

Contributed by Lynn Laviana



[Southwest Sun Chasers](#)



[Southwest Sun Chasers Facebook Group](#)

# NEWSLETTER

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- Please mark your calendar!
- Our Annual Chapter Meeting will be held via Zoom on **May 10, 2023, at 6:00 PM (MST)**.

# ANNUAL MEETING

Please check your email for the Zoom link information



- RC Racing Weekend

Some of our Southwest Sun Chasers had an spontaneous outing in El Paso, TX, April 14-16, 2023. One of our members, Brian Dickey is a RC Race Car enthusiast and has been racing cars for 35 years.

It was amazing to watch the process. After each race, he would make adjustments to the car steering and suspension. The intricacies of these cars are amazing! And Michelle Dickey (Sassy to her friends) was a great pit crew.

Everyone showed up around noon on Friday, and "circled the wagons" so we'd have a center courtyard between the RV's. The wind was going full force, which made it difficult to grill Brian's hamburgers, so we did eat inside the Telford's RV. Saturday was beautiful with very little wind, so we all enjoyed the time to relax, watch the races, and get a little sunburnt. Brian did well and got 4<sup>th</sup> place overall. Sunday, we broke camp and all headed home after another great outing.

Contributed by Lisa Telford

Photos by Janet Walker













# Have you become a member of:

Follow us on  
**facebook**



Southwest Sun Chasers Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/780443262928109>

**AND**

 **Signal**

Southwest Sun Chasers Signal Text Group

Add the app to your Phone/Computer: [Signal.com](https://signal.com)

And then go to:

[https://signal.group/#CjQKIIZz8gN6VsPAJTGOAt0GroaEqT4LaoiEzJTPeWn65rdmEhDMkq3TSQuQLPeE\\_7H4F42w](https://signal.group/#CjQKIIZz8gN6VsPAJTGOAt0GroaEqT4LaoiEzJTPeWn65rdmEhDMkq3TSQuQLPeE_7H4F42w)

## Lucky 13!

- Cindy and Bill Massey attended the FMCA 106<sup>th</sup> International Convention and Expo, Lucky 13, in Perry, GA. Bill represented our chapter as our chapter President and Cindy as our National Director. With almost 2,000 coaches and many vendors there was much to do: Entertainers, Kenny Ray Horton, Kazual Mania, Tom Becker, Ladies Luncheon, Block Parties, Chapter Fairs, Volunteering, Meetings, Seminars, Vendors, Silent Auction, AIM Dinners & Entertainment and so much more! Cindy and Bill also volunteered to help with the convention security. Cindy an entrance gate to the RV exhibits, checking credentials to make sure everyone entering the exhibit area was authorized. Bill was the convention security captain and helped make sure all security volunteers knew their schedules and made sure that all security positions were manned.















Camp Verde, AZ-Zane Grey RV Park,  
May 25-30, 2023

Santa Fe, NM-Santa Fe Skies  
RMMA Region 1 Rally

June 21-25, 2023

(Don't forget the Pre-Rally Starting June 19)

Taos, NM-Taos Monte Bello RV Park  
June 25-30, 2023

Durango, NM-Oasis RV Resort (Roberts Resorts)  
June 30-July 5

Gillette, WY

107<sup>th</sup> FMCA Annual Convention  
August 23-27, 2023

Angel Fire, NM-Angel Fire RV Resort  
August 31-September 5, 2023

Deming, NM, Little Vinyard RV Park  
November 22-27, 2023



Visit: [Southwestsunchasers.weebly.com](https://southwestsunchasers.weebly.com) for more information



# May 25-30, 2023



Camp Verde, AZ

[Zane Grey RV Park](#)



**June 25-30, 2023**  
**Taos, NM**

# Monte Bello RV Park



[Monte Bello RV Park](#)  
[Telephone: \(575\) 751-0774](#)

Joint Event with West Tiffin Voyagers





# Durango, CO



<https://www.robertsresorts.com/resorts/oasis-durango/>

June 30-July 5, 2023

## Natchez Trace Parkway



We began to plan our Natchez Trace Parkway (NTP) Tour over six months ago. We had six coaches committed to going but as the RV gremlins jumped on board when it was time to go we had four. Those going began their travels from two parts of Texas and Georgia meeting up in Vidalia, LA a river town just across the Mississippi River from Natchez, MS. Natchez is the southern terminus for the NTP. The group spend several days in Natchez visiting historic antebellum homes, taking an open-air tour of the city, experiencing southern comfort food at several restaurants, visiting a local winery that makes wine from muscadine grapes, and visiting a local distillery. All this and of course visiting the many historical stops and markers on the NTP.

One day the group drove from Natchez to Port Gibson, MS, a site of a major Civil War battle. They learned of the significance of the Mississippi River was to moving goods to the north and the importance of who controlled the river at keys spots, such as New Orleans, Natchez, Port Gibson, and Vicksburg.

After a few days the group moved on to Vicksburg, MS. In Vicksburg they continued to enjoy southern food and may have had the best fried catfish, ever, at the Biscuit Company. While in Vicksburg the group toured by car the Vicksburg National Park and were treated to the firing of a Civil War type cannon. They visited the Coca-Cola Museum and learned that the cola was first bottled in Vicksburg, MS. It was interesting to learn how much the course of the Mississippi River has changed over the time of the 1700's to today and specifically the changes since the Civil War.



Moving on to the group's next stop was Timberlake Campground on the Ross Barnett Reservoir near Jackson, MS. Some took the time to visit sites on the NTP that were missed because of the detour taken of the NTP to visit Vicksburg. The group visited a local farmers market, some visited the Bass Pro Shop, while others took time to laundry. The highlight of this stop was the day trip to Laurel, MS where the group was treated to more southern style cooking at Pearl's Diner. The group took an open-air tour of the town that has been revitalized because of the hit TV show Home Town.

The group continued traveling the NTP stopping at many historical markers and learning about how the NTP was used a road for commerce by the people that forged our nation. Stopping in Tupelo, MS for a couple of nights, the group visited a local mead place. The group learned that mead is fermented honey. Needed supplies were purchased at a local Wal-Mart while the rain put dampers on visiting the local historical parks. Some took the time to take a day trip to Red Bay, AL to visit the Tiffin Motorcoach manufacturing facility and their paint facility in Belmont, MS. Did you know that over two hundred pounds of paint is applied to a Tiffin coach? Others took a driving tour of the Tupelo Buffalo Park and Zoo.



The group's last stop was in Waterloo, AL. The group visited the Shiloh Battlefield, named for a church that was on the battlefield. Here over 100,000 troops fought for two days during the Civil War with each side having a death count of over 1700 each. While in the area the group visited the Pickwick dam on the Tennessee River and of course enjoyed more southern style cooking for lunch. On Easter morning a few got up early to join the community of Waterloo for a sunrise service. The rain had finally quit, and it was a little cloudy, but we were treated to a wonderful service. The community invited us to their community center where a wonderful breakfast had been prepared. The group finished traveling the NTP by car visiting the many sites along the NTP. The travels ended with a meal at the Loveless Café, Nashville, TN which is only a couple of miles from the NTP northern terminus.

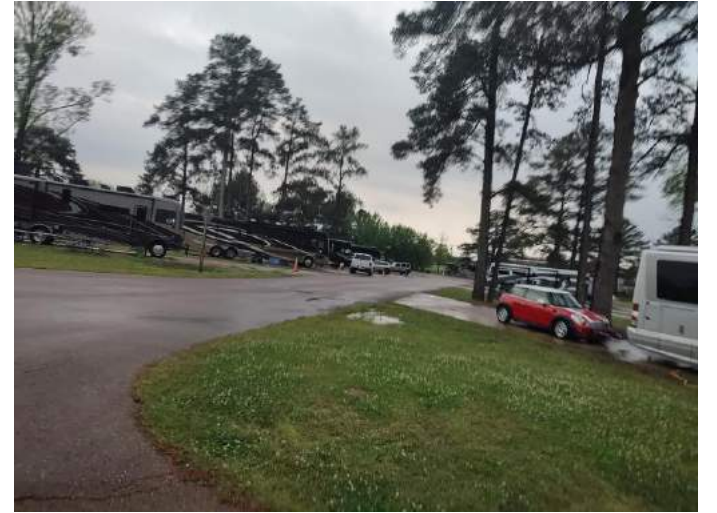
On Monday morning after being together for fourteen days everyone head off in different directions. One going east to visit the bourbon trail, another going home to east Texas, another going to St Charles, MO to visit family, and the last traveling west to meet friends in Las Vegas, NV.





















- Attached is a link to a wonderful article with pictures about the Natchez Trace Parkway. It has pictures of many of the places we visited and some we missed. The article was published by Tiffin Motor Homes, recently.





FMCA'S 107TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & RV EXPO

# Celebrating Sixty

AUGUST 23-26, 2023

CAM-PLEX MULTI-EVENT FACILITIES • GILLETTE, WYOMING

Gillette Registration

**OPEN**

<https://fmca.com/fmca-event-registration>



Email:

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WebPage: <https://southwestsunchasers.weebly.com>

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