERNING BOARD'S time was invested in changing policy and procedures and by-laws in an effort to make FMCA more appealing to new RVers. You will likely see some FMCA emblem changes in the near future. The FMCA Mission Statement was a long and cumbersome paragraph that did not reflect current goals. Over an hour was spent to improve that and to make it more meaningful and memorable to each of us.

The other very important function of the Governing Board was to elect new officers for the next two year period. The results are:

Secretary

Pamela Richard

Treasurer

Barbara Smith

Senior Vice President

Paul Mitchell

President

Gary Milner



Anyone who really knows Gary Milner, knows that making FMCA a better organization is always in his utmost thoughts all of the time. And having Glenda on his team is a huge asset for all of us.



Happy 90th Birthday to a wonderful man, Dick Gunter!

Some of the NoDaks were there to help him celebrate.

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

3—Kauer—1983

5—Dennis Fox

9—Ruth Rutledge

10—Barb Kitzan

11—Joan Grindy

15—Leier—1962

19—John Emmett

21—Sandy Eckenrode

22—Roed—1974

25—Paquin—1976

25—Eckenrode—1981

28—Koppinger—1979

30—Darlyne Roed

October Birthdays and Anniversaries

1—Charlie Swenson

2—Grace Stainbrook

3—Charlie & Ginny Swenson

4—Alice Gunter

5—Francis & Diana Dukart—1973

6—Bruce Stainbrook

10—Ralph Rutledge

13—Jackie Bohnet

13—Kim Hunt

14—Judy Leier

15—Helen Wolfe

16—Karen Carlson

17—Sherrie Borud

20—Karen Grimm

20—George & Margaret Jaeger—1979

23—John Meier

26—Rita Arnett

31—Mark Morgan

31—Jim Sparke



November Birthdays and Anniversaries

1—Adam Leier
5—Betty Hopfauf
14—Walt Mychasiw
16—Ann Malyon
17—Larry Heinle
20—Walt & Adele Mychasiw—1971
25—Duane & Irene Hellman—1967
25—Jerry & Betty Hopfauf—1988
25—Larry & Audrey Heinle—2000

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

3—Beth Richard
5—Wayne & Jackie Bohnet—1983
7—Adele Mychasiw
14—Audrey Heinle
15—Dave Baumann
19—John Ackerman
19—John Ringland
23—Pam Meier
23—George Brackin
24—Ardell Lynne
26—Gene & Karren Grimm—1971
29—Margaret Jaeger
31—John & Jerri Morrow



January Birthdays and Anniversaries

4—Duane Heinrich
9—Sharon Sigurdson
17—Cathy Emmett
17—Bill Sommers
17—Francis Dukart
20—Harold Schmidt
20—Diana Dukart
22—Tammy Koppinger
26—Ione Schmidt
30—Donna Grunett



February Birthdays and Anniversaries

1—Kevin Champagne
4—Sharon Baumberger
7—Bill Leier
7—Jim Mutzenberger
8—David Kitzan
9—Mike Sommers
13—Wanda Sutheimer
18—Duane Hellman
21—Mark Kauer
22—Louise Champagne
22—Doris Mutzenberger
23—Kathy Heinrich
25—Garda Hoirup

March Birthdays and Anniversaries

2—Gordon MacDonald

2—Char Roehl

5—Kent Roehl

6—Bonnie Knell

8—Dave Eckenrode

23—Larry Grindy

28—Wayne Bohner

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

2—Adeline Wettlaufer

4—George Jaeger

10—Jenean Baumann

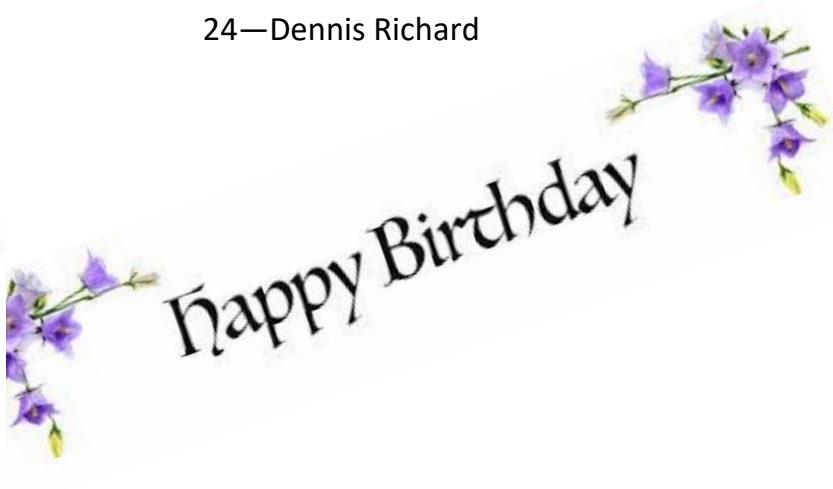
11—Ginny Swenson

11—Dave & Barb Kitzan—1966

14—Brian & Karen Little—1979

23—Rod Baumberger

24—Dennis Richard



Oven-Roasted Ranch Carrots

1/3 c olive oil

1 oz packet ranch seasoning

1/4 c chopped parsley

1 Tbsp brn sugar

8 oz baby carrots

Salt and pepper to taste



In small bowl, mix the olive oil, ranch, parsley, brn sugar, salt and pepper until fully combined. Add carrots; mix evenly. Spread carrots onto a parchment-lined baking sheet. Bake for 25 minutes or until caramelized and tender at 350 degrees oven. Makes 4 servings.

From Treasurer Duane: Dues for 2024 are due now. Please mail your dues at your earliest convenience to: Duane Heinrich, 4333 47th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58104. Remember you can pay more than one year at a time.

FMCA Bylaws Article III #4E

ARREARS: Any member whose dues remain unpaid for more than 6 months after becoming due shall be considered delinquent; after 12 months, membership is cancelled.

The following owe \$15.00 for 2024 dues.

Baumann	McDonald (+23)
Baumberger	Morgan (+23)
Bohnet	Mutzenberger
Burdeniuk	Paquin
Coulson (+23)	Ringland
Fox	Roberts-Titze
Grimm	Roehl
Grindy	Rutledge
Grunett	Sparke
Gunter	Stainbrook
Heen (+23)	Swenson
Hunt	Weidner
Kauer	Willer
Kitzan	
Koppinger	
A & J Leier	

The following Honorary Members owe \$10 for 2024 dues.



Ackerman
Adams
Borud
Carvell
Fritz
Gjerstad
Hopfauf
Lynne
Schmidt
Sigurdson
B Sommers
M Sommers



August Rally Re-cap at Spearfish

This was our August rally prior to continuing on to the 107th International FMCA Rally being held in Gillette, WY.

Friday as we arrived, Peggy gave us each a “Welcome Bag”. She had embroidered zipper bags with the saying “Ramblin’ NoDaks makes life a beautiful ride”. It also included an updated schedule along with Lifesaver mints and a pen from Elkhorn Ridge. We had Happy Hour and all 31 went for dinner at Killian’ Food and Drink, a local restaurant.

Saturday morning started with our business meeting followed by a demonstration by Kleen Tank. This is a business where they back-flush your RV tanks and gave you a solution to keep your waste tanks working better. They also gave us the recipe to make our own solution for the future. The afternoon was on our own. Some members chose to drive Spearfish Canyon, wash their camper, get their tanks cleaned by demonstrator Corey Seeba, go to nearby Deadwood casinos, and still some just stayed at the campground just to relax and visit. We gathered for Happy Hour. Dinner plans varied for all the members from grilling, checking out a Mexican restaurant, and trying their luck at Deadwood .

Sunday we gathered for our church service. It was cold and windy outside but we gathered between two RV’s with a couple trees for protection from the wind. Ken Roed gave a beautiful message that related to a recent book he read – Agents of the Apocalypse by Dr. David Jeremiah. Ken offered this book to anyone that wants to read it and pass it on. Again, the day was on our own. A group of a dozen people ventured to Hill City to ride the 1880’s Steam Train Engine to Keystone and back to Hill City. We had a happy hour with heavy hors d’oeuvres and finger foods Potluck and games. A meeting was held in the evening for those traveling on to Gillette, WY. One RV went to Gillette on Sunday due to their volunteer meeting was on Monday morning.

Monday we had nine RV’s ready to roll out of the campground and caravan to Gillette, WY at 7:50am! Our group stuck together on the interstate quite well going at a speed that other travelers could pass us. We did encounter some road construction which kept our group together. We arrived safely at Cam-plex just before 10am as scheduled. We got parked in very close proximity to the coffee and donut tent which works out great for our volunteers. Thank you to all who traveled to Spearfish SD and Gillette WY. A great time was held by all!

A big thanks to Peggy Roberts-Titze and to Don Roberts for the great rally! You are great hosts!



1880 Train Ride



Our bunch in Gillette



Sandy & Butch



Coffee volunteers at their finest!





Ready to roll!



Ken & Bruce "Would you like a white chocolate or vanilla frosted donut?"



Grace, Darlyne, Karen, Don



Peggy, Dave, Karen, serving President Rhett Porter



Gene, Cathy & Donna



Kathy & Rita



Greeters Duane & John



Time to relax

September Rally Re-Cap at Hazen, ND

The September rally was held in Hazen from Thursday, September 7th through Sunday, September 10th, 2023. Beckman's, Dukart's, and Mutzenberger's did a wonderful job of being hosts. A total of 21 units and 2 drive-ins almost filled the Lewis and Clark RV park. Friday began with breakfast at 8:00 a.m. followed by a business meeting which included election of officers, report on the rally in Gillette, future rally locations and dates, as well as volunteer report for the upcoming Hostfest in Minot. At 10:00 a.m., we all headed to the Dakota Gasification plant north of Beulah where we watched a short video and then were shown a 1/32 size model of the original power plant, built by the architects in 1975 at a cost of \$8,000,000. Construction on the power plant itself started in 1980 and startup was in 1984.

Following the plant visit, we were free to visit the Pfennig Wildlife Museum, a collection of wildlife mounts and/or the Mercer County Museum in Beulah. Supper Friday evening was fleishkuechla as part of the Hazen Harvest Festival, which was being held in Hazen this same weekend. After supper, a couple of pinochle games got going as well as a rowdy game of Left-Right-Center.

On Saturday morning, with rain in the forecast, we all climbed aboard the long trailer to participate in the Harvest Festival parade. After much candy throwing and laughs, we arrived back at the campground for a free afternoon. Activities included the car show across the street, barbecued ribs, the vendor show, and other Harvest Festival related activities. In the evening, we had a potluck supper and card bingo.

Sunday morning breakfast and church service. Thank you to those who blessed us with their music and to Kathy Heinrich for her message on autumn. The weekend came to a close with a lot of hugs and see-you-soons. Thanks again to our gracious hosts!

Fellowship, fun, and cards





Tour at Dakota Gasification Plant



Welcome sign made by 11 year old Siena Dukart!



Pfennig Wildlife Museum



Oh Dean..... First you win \$22.00, then \$10.00, and then... \$40.00!!! We are coming for you!



Rita & Butch



Such a serious card game





Riding the parade float. What a great group of people!

