

October 2021 Newsletter



Go to:
<https://southwestsunchaserfmcachapter.shutterfly.com>
 for our calendar of current events.

Next Chapter Meeting:
 October 27, 2021
 6 PM for Dinner
 7 PM for Chapter Meeting
 Shack Wings and Brew
 4726 Woodrow Bean, El Paso, TX

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Chapter President's Corner

As we approach our first-year anniversary as an FMCA Chapter, I thought back as to how and why we established the chapter. The simple answer was Covid! Over a year ago, most of us were ready to get out with our coaches and believed we could safely camp as a group. I especially wanted to be part of a larger national organization that could provide us with many opportunities for camping with our RVs. I remember that on a previous outing, Jill Parker told me about FMCA. I did a little research and presented the idea of forming an FMCA chapter to our little group of ten rigs. We all came together and formed Southwest Sun Chasers. We petitioned FMCA and were granted membership as a chapter. Since coming together we worked and accomplished many things. We submitted chapter logo ideas and picked our logo. We developed a set of operating procedures to guide the chapter. We incorporated the chapter with the Texas Secretary of State. We elected officers. We established a website. We established a monthly newsletter. Please continue to submit items for the newsletter. We recruited new members. We established a monthly chapter meeting. We picked monthly rally dates and locations. We attended RMMA functions and the FMCA convention in Gillette, WY. And most importantly we did what we set out to do, we safely camped at many locations throughout the southwest with each other, meeting new people, and having great fun. Each of you contribute to the success of our chapter. Thank you for a successful first year!

William "Bill" Massey

Chapter President



Jamie Erickson and his wife Galina

Meet Our Rocky Mountain Motorhome Association (RMMA)

President

AREA OFFICER:

From 2015-present, Senior Vice President, Rocky Mountain Motor home Association (RMMA)

From 2010-2015, Region 1 Vice President, Rocky Mountain Motor home Association (RMMA)

From 2016-2019 FMCA National committee member,

AREA COMMITTEE:

From 2008-present, I have been involved with the site selections, entertainment, food, activities, games, and all functions of Rocky Mountain Rambles

CHAPTER OFFICER:

From 2008-present, National Director, Wagon Master, Sergeant at Arms for the 4-Corners Ramblers, Farmington, New Mexico ,National Director Chaparrals.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIPS:

I belong to the Cuatro Estados and the Chaparral chapters and have been a member of both chapters since 2013.

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS:

My first year as an FMCA member was 2007, the same year as my first Rocky Mountain Ramble. I worked as a volunteer for parking and registration at the Ramble for two years. From 2009 to present, I volunteered and worked as head of food, activities, games, and coffee and doughnuts. As well as being a Rocky Mountain Motor home Association (RMMA) officer, so far I have served a total of nine years, and I plan on going for 29 years.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

I joined FMCA in 2007. I have been to eight international conventions as a chapter national director and volunteer. I have volunteered to work in coffee and doughnuts three times, trams twice, and an ice cream social once. I have served the past two years at the FMCA booth, Quartsite, Az.Helping A_VP, Jack and national officers.

Just finished 4th time as coffee captain at FMCA Rally chandler Az.

I am in charge of food for FMCA summer convention Gillette, Wyo. And went up for site visit, and will work with Doug on catering plus parking crew.

FMCA summer 2018, Wanted in Wyoming: Responsible for the food cateror, helped with ladies luncheon, involved with ice-cream social, and was a parker. Also committee meeting for 2019 elections.

From the Wagon Master

In this newsletter you will find information about many upcoming outing opportunities for 2022. Our chapter will participate in the 104th FMCA Convention Tucson, AZ during March 2022. Cindy and I along with Merle and Linda Parman attended the convention in Gillette, WY this year. Registration is already open for the March 2022 event. It is so close to us; this is an opportunity to attend an international convention and not have to drive a long distance. We will also participate in the RMMA Region 1 Rally in Santa Fe, NM in June 2022. Cindy and I and Linda and Merle Parman attended the Regio 1 Rally in Albuquerque this year. As Linda how much fun we had! Our chapter has never travelled to Santa Fe together. Registration is already open.

We chose locations closer to El Paso for January and March. Please make your reservations soon for these outings, as I am sure the parks will fill up soon.

Don't forget our Thanksgiving and Christmas rallies are just around the corner. Have you made your site reservations and reservations for the Thanksgiving dinner? The Christmas on the Pecos group tour reservations will be made during early October.

As you travel around the southwest, read articles about places, or find other information about locations and RV parks we have not visited, please send me the information. Lastly, please invite others to attend our chapter meetings and outings. We want to continue to grow the group with like minded RVers.

Upcoming Outings

Thanksgiving Rally

November 11/12-15

Stay Location: Rusty's RV Park, Rodeo, NM (Reservations Required)

Rally Host: Lisa and Jim Telford

Friday Night: RV Park sponsored potluck. Register at check-in, bring a side dish

Saturday Night: Catered Dinner provided by Chiricahua Desert Museum, historical presentation and

book signing by Bob Cavalier, social hour before dinner (Reservations and pre-payment are now due, \$53.00/person, payable to William Massey.)

Other events: TBD

Host: Telfords

Christmas on the Pecos

December 9-12

Stay Location: KOA Carlsbad, NM (Reservations Required)

Friday: Potluck at the KOA

Saturday: Dinner TBD, Christmas on the Pecos Riverboat Light Tour (group tickets will be purchased during October-reservations required)

Host: Needed

Elephant Butte, NM Rally

January 14-17, 2022

Stay Location: Elephant Butte Lake RV Resort (reservations required/ask for available discounts)

*The pool, game room, and meeting room are open, check resort website for updates.

Friday: Group Potluck

Other events: TBD

Host: Needed

Tucson Gem and Mineral Show

February 3-7, 2022

Stay Location: Casino Del Sol RV Park (reservations required-call for discount)

Gem Show info: <http://tucsongemshow101.com/>

*Many of the events across Tucson during this event required a commercial business pass or pre-registration. Talk to Cindy Massey for details.

She will be providing a list of shows, seminars, etc. that she will be attending.

Group dinners, etc.: TBD

Host: Needed

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Other events: TBD





CHRISTMAS ON THE PECOS December 11, 2021

Celebrate the holidays with an enchanting boat tour through a fairyland of twinkling light displays along the Pecos River. The 40-minute tours depart from the turn-of-the-century Pecos River Park in Carlsbad and take you past **panoramic views of illuminated islands, boat docks and backyards.** Display themes depict Santa's workshop, the Southwest desert and more as the reflections in the river create a **magical shimmering effect.** Christmas on the Pecos is considered one of the **top 100 "must-see events in North America."**

Please contact [Bill Massey](#) and let him know you would like to be part of the group reservations



Think about joining us during January 2022 in Elephant Butte, NM for a short weekend.

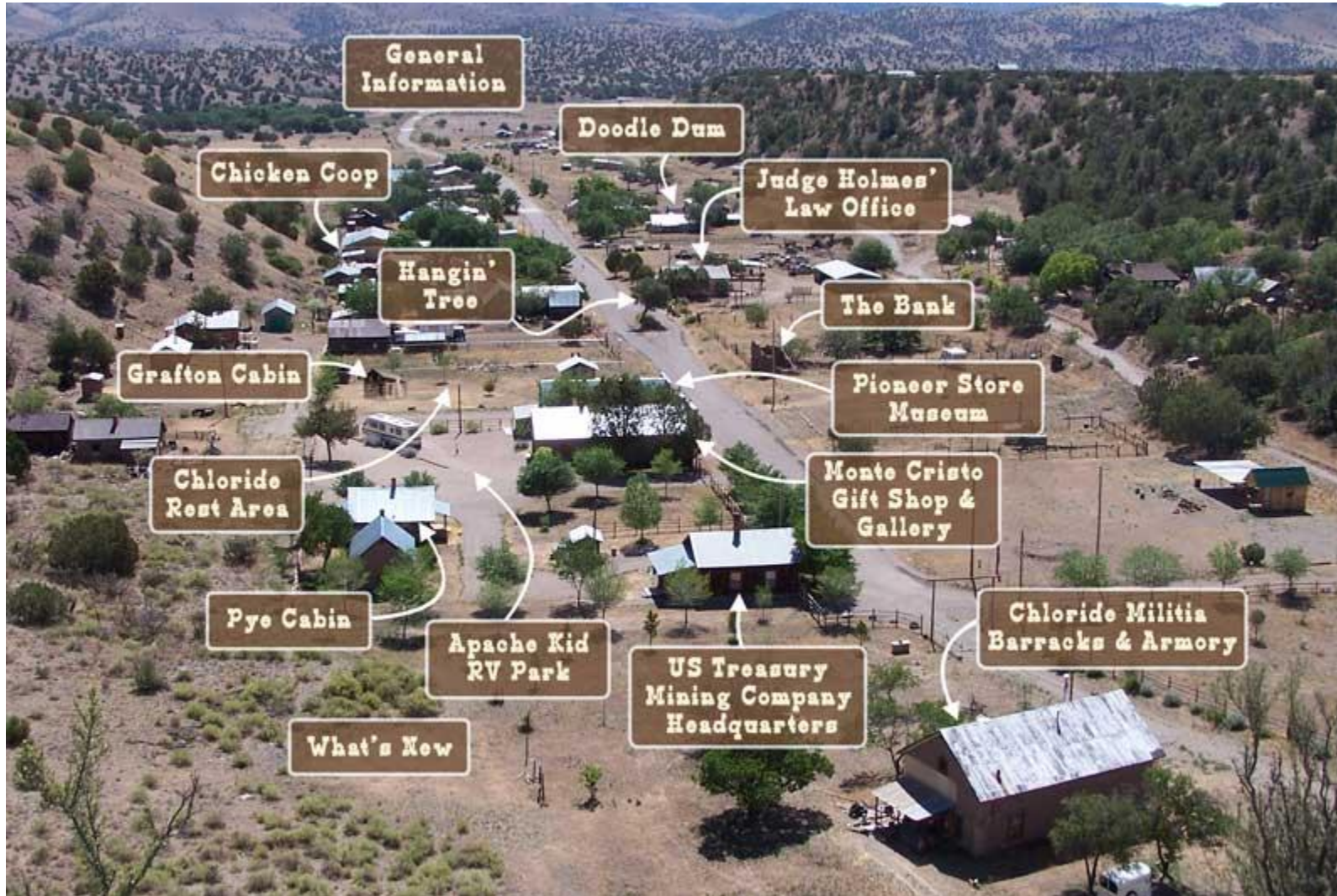
You will find some activity ideas on the next few pages.



Elephant Butte Lake

RV RESORT

Chloride NM



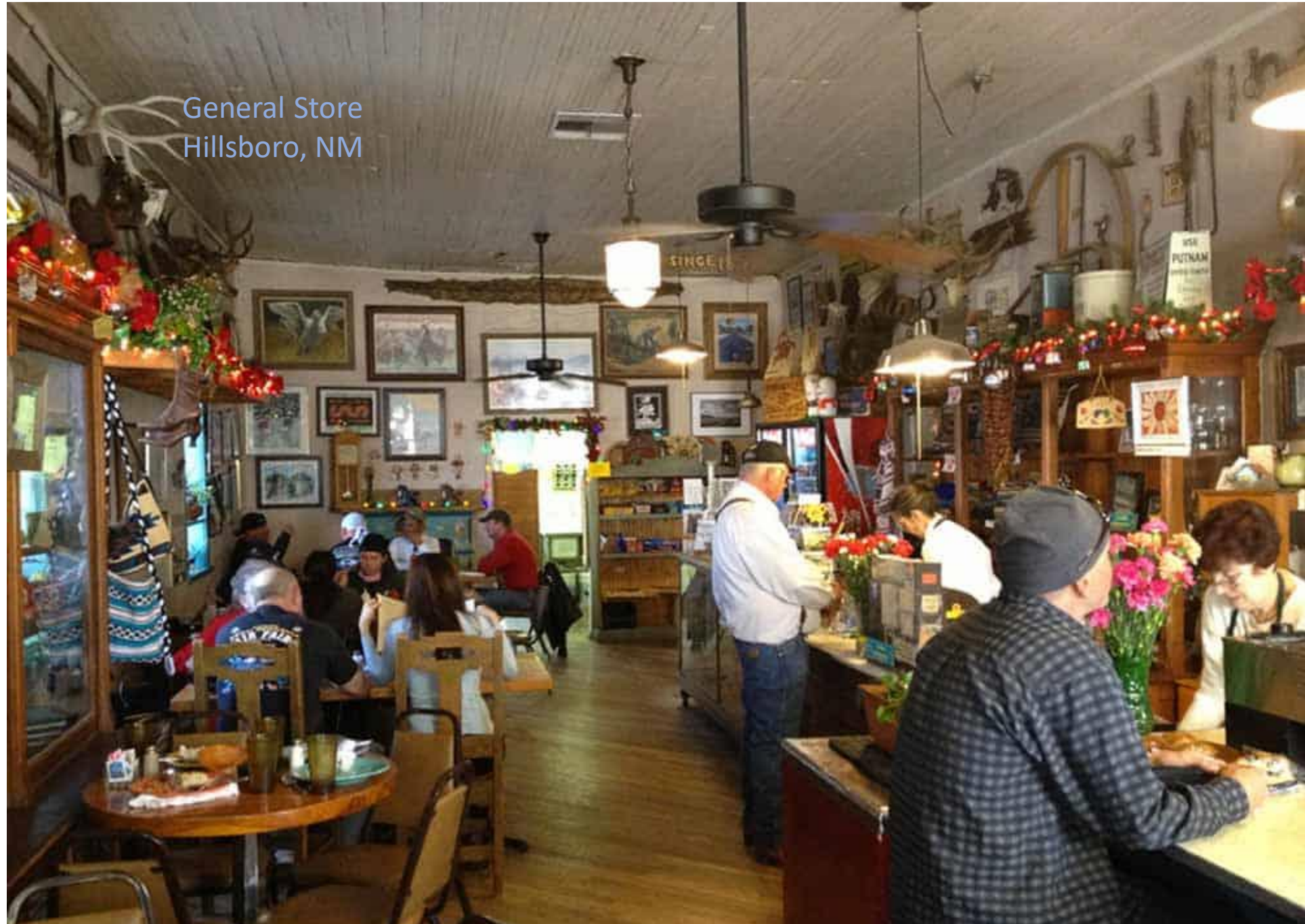


Dedicated in November 2009, the Hamilton Military Museum is located at Veterans Memorial Park, next to the Vietnam War Memorial replica and Walk of Education.

Through the generous donations of men and women who have served and their families in the armed forces, this museum and its contents are a living memorial and history of our country and the dedication of those who served. This is their story.

Many rare and educational exhibits may be found within the museum: historic war displays range from a military button collection to Buffalo Soldier memorabilia, and there's a special focus on local heroes.

General Store
Hillsboro, NM





- Geronimo Springs Museum



Village of Columbus, Camp Furlong, and Poncho Villa State Park
Columbus, New Mexico

Plan to join us for the Camp Furlong Days Celebration during March 2022!

- **Poncho Villa State Park Rally**

- March 11-13, 2022
- Stay Location: Poncho Villa State Park, Columbus, NM (Reservations required: <https://newmexicostateparks.reserveamerica.com/>)
- Host Needed:
- *Some will be there March 10-14, make reservations for the south loop of park.
- **It is expected that the park and Columbus will celebrate Camp Furlong Days
- ***We will plan a trip to the Pink Store, Palomas, MX for lunch or dinner, date TBD. If restrictions are lifted.

- **FMCA's 105th Annual Convention and Expo**

- March 23-27, 2022 (Early arrival: March 19-22)
- Stay Location: Pima County Fairgrounds
- I would like to encourage everyone to attend since this event is in our backyard.
- * RMMA will be the host area for this convention and I am sure they will be asking us to volunteer to help make this event a success.
- Pre-registration will be required for this event, but is not yet available.
- Host: FMCA

- **Fourth Avenue Street Festival**

- April 1-3, 2022
- Stay Location: Lazy Days KOA, Tucson (reservations required)
- Host: Needed
- Event Information: Not yet posted: [Fourth Avenue Street Fair - Tucson's Historic Fourth Avenue](#)

-

At approximately 4:00am on March 9, 1916, about 485 Mexican revolutionaries attacked the sleeping town of Columbus, New Mexico. Led by Mexican General Francisco “Pancho” Villa, the fighters crossed the border into the United States and took the small town and its adjacent military encampment, Camp Furlong, completely by surprise. The assault was the only ground invasion of the continental United States after the War of 1812. Ten American civilians and eight U.S. soldiers lost their lives before Villa’s troops had to retreat to Mexico.

A long period of Mexican political unrest and controversial American foreign policy fueled the historic invasion. The attack led to further contention between the United States and Mexico when President Woodrow Wilson ordered a punitive expedition into Mexico to capture Villa without first consulting the Mexican government. General John J. Pershing gathered several thousand US troops at Camp Furlong for the undertaking. This massive expedition, though ultimately unsuccessful, would prove critical in testing tactics and equipment that were essential to US military triumphs during World War I.



During the 1916 attack, Columbus citizens sought refuge in the Hoover Hotel, which remains standing today as part of the historic district.

Courtesy of Paul Garland, Flickr Commons



After the 1916 attack by Pancho Villa and his men, much of Columbus had been burned to the ground

Public Domain

- Today the town of Columbus and Fort Furlong National Historic Landmark district helps preserve and interpret this important heritage. Some of the district is included in New Mexico's Pancho Villa State Park. The district includes extant buildings from the time of Villa's raid and Pershing's military occupation, as well as historic ruins and remains, numerous exhibits, a museum, and a full-service visitor center.
- The 1916 raid of Columbus is only understandable within the context of Mexican and American socio-political affairs around the turn of the 20th century. From 1877 to 1911, Porfirio Díaz led a powerful dictatorship. During his time as the president of Mexico, he achieved great stability for the country and long-term peace, yet most Mexican civilians remained landless and poor. During this same period, thousands of Americans migrated south to Mexico to profit from Mexico's oil and other rich natural resources. By 1913, American investments in Mexico totaled around \$1 billion.
- Great political unrest began to settle in around 1913 when Francisco Madero overthrew Díaz, promising sweeping land reforms. Just two years later, Victoriano Huerta overthrew Madero. In the midst of the turmoil, American investors in Mexico insisted that President Woodrow Wilson intervene to restore order, a demand the United States government refused to satisfy. Instead, President Wilson declined to recognize Huerta's government and allowed international arms sales to revolutionaries like Venustiano Carranza and Pancho Villa, who opposed Huerta.
- Dissatisfaction and tensions between the two nations continued to mount, even after Venustiano Carranza overturned the Huerta regime in 1914. Villa himself refused to recognize the new government and continued his revolution even after the United States, his former arms supplier, extended formal diplomatic recognition to the Carranza administration. The following year, Villa and his troops took a further blow from the U.S. when Wilson allowed Carranzista troops to use the railroads in the southwestern United States to move reinforcements against Villa to Agua Prieta, just across the border from Douglas, Arizona. The result of this U.S. aid was a resounding Villista defeat at Agua Prieta on November 1, 1915.

- Although the exact reason for Villa's attack at Columbus, New Mexico is unknown, the theory is that Villa was mainly seeking revenge after the Agua Prieta incident. Villa also likely needed to capture necessary food, clothes, munitions and other supplies for the ever-dwindling band of revolutionaries.
- Before the night of Villa's attack, Columbus was much like any other small American border-town. Occasionally violence from the Mexican revolution would spill over and cause disruption, but the town was largely unfazed due to regular protection from a detachment of the US 13th Cavalry, stationed next door at Camp Furlong. This all changed the early morning of March 9, 1916. At approximately 4:00am, two bands of Villistas struck the sleeping town simultaneously. Hundreds of the Mexican raiders swooped into the streets on horseback, filling the air with rifle fire and shouts of "Viva Villa! Viva Mexico!" The assault took Columbus citizens completely off-guard, including the 350 Federal soldiers located nearby at Camp Furlong. As the Mexican attackers set fire to the town's main core and commercial district, many families fled in fear into the dark desert, leaving their homes to burn. Others sought refuge in the Hoover Hotel or old schoolhouse, thick-walled adobe buildings that were relatively bullet and fireproof.
- Troops at Camp Furlong were not quick to respond. Keys to the locks protecting stored munitions apparently were lost, so locks had to be smashed to gain access to necessary weaponry. Many of the fort's intricately designed and improperly tested machineguns ended up jamming. Finally, after an hour and a half of fighting, the US troops were able to respond to the attack with murderous crossfire, and the Villistas withdrew. Much of Columbus was in flames and 18 Americans and approximately 80 Mexicans lost their lives.
- In addition to the significant events of March 9, 1916, itself, the Columbus attack caused a punitive military reaction that only further complicated Mexican-American political relations. As public outcry regarding the attack swept the United States, President Wilson felt forced to retaliate. Without consulting Carranza or other Mexican leaders, the president commanded General John J. Pershing to lead a large military expedition into Mexico to capture Villa and prevent further raids.

- Thousands of US troops reached Columbus just days after the raid. The small, mostly destroyed town became a beehive of military activity. The Southwestern and El Paso Railroad Depot, built in 1902, had survived Villa's raid and became a critical point of entry for hundreds of trucks, motorcars, munitions and crates of supplies. The 1st Aero Squadron transported aircraft from Fort Sam Houston, Texas and established the United States' very first operational airbase to the southeast of town.
- General John J. "Black Jack" Pershing led his 10,000 troops on the 11-month, 500-mile pursuit of Villa into Mexico. Pershing's expedition has been dubbed the last of America's 19th century wars and the first of those in the 20th century because of its reliance on motorized power and airplanes, rather than on the horses that were used in previous military endeavors. As a result, equipment modernization and mechanical specialization during the time of the 1916-1917 expedition proved essential to U.S. military success during WWI.
- By early 1917, Villa had yet to be captured by Pershing's punitive expedition. Carranza's regular Mexican soldiers had attacked the US troops, demonstrating that Carranza opposed the expedition to capture Villa and threatening war between the United States and Mexico. President Wilson became convinced that the revolutionary was no longer a major threat to the United States and ordered Pershing and his troops to pull out of Mexico. The last members of Pershing's command marched into Columbus in February 1917, almost a year after Villa's initial raid.
- Though many of the pre-raid-era buildings in Columbus burned to the ground during the attack, several still stand today. Both the schoolhouse and the Hoover Hotel, which protected Columbus citizens during the raid, remain. The train depot and its associated pumphouse, section house, and customs house are still in place. Built c. 1902 by the El Paso and Southwestern Railroad, the structures played an important role in the commerce of Columbus before the raid, and military operations thereafter. Today the customs house serves as a visitor center for Pancho Villa State Park. The Columbus Historical Society restored the depot, which is now open daily as the Columbus Train Station Museum of community history. For more information, see the museum's [website](#).

Pancho Villa State Park is on the former site of Camp Furlong. Remnants of the John J. Pershing military era dot the landscape. These include the c. 1916 Camp Furlong Recreation Hall, the ruins of several adobe officers' quarters, and the nation's first military airfield, which is still in use today. The park provides extensive interpretive signage and exhibits throughout the district. A new 7,000-square-foot exhibit hall now houses artifacts and informative displays that tell the story of Columbus from 1910 through the beginning of U.S. involvement in World War I. Holdings include a full-size replica of a Curtiss JN-3 "Jenny" airplane, a 1916 Dodge touring car, historic artifacts, and military weaponry. An armored tank stands as a sentinel outside the facility.



Article Provided by NPR.GOV

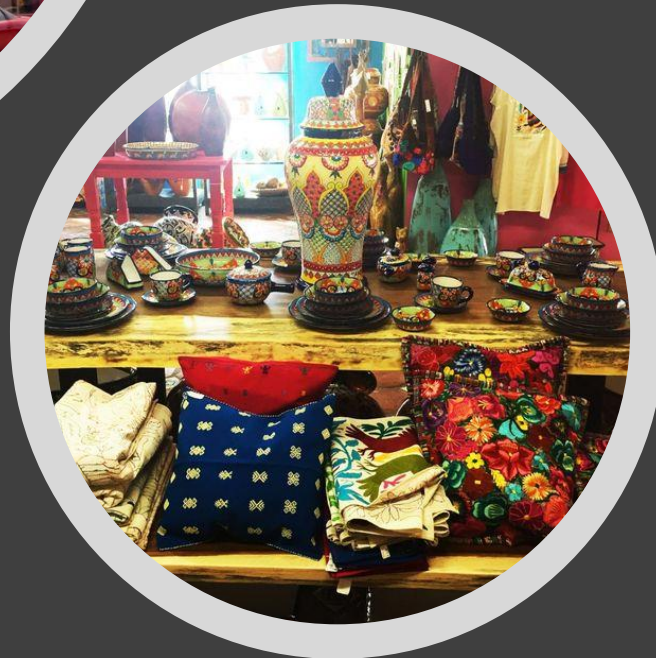
General John J. Pershing's punitive mission into Mexico sought to capture Pancho Villa after the 1916 attack on Columbus. Planes, such as this Curtiss JN-3 "Jenny" were used in military operations for the first time.

Public Domain



A Fun Place to Visit When Visiting Columbus, NM

- The Pink Store, Palomas, Mexico



THREE EASY REGISTRATION OPTIONS

Visit [FMCA.com](https://www.fmca.com)

Mail in the registration form, located in your monthly issue of *Family RVing* magazine or [download here](#).

call the FMCA Events Team at
[800-543-3622](tel:800-543-3622)

FMCA'S 104TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & RV EXPO

MARCH 23-26, 2022

PIMA COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS

TUCSON, ARIZONA



Provided by S&S Tire

- **Tire Siping Pros and Cons**

- Posted on August 27, 2013 in Tire Information

- Dear Tracy,

I am wondering if you can tell me what tire siping is? I have heard it improves traction and tire performance, and improves handling when driving on snow and ice. Friends of mine were talking about having their tires siped this fall, before the winter weather hits. Is this something I should be doing?

-Frank S.

- Dear Frank,

When tires are siped, it involves a process of cutting slices across the tire tread. The concept is that the slice opens up on the surface of the road, gripping the road and dispersing water to improve traction.

- The idea of tire siping goes back to the early 20's when John Sipe, a slaughterhouse employee, had problems with his shoes slipping on the wet floor. Sipe discovered that by cutting groves into the sole of his rubber shoe, he could greatly improve their traction. Sipe was so confident in his discovery that he had the concept patented and it became officially known as "siping." By the 1950's, tire manufacturers were using siping in tire tread designs. Today specialized siping patterns are used for a variety of tire types.

- There are varying opinions on as to whether or not after-market tire siping is beneficial. On the pro side, those who believe in tire siping say that that it offers real performance and safety benefits. There are actually tire siping machines that can do a variety of configurations for after-market tire modification. On the con side, many argue that today's tires already use siping in the way that there are designed and manufactured. There is a lot of engineering and performance testing behind modern tread design, and many think that there is no need to modify it. It is also said that after-market siping could void your tread-wear warranty.

- As to whether or not you should sipe your tires, your best bet will be to talk to your tire dealer who knows the type, condition, and age of your tires. It might make more sense to purchase a quality set of winter tires that are manufactured to incorporate siping features and benefits.

What Is Siping and How Is It Done?

Siping is the process of cutting thin slits across the surface of a tire to improve traction for [driving in snowy, wet or icy conditions](#). Siping can also help manage tire heat when the road is overly hot.

Siping is done by placing your tires (new or used) on a specially designed machine that rotates your tires while making small, nearly invisible 90-degree cuts in your tread. It's actually easier to tell if a tire is siped by the improvement in vehicle handling than by visual inspection.

Independent studies have found that siped tires help you stop your vehicle sooner.

Should I Get My Tires Siped?

Tire siping improves traction and braking, makes for a smoother ride, and prolongs tire life. Siping won't reduce tire performance in any way. The tire tread retains its toughness due to the patented spiral cutting process. This leaves uncut areas known as tie bars intact, keeping your tread strong.

Better Traction

The surface of your tire is made up of many smaller surfaces called tread blocks. These surfaces are especially important when it comes to icy or wet road conditions. Tread blocks get their gripping power from the numerous sharp surrounding edges. Siping provides even more of these gripping edges.



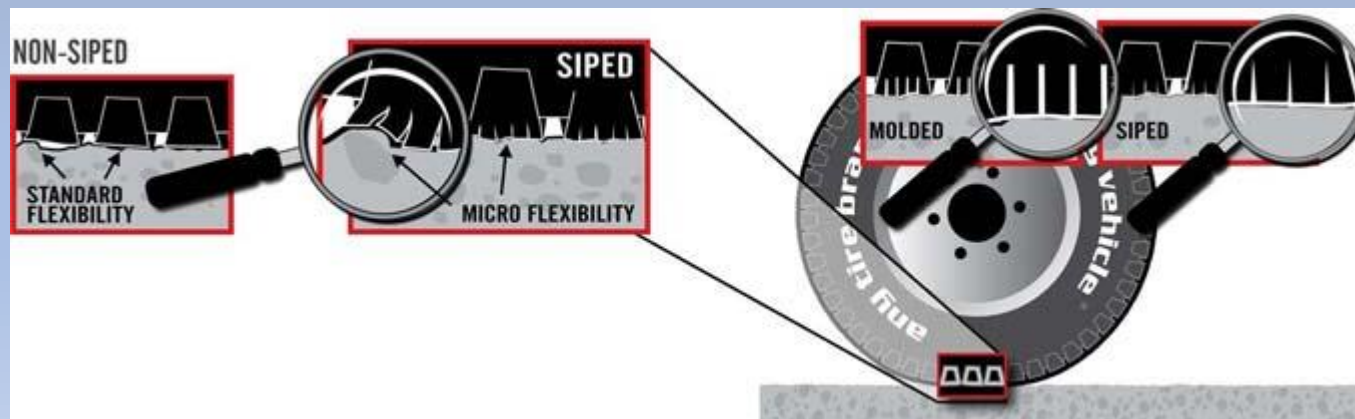
Improved Braking

Research has shown the most effective braking power occurs immediately prior to losing traction. Siping extends the window allowed for maximum braking power, by giving the existing tread a helping hand.

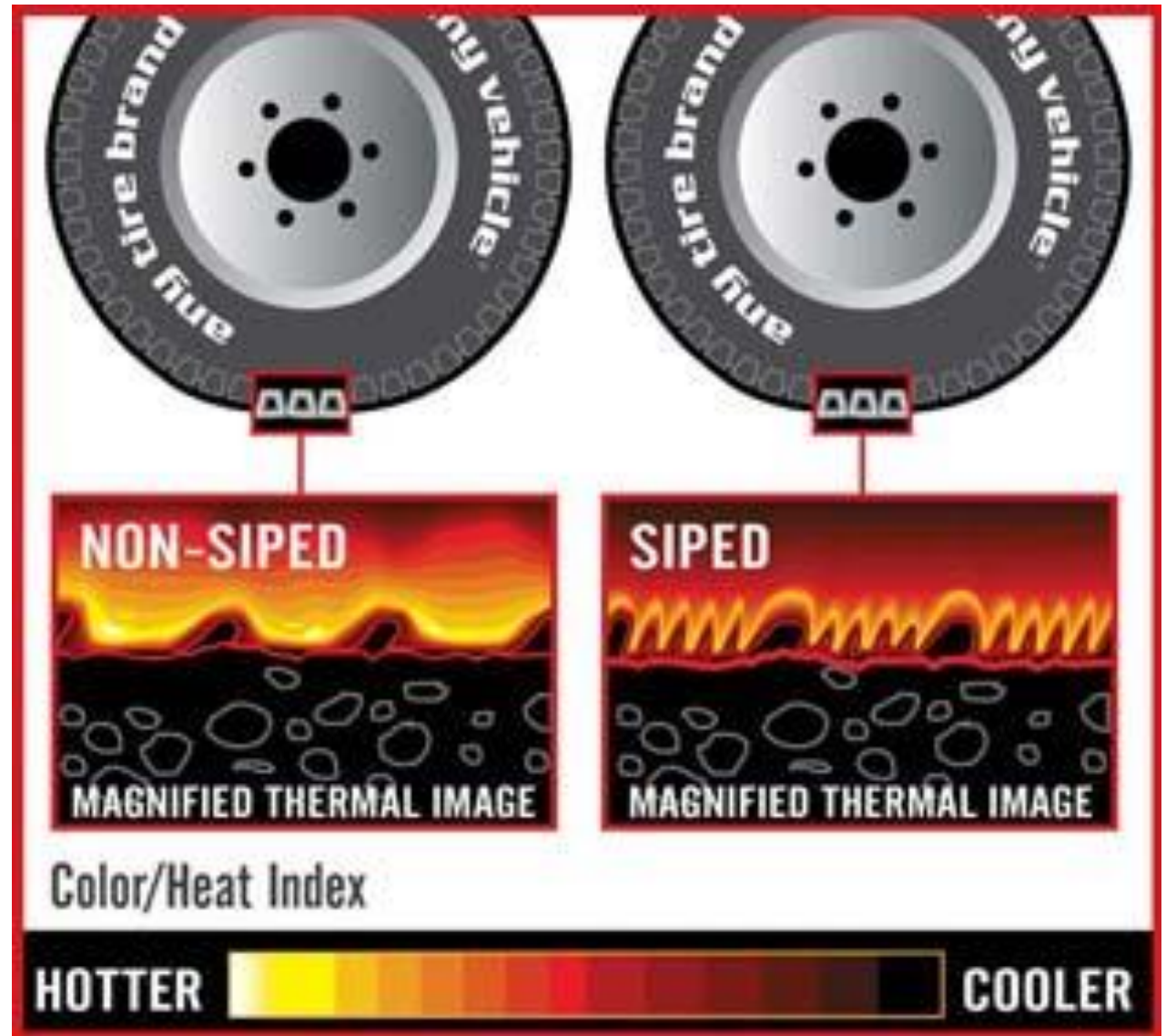


Smoother Ride

Your tires have to absorb impacts from the road's surface. When that surface is more coarse or rough, your tires have even more work to do. Siping gives your tires micro-flexibility, resulting in a smoother ride. This, in turn, reduces the wear on your tire's carcass (the tread, bead, sidewall, shoulder, and ply) and lengthens tire life.



- **Longer Tire Life**
- Heat generation is a common cause of rapid tire wear and even tire failure. While this heat is a natural result of friction, too much can be a negative.
- Siping reduces friction heat and its effect on your tire by allowing the tire to cool. The sipes act by isolating heat into small “corrals” and allowing air to pass between them, thereby dispersing the heat and naturally cooling the tire.



Why Don't My Tires Come Siped From the Manufacturer?

First, the siping process we use would be too expensive and time-consuming for manufacturers. Plus, typical factory siping leaves small, vacant gaps in the tire tread. The Les Schwab siping process creates gripping edges without gaps and without removing any rubber, allowing the individual sipes to support each other.



Article
Provided by:



<https://www.lesschwab.com/article/performance-tire-siping.html>



October Birthdays



Lisa Telford



October Anniversaries



Paul and Rebecca Tomicek



We don't have everyone's special dates, please share them with the editor so we can celebrate with you.

DID YOU KNOW???

- Standard RV insurance may not cover the items you put inside your RV? Items such as clothes, cameras, cookware, and all the items we store in our storage bays may not be covered. Many policies will direct you to rely on your homeowner's policy or your tow vehicle policy (if pulling a fifth wheel or bumper hitch unit). Of course, we hope we will never have to use it.



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Wilson Mendez: Vice-President & Alternate National Director 915-850-3774
Kathy Linville: Treasurer 575-644-3465
Lisa Telford: Secretary 915-238-8342

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