

Ramblin' Nodaks

August 2019 Newsletter

Ramblings from your President

Greetings Ramblin' NoDaks,

With great pleasure, we welcome new club members Chris & Carol Coulson of St. Anne, Manitoba; Rod & Sharon Baumberger of Sturgis, SD; and Don & Rochelle Joslin of Rapid City, SD. All were present at the pot luck dinner put together by the Northern Lights Chapter during the recent FMCA 100th International Convention in Minot. We look forward to great times in the future.

The Ramblin' NoDaks were well represented at the Minot convention with a well-structured booth at the chapter fair. Our chapter was also instrumental in getting each day started for everyone with coffee and donuts on the Town Square. Thanks to all who volunteered. Pam did a superb job of organizing several programs for the convention.

The September 5-8 Mandan rally should be another very special event with a visit and tour of the Standing Rock Reservation. There will be other tours and evening pow wows in the Bismarck area during the weekend. This should be an outstanding rally. There will be a charter bus to transport us from Mandan to Standing Rock with a casino stop on the return trip. There is an element that could be considered controversial - as there was at the recent Rugby rally. The charter bus fee will be \$33/person. There was a similar fee (\$30) for the tour of the Bison ranch at Rugby which everyone considered to be an excellent tour. The cost to drive your personal vehicle to Standing Rock and back would likely be close to the \$33 figure. The advantage of the bus is the elimination of the effort to coordinate everyone's arrival time at the tour plus the effort of everyone in finding the proper location should they drive individually. Plus - it will be fun! We will have the opportunity to forget the efforts of driving and enjoy each other's company on the bus. In the past, we have done numerous no-cost or low-cost tours of interesting places, and we will continue to do that at future rallies.

Rallies being considered for next season include the International Peace Gardens (a combined rally with the Northern Lights), Medora, and with additional South Dakota members on board - perhaps a rally in the Black Hills of South Dakota. This could possibly be a joint rally with our old friends - the Heartland Travelers of Nebraska. We need rally masters to step forward for next year. Your efforts are vital to the Ramblin' NoDaks.

I look forward to seeing you in Mandan.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Grimm, Ramblin' NoDaks President

From: Charlie Swenson <grey.wolf.hearing@gmail.com>

Here is something to add to the newsletter:

"When I had my Hearing Aid private practice in Fort Yates ND, some of the most interesting clients that I had were the elder ladies because they all had stories about their heritage. Appointments that should have taken just a few minutes lasted hours as I sat listening to the stories of the tribal culture. On the campus of the Sitting Bull College is an Interpretive Center and they have arranged for a speaker and a tour especially for us. The tour will include the famous Standing Rock that the reservation is named for and also Sitting Bull's burial site. We have a Tour Bus available so we can have some fun together on the way down and back. We will stop on the way back at Prairie Knights for lunch (on your own) and we will be back in Mandan by 3:30. Of course we will have the Happy Hour and a Chili feed with a "Just Deserts" pot luck followed by a rousing game of Card Bingo. Saturday features a tour of the Governor's Mansion and a choice of either the ND Heritage Center or the United Tribes International Pow Wow both of them are free if you happen to be over 65 years old. For dinner on Saturday we are featuring Pulled Pork sandwiches with coleslaw and probably the left over deserts from the night before. Followed by a trivia game."

Yes, I haven't been able to get a confirmation on Shane Balkowitz and Duane thinks that we should have a bus to go to Sitting Bull college and back including going to the casino for a couple of hours. (lunch, you know) The bus would cost \$33 per person and would include \$5 in play at the casino.... Do you think that would make the overall cost too much? As it stands we have the tour and talk including the Sitting Bull gravesite and such that will get us back to Mandan at about 3:30. Then happy hour with supper and then card bingo. Win back some of the money you lost at the casino.... and then on Saturday the meeting and then we tour the old Governor's mansion and everyone can choose to go to the Heritage Center or to the United Tribes Pow Wow with Supper and a game time later..... Trivia....

Please respond as I am new to this hosting stuff and i am somewhat concerned committing to the bus when I don't know how many people we are going to have show up.... **Please let Karen Grimm know if your coming to the Mandan Rally**

From: Duane Hellman : djhiah@aol.com
I guess I can talk about the Campground layout.

First I would like to say--I hope we don't have enough sites for everyone--The four rally's We had at our place in the past there were 40 + coaches that showed up, lets match that for old time sake and fill up all 26 sites that are reserved.

This Camp Ground is set-up for "Zipper Parking" that means there is one island for two coaches. If you pull in and there is a coach already parked pull in on his drivers side facing the opposite direction and pull foreword so your utility compartment in next to the utility island. Each one has 2 sewer outlets, 2 electric boxes (each has 50,30 and 20 amp plugs) but only one water hydrant, so have a "Y" connection to share with your neighbor. The first 16 to show up get "full hookups" the next 10 will have electric only.

See you all in Mandan !!!!!

Duane Hellman

(Something Gene Grimm Overheard in Minot)

Overheard at FMCA's 100th International Convention in Minot

I've sure gotten old!

I have outlived my feet and my teeth.

I've had two bypass surgeries, a hip replacement, new knees, fought prostate cancer and diabetes. I'm half blind.

I can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine.

I take 40 different medications that make me dizzy, winded, and subject to blackouts.

I have bouts with dementia, have poor circulation, and can hardly feel my hands and feet anymore.

I can't remember if I'm 85 or 92.

I've lost all my friends, but thank God –

"I still have my driver's license!"

From Becky Sommers:

I plan to bring all my secretarial stuff to the rally to turn over to the new secretary . You can add a note in the newsletter as to how much I have enjoyed being the secretary for the last 16 years and sorry that I can't continue. Thank you everyone for putting up with me and my mistakes over the years!

(We all thank Becky for all the hard work she has put into the success of the Ramblin' NoDaks, John)

See you in Mandan.

Becky Summers

From Pam Meier:

Hello to all the Ramblin' NoDaks:

Thank you to the 51 in our group that volunteered for serving donuts and coffee in Minot. What a great bunch we have!! Many many compliments! You are all great!

Pam Meier

**ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD AT MANDAN RALLY
PRESENT OFFICERS ARE LISTED BELOW**

OFFICE	PRESENT	NEW
President -----	Gene Grimm	_____
Vice President -----	Butch Wood	_____
Secretary -----	Becky Sommers	_____
Treasurer -----	Karen Grimm	_____
Newsletter Editor --	John Ringland	_____
Parliamentarian -----	Karen Grimm	_____
FMCA National Director --	Butch Wood	_____
FMCA Asst. Director -----	Larry Gjerstad	_____
MAC Representative -----	Gene Grimm	_____
Chaplains - Alice Gunter, Shirley Sommers, Jenean Baumann		_____ _____
Security -----	Bill Sommers	_____
Nominating Committee - John Ringland, Ardell Lynne, Karen Grimm		_____ _____
Web Master - Pam Meier		_____

**REGISTRATION
MANDAN SEPTEMBER RALLY
5 - 8 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Rally fee per coach	\$ 5.00
Building-use Fee per coach	\$ 10.00
Racing Assoc Campground fee \$81 3 nights	\$ _____
Breakfasts (3) \$10.00 per person x _____	\$ _____
Dues \$15.00 (if you need to renew)	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____

Name _____

**Send registration to: Karen Grimm
410 1st Ave
Hickson,ND 58047-5136**

PH: 701/371-3093 **by** **AUGUST 29, 2019**

MANDAN SEPTEMBER RALLY

SEPTEMBER 5-8

**Racing Assoc Campground 2500 Long Spur Trail Mandan,ND
Mtg room-Midway Lanes, 4696 (3327) Memorial Hwy, Mandan
26 Campsites have been reserved at \$27/night with 50-A service
WITH FIRST 10 GETTING FULL HOOK-UP SERVICE
Annual Elections Hosts: Swenson's, Hellman's**

Thursday: Arrive and park, supper on your own, evening of visiting

**Friday Events:
Breakfast**

A tour at Standing Rock at 10:30am (Line up at 9:30 or bus) and a stop at Prairie Knights Casino for lunch on your own and relaxation after the tour in Fort Yates. Bus should be available for tour \$33.00 ea.

The PowWow is also taking place on Friday and Saturday in Bismarck. Entry fee is free for over 65yrs of age.

**Friday Night Pulled Pork Sandwiches with pot luck additions
Games and Visiting**

**Saturday Events:
Business Meeting at 9am with election of Officers**

**A possible tour of Shane Balkowitsch "Wet Plate Ambrotype
Photography Studio" in Bismarck at 2703 Big Sky Circle.**

Tour of the Governor's Mansion on 4th and Ave B in Bismarck.

Heritage Center could follow Governor's Mansion tour.

Saturday Night Chili Feed with "Just Desert" pot luck

Sunday: Breakfast & Church