

SOUTHWEST SUN CHASERS

Another great weekend is in the history books. Nestled in the Sacramento Mountains is Timberon, a quaint little town about 30 miles (and 52 minutes) from Cloudcroft. Yes, 52 minutes. The winding road with a 30-35 mile per hour speed limit feels like it's never going to end, but it does, and then you find yourself at the Circle Cross RV Park. Mother Nature was trying to wreck havoc on the trip, and we were questioning whether we'd even be able to make the trip. First the wild fire in the Three Rivers area and then the dumping of 6 inches of snow in Cloudcroft had some of us rethinking the decision to head to Timberon. Highway 82 out of Alamogordo was closed off to all but 4x4's on Thursday morning. Those of us who wanted to head up there Thursday night changed our minds and waited on Friday.

The Masseys and Mendez' decided to depart Thursday evening as planned but spent Thursday night in Alamogordo due to the late start, and yes, it was cold. They enjoyed a great dinner at Margo's, a "must stop and eat here every time we pass through Alamogordo" restaurant. The Indian Fry Bread was delicious. Friday morning started out a bit "chilly;" Wilson's propane tank was frozen. However, the day turned out great, the roads were clear & open, the snowy landscape was beautiful, and the drive up the mountain was fine. The rest of us weren't too far behind.

Circle Cross was found to be in excellent condition, considering the park had been closed for over a year. Ashli greeted everyone and made us feel welcome.

After everyone arrived, we gathered at the Beaulieus, and Ginny brought out a Sangria Seltzer (Total Wine recipe) which was an instant hit (keep an eye out for the recipe in a newsletter). The afternoon was cool, so we all just added another layer to keep warm. No one wanted to retire to their rigs. Our potluck dinner was on the park porch. The hosts allowed us to have the gas firepit going, and a few of us settled ourselves near the fire. Dinner was fabulous as always with more than enough food to go around. We had chili, Eldorado stew, quiche, a soup, tortilla rolled sandwich bites, sour cream pound cake with strawberries & whipped cream, and more. What a spread!

Saturday, we pretty much spent the day relaxing at the park. The Juárez' took a day trip down to the waterfalls. Martin returned with the coolest little "squishy ball" which somehow disappeared later that evening after dinner. Dolores made delicious margaritas. Ginny shared another drink recipe (courtesy of Dolores via Specs) which again turned out to be a crowd pleaser.

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**Camping:
When you
spend a small
fortune to live
like somebody
poor.**

Cool Funny Quotes.com

That drink recipe (Mardi Gras King Cake shots) was posted in the March newsletter. We basically just enjoyed the beautiful weather and each others' company. Of course, we kept moving our seats back and forth between the sun and the shade. All our 4-footed fur babies were basking in the sun as well. At one point, Tim made a comment about the way Buster and Baby (Mendezes Chihuahuas) were eyeballing Chewie (big furry Hodor for Game of Thrones fans), and Wilson responded they were like raptors trying to figure out how to take him on. They all got along well with each other though.

Bill and Wilson took a trip into Timberon on electric bikes. They rode by the New Mexico's Grower Cup ("pot" fest) and up to the golf course and fishing pond. Wilson stated he was giving himself a heart attack trying to pedal the bike in order to keep up with the electric power. Tim and Wilson played a game of Corn Hole. Some of us took siestas. Some of us shared stories of past trips and trips to come. Basically, it was a day of relaxation.

Dinner Saturday evening was better than Friday, if that's even possible. There were ribs, the best green beans ever, baked sweet potatoes, Jambalaya, chicken in cream sauce with quinoa, a fine broccoli casserole, Barbara's "everything" salad (I need this recipe Barbara for a newsletter), roasted peppers, rolls, scalloped potatoes, the rest of the sour cream pound cake with strawberries & whipped cream, and a scrumptious caramel Tres Leches cake. Needless to say, no one went hungry.

Sunday morning, most of us planned on heading home. Just before heading out, the group had slide and water leaking issues. Thank goodness, Tim had his "McGyver" kit with him. The situations were resolved – watch out for pesky tree branches getting caught in your slides. Tim returned to his own rig to finish prepping for his departure...and...yup, his slide wouldn't come in either. After about an hour of troubleshooting and emptying out the belly of the RV to get to power, he just bypassed the problem, got the slide in, and was finally on the road home. He and Ginny were definitely contemplating staying one more night and calling in sick to work Monday morning. Lynne had extra dog food (thanks, Lynne), and we had plenty of leftovers from Friday and Saturday.

Those of us heading home had to deal with the wind gusts (especially between Alamogordo and El Paso), but we all arrived home (somewhat exhausted from the wind-battling drive) without incidence. Bill & Cindy and Charlie & Lynne stayed one more night enjoyed the beautiful spring breezes in Timberon.

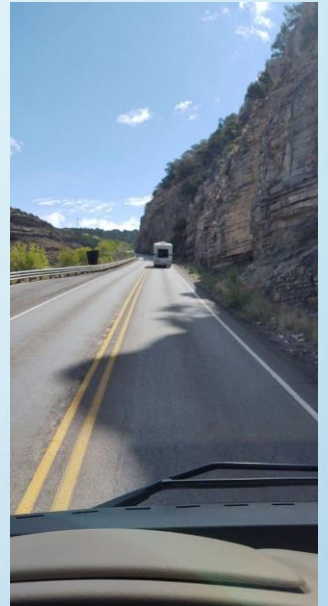
I think most agree now that Circle Cross has re-opened, and Ashli is doing such a fine job of managing the facility, this park is on the "return" list. There are plans for repairs and upgrades in the future. We were not disappointed with the daily deer visits either.

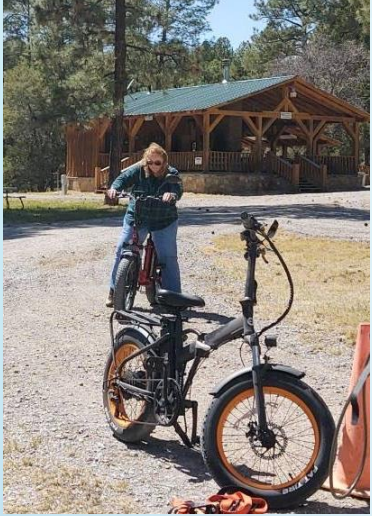


Spending the night in Alamogordo and dinner at Margo's



Into the mountains we go! SNOW!!







Just chillin'



Getting ready for dinner



No complaints here, Boss!



- JUNE 9-13, 2021 ALBUQUERQUE, NM
- JUNE 16, 2021 MONTHLY MEETING (LOCATION TBD)
- JULY 1-5, 2021 MAYHILL, NM
- JULY 7-10, 2021 GILLETTE, WY
- JULY 21, 2021 MONTHLY MEETING (LOCATION TBD)
- AUGUST 13-16, 2021 FORT DAVIS, TX
- AUGUST 18, 2021 MONTHLY MEETING (LOCATION TBD)
- SEPTEMBER 2-6, 2021 LYMAN LAKE, AZ
- SEPTEMBER 15, 2021 MONTHLY MEETING, (LOCATION TBD)
- SEP 30 – OCT 4 FREDERICKSBURG, TX

UPCOMING OUTINGS (CLICK ON THE LINKS FOR MORE INFORMATION):

- **JUNE 9-13, 2021** (WED-SUN): [ENCHANTED TRAILS RV PARK & TRADING POST](#) – 14305 CENTRAL AVE NW, ALBUQUERQUE, NM (505) 831-4244. (269 MILES). THIS IS THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN MOTORHOME ASSOCIATION REGION 1 RALLY. RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE DIRECTLY WITH THE CAMPGROUND; HOWEVER, AN AGENDA AND INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THE [RMA CHAPTER NEWSLETTERS](#).
- **JULY 1-5, 2021** (THU-MON): [DEER SPRINGS RV RESORT](#) – 2112 RIO PENASCO RD, MAYHILL, NM (127 MILES). RESERVATIONS ARE BEING TAKEN AT THIS TIME (575-687-3464). JUST A REMINDER – THIS PARK FILLS UP QUICKLY.
- **JULY 7-10, 2021** (WED-SAT): CAM-PLEX MULTI-EVENT FACILITIES, GILLETTE, WY (978 MILES). THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL CHAPTER OUTING; HOWEVER, ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. BILL WILL ATTEND AS OUR NATIONAL DIRECTOR. REGISTRATION COMING SOON.
- **AUGUST 13-16, 2021** (FRI-MON): [DAVIS MOUNTAIN STATE PARK](#) – TX-118 N., PARK RD. 3, FORT DAVIS, TX (206 MILES). GROUP RESERVATIONS WERE MADE JANUARY 27TH AND ARE CLOSED. INDIVIDUALS STILL WANTING TO ATTEND NEED TO CHECK AVAILABILITY AND MAKE THEIR OWN RESERVATIONS.
- **SEPTEMBER 2-6, 2021** (THU-MON): [LYMAN LAKE STATE PARK](#) – 11 MI. S. OF ST. JOHNS ON HIGHWAY 191, ST. JOHNS, AZ (316 MILES – TIME ZONE DIFFERENCE). INDIVIDUALS STILL WANTING TO MAKE RESERVATIONS NEED TO CHECK [HTTPS://AZSTATEPARKS.COM/LYMAN-LAKE/](https://azstateparks.com/lyman-lake/) FOR AVAILABILITY.
- **SEPTEMBER 10-12, 2021** (FRI-SUN): [BOOT HILL RV PARK](#) – 1 DOG RANCH ROAD, ALAMOGORDO, NM (575)439-6224 (96 MILES). THIS IS DURING THE ALAMOGORDO BALLOON FESTIVAL. AT THIS TIME, HADLEY STATES THEY SHOULD HAVE ENOUGH SITES TO ACCOMMODATE US. DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO MAKE RESERVATIONS.
- **SEPTEMBER 30 – OCTOBER 4** (THU-MON): [THE VINEYARDS OF FREDERICKSBURG RV PARK](#) – 2647 N. US HIGHWAY 87, FREDERICKSBURG, TX (830) 992-1237 (499 MILES). THIS IS TO ATTEND THE FREDERICKSBURG [OKTOBERFEST](#).

DON'T FORGET TO LET TIM (WAGON MASTER) KNOW IF YOU ARE ATTENDING THESE EVENTS.

ENCHANTED TRAILS

ITINERARY

- JUNE 9
HEAVY HORS D'OEUVRES
OLIVE OIL SAMPLING & PRESENTATION
- JUNE 10
BREAKFAST
TURQUOISE MUSEUM TOURS
DINNER
- JUNE 11
COFFEE, YOGURT & FRUIT
INDIAN PUEBLO CULTURAL CENTER TOUR
OLD TOWN ALBUQUERQUE TOUR
DINNER ON YOUR OWN
BRING FAVORITE DESSERT AND GAMES
- JUNE 12
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
BBQ LUNCH
CHAPTER VS. CHAPTER GAMES
POTLUCK DINNER
AFTER DINNER GAMES
- JUNE 13
COFFEE & DONUTS
DEPART

RALLY HOSTS

- **ALBUQUERQUE, NM** ~~~~ RMMA
(JUNE)
- **MAYHILL, NM** ~~~~~ BEAULIEUS
(JULY)
- **FORT DAVIS, TX** ~~~~~ LINVILLES
(AUGUST)
- **LAKE LYMAN, AZ** ~~~~~
(SEPTEMBER)
- **ALAMOGORDO, NM** ~~~~
(SEPTEMBER)
- **FREDERICKSBURG, TX** ~~
(SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER)
- **TUCSON, AZ** ~~~~~ RMMA
(OCTOBER)
- **RODEO, NM** ~~~~~
(NOVEMBER)
- **CARLSBAD, NM** ~~~~~
(DECEMBER)



Please sign
up to host a
Rally!!



NO MAY
BIRTHDAYS

CELEBRATION
TIME...COME ON!



NO MAY
ANNIVERSARIES

Just for Giggles:

A man and his wife were driving their RV across Florida

... and were nearing a town spelled K - I - S - S - I - M - M - E - E.
They noted the strange spelling and tried to figure how to pronounce it - KISS-a-me; kis-A-me; kis-a-ME.

They grew more perplexed as they drove into town. Since they were hungry, they pulled into somewhere to eat. At the counter, the man said to the waitress, "My wife and I can't figure out how to pronounce this place. Will you tell me where we are, and pronounce it very slowly so that we can understand?"

The waitress looked at him and said...

"Buuuurrrrrggggeeerrrr Kiiinnngggg."



A message from your president

I was thinking this week of why I became part of FMCA several years ago. Cindy and I were riding with Jill while on an outing at Elephant Butte, and she asked if we were members. I had not heard of FMCA at the time. She told us about the interesting national and regional rallies sponsored by FMCA and their regional associations. She told us about the chapter she travelled with yearly. And then, she told us about the trip insurance that comes with the annual membership. It was a week or so later I joined on-line. Not long after I received my membership packet at on-line access as all of you have received.

This is when I started reading about the regional associations and all the activities that are sponsored by them. The more I read and spoke with individuals invested in FMCA and RMMA, the more interested I became.

Last July-October, I worked with several of our current chapter members to form Southwest Sun Chasers. We worked around Covid and came up with a schedule of outings and monthly meetings. We had the opportunity to visit with other chapters and RMMA officers in Camp Verde, AZ; Benson, AZ; and Tucson, AZ.

Coming up, we have the opportunity to participate in the RMMA Region 1 Rally this June in Albuquerque, NM. This is followed by FMCA's 103rd International Convention and RV Expo, Gillette, WY. Even later this year, there will be the Rocky Mountain FMCA Area Rally, Tucson, AZ during October. Maybe I should have titled this "A Bunch in One" because as I sit writing this, I realize we are always welcome to participate in all of the RMMA Region rallies and all the rallies held by the many other regions.

I realize that none of us will make all of the many functions now available to us, but I find it awesome we have all these choices and opportunities, the support of three outstanding groups, and the many new friends we have made and are making with these outings.

My very best to all of you as this summer season approaches,

Bill M.

Southwest Sun Chasers FMCA Chapter complies with CFR Title 16 Chapter 1 Subchapter C Part 316, commonly referred to as the Can-Spam Act. You may opt-out of any email generated on behalf of the chapter by replying to the email in the Subject Line: OPT-OUT. You may adjust notifications sent from the chapter's website by adjusting the filters at the website to your specific needs.

MEET OUR MEMBERS

Barbara K.

My husband, Ernest, and I started our RV adventures in 1991 and toured all but two of the 48 states in our RVs plus four trips to Canada. In the 25 years of RVing, we had 5 different rigs: two fifth wheels, one Class A, and two Class Cs. It was when my husband started showing serious signs of Alzheimer's that I decided it was time to downsize so I could do the driving.

Our trips were anywhere from 2 weeks to 2 months at a time before we would return home. Our favorite place to return often was Colorado and especially the Telluride area. We also enjoyed our trip down the western U.S. coast highway and Northeast part of the U.S. with all the beautiful foliage.

Banff and Lake Louise and the Canadian Rockies were also worth four trips! One of those trips included taking a ferry to Vancouver Island and driving down the coastline to Victoria.

We had a few harrowing episodes on three trips but it could have been worse: flat tire on 5th wheel where I had to go 50 miles into Kanab to buy a tire, hitch-hiking over the mountain in Utah to get a tow truck when a wire came loose in our truck, and steps wouldn't retract in our motor home!

I love RVing and am still at it for as long as my health allows!!

Bob & Kathy

I started camping in 1986 while stationed in Rochester, New York. We bought a pop-up camper and camped throughout the Northeast and Canada; did this until 1989. I did a bit of camping after retirement from the Army in 1999 in a travel trailer. We picked it up again in 2017 when we bought our current coach. Angel Fire has been our favorite trip so far, and Yellowstone is on our bucket list.

Member News

- Jim and Lisa have a new home! They are the proud owners of a Dutch Star.
- Charlie's eye surgery had to be rescheduled. He had surgery this past Monday and is doing well – we're thinking of you, Charlie!
- Steve and Renate took a trip to Arkansas to attend a graduation. Happy trails!!
- Dolores' doctor appointment went well. She has a "green light" for her knee surgery. Yay!!

On cold nights when freezing may become an issue:

1. Fill the fresh water tank, disconnect and stow the fresh water line.
2. If you have a heater for the wet bay, turn it on.
3. If you have tank heaters turn them on.
4. If you have an Aqua-Hot system, follow instructions to heat the wet bay area.
5. Close all openings to the wet bay area with factory caps and a piece of Styrofoam.
6. Many coaches rely on the propane heater to heat the wet bay area. Turn on your propane heater.
7. Turn on your hot water heater.
8. Make sure all exterior bay doors are closed.
9. If equipped, heat pumps will not provide heat to the wet bay area.



Places to Visit

Grand Canyon National Park

When visiting the Grand Canyon, stay at the Grand Canyon Railway RV Park in Williams, AZ, walk to the historic train depot, and take a train to the Grand Canyon. Sites are big-rig friendly and equipped with 30/50 AMP power, water, sewer hook-ups, and free WIFI. The park is open year-round and is located 2 blocks from Route 66.

GRAND CANYON RAILWAY RV PARK
WILLIAMS, ARIZONA



RECIPES TO SHARE



Coffee Cake

(submitted by Barbara K.)

Preheat oven to 350°F

Ingredients

- 1 cup sugar
- 2 sticks butter (or margarine)
- 2 eggs

Cream together the ingredients.

Then add the following, and mix until well blended

- 2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Pour half the batter into a greased 9x13 baking pan making sure to spread it around.

Then blend together:

- ½ cup sugar
- 1/3 cup brown sugar (packed)
- 1 tsp. cinnamon

Sprinkle half the sugar mixture on the first half of batter (in the pan). Pour remaining batter into pan and spread carefully using a knife or spatula. Top with remaining sugar mixture.

Bake at 350°F for 30 minutes. Check with a toothpick – if toothpick is clean, it's done. Otherwise, bake a little longer.



Seltzer Sangria

(submitted by Ginny – Total Wine recipe)

Ingredients

- 1 orange
- 1 lemon
- ½ Granny Smith apple
- 1 cup watermelon
- 1 cup strawberries
- ½ cup blueberries
- ¼ cup agave syrup
- 1 bottle white wine
- 3 cans Truly Wild Berry Hard Seltzer

Directions

Rinse all fruit – except the watermelon. Thinly slice the orange, lemon, and apple. Be sure to remove seeds from the fruit. Chop the watermelon into small cubes. Hull and half the strawberries. Add the fruit to your pitcher, and add the agave syrup. Pour in the white wine. Chill at least four hours (preferably overnight). When ready to serve, fill glasses halfway with fruit and wine. Top with the Truly hard seltzer.

NOTE: I used Tres Agaves – Agave Nectar Organic, Kia Ora Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc, and Truly Wild Berry Hard Seltzer. I did mix everything up the night before and chilled it overnight.

Corn Casserole (submitted by Barbara K.)

Preheat oven to 375°F

Ingredients

- 1 stick butter, melted
- 1 8-oz container sour cream
- 1 small can chopped green chiles
- ¼ cup chopped onion
- ¼ cup chopped bell pepper
- 1 can creamed corn
- 1 can whole corn (drained)
- 1 egg
- 1 box Jiffy Corn Muffin Mix



Directions

Mix all ingredients together. Put into a greased 9x13 pan. Bake at 375°F until browned on top.

Request to Signal users.

Please do not enable “message disappearing” on the Signal APP. It deletes the messages for everyone in the group. I frequently scroll back through the messages for information – especially when I am looking for pictures or outing comments to add to the newsletters. Thank you!!

Secretary's
Message



A note from your Wagon Master:

We had our first outing committee meeting. Thanks to all who attended and helped plan the 2022 outing schedule. We are contacting parks and researching locations. We will make information available as we have it

Did You Know... Memorial Day is an American holiday which honors those individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the U.S. Military.

Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day, originating in the years following the Civil War and was meant to honor those lives lost during the Civil War. It now commemorates American military personnel who have died in all wars.

For decades, Memorial Day was celebrated on May 30. In 1968, the Uniform Monday Holiday Act was passed by Congress, and Memorial day has since been celebrated the last Monday of May.

In 1971, it became an official federal holiday. Many people celebrate by visiting memorials and cemeteries. Family gatherings and parades also take place on Memorial Day often with military personnel and veterans' organizations participating.

Chicago, New York, and Washington, D.C. hold some of the largest parades. A red poppy is worn by some to remember the fallen. This tradition began with a WWI poem.

Unofficially, Memorial marks the beginning of summer, and people celebrate with parties, barbecues, and long vacations.

General John A. Logan, the “founder” of Decoration Day (Memorial Day) originally chose May as it was a day on which no Civil War battles had taken place. He declared that “Americans should lay flowers and decorate graves of the war dead ‘whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land.’”

More than 20 towns claim to have held the first Memorial Day; however, it was in 1966, when President Lyndon B. Johnson signed recently passed legislation declaring Waterloo, NY as the “official” birthplace of Memorial Day.

MAY MONTHLY MEETING

Meeting was held at Landry's and called to order by Bill at 7:00 PM. Lisa led us in prayer and Bob led us in the Pledge. April minutes were reviewed and accepted. Treasurer's Report was presented. Dues were collected. There were no birthdays or anniversaries to celebrate in May. Bill covered information he received from the FMCA Director's meeting and the RMMA meeting. See the minutes for the information. Tim went over the rest of this year's outings/rallies and the 2022 Outings/Rallies Schedule. We still need a location for February, or we need to change the weekend since Alpine has Cowboy Poetry the weekend we chose, and sites are already limited. The topic of making reservations (group vs. individual) was brought up with some suggestions as to how to go about accomplishing this. Item needs to be placed on agenda for a future meeting. It was suggested we choose a different location to meet next month. Ginny stated she would check with West Texas Chophouse. Other suggestions were Famous Dave's, Great American on Yarbrough, or Gabriel's on Giles. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.



You can submit to Ginny: virginia.beaulieu@att.net. I truly welcome your feedback and any recommendations.

Your Officers: Don't hesitate to contact us if you need anything.

William (Bill) Massey: President & National Director.	915-497-6255
Wilson Mendez: Vice-President & Alternate National Director. . . .	915-850-3774
Kathy Linville: Treasurer	915-644-3465
Ginny Beaulieu: Secretary	915-217-6962
Tim Beaulieu: Wagon Master	915-217-6904
Historian: VACANT	
Sandy Sweeney: Sunshine & Care:	505-862-6254

Websites: click on the title to access the site

[Southwest Sun Chasers](#)
[Rocky Mountain Motorhome Association \(RMMA\)](#)
[Family Motor Coach Association \(FMCA\)](#)