

May 2025 Wagon Tracks

Twentieth Century Wagontrainers, A Chapter of FMCA

TCW Schedule						
Start Day	Dates	Rally Name	Location	Host	Co-host	Sponsor
Thursday	June 5-9 2025	Seaside	Seaside Heights, NJ	Nick and Naomi Theisz	Rich Russo	TCW, KFBO, Jersey Gems
Thursday	September 4-7 2025	Seaside	Seaside Heights, NJ	Bob and Valerie Payne	Co-Host Needed	TCW
Thursday	May 14-17 2026	Lancaster	White Oak Campground, Lancaster, PA	Mary and Bill Burdge	Larry and Clarissa Sherrow	TCW
Friday	June 5-9, 2026 (Tentative)	60th Anniversary	Cape May, NJ	Being Planned	Being Planned	TCW

You can reserve the campsite now see page 6 for further informaton

Legend: Too Late Register Now, Non-TCW Rally Register Later

Articles Inside

TCW President's Letter

Matt Hoelzel

This write-up is being done from Hershey Pa. Ellen and I left White Oak CG and are hanging out in Hershey before the Readington Brewery Rally. So glad the temps warmed up. So many years in a row, it has been a rainy and a bit chilly during the Lancaster Rally. Rain happened again, but the host and co-host, for Lancaster Rally, made the right choice to go to White Oak CG where everyone stayed warm and dry in a building.

Our business meeting was well attended and thank you Dennis for setting up a tele-conference so a few members were able to listen and participate even though they were unable to attend physically. There were some important items this go around. I had asked for members to volunteer to assist with the planning of the 60th TCW Anniversary. Thank you Greg and Rita Brandis for stepping up. Would love to have a few

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more members to be part of a anniversary committee. More information and dates in upcoming newsletters or emails. A tentative date of June 8 to 11, 2026 has been discussed. Also accomplished was a Nominating Committee consisting of Mary Burdge, Matt Hoelzel, and Stephen Acropolis. Many spots on the Executive Board will need to be filled for the two year term from Sept 2025 to 2027. Seriously consider being involved. Help make TCW continue to be a great chapter.

During the meeting, we were visited by Clarissa Sherrow and her husband Larry. Clarissa is our VP for the Eastern Area of FRVA (formally FMCA). Clarissa offered some fantastic information and then went above and beyond and volunteered to co-host with Mary and Bill Burdge for the 2026 Lancaster Rally. Thank you Clarissa for all your help to bring up the membership numbers of FRVA, but also TCW.

I want to remind everyone that Seaside Rally will be very close to beginning by the time this newsletter is sent out. I am sure, the host, Nick and Naomi Theisz would love to have some more members sign up. It is so important to support our rallies. If we have no rallies because no members attend, then we unfortunately have no TCW. One more promotion, the Eastern Area Rally will be Nov 5 to 8, 2025, in my neck of the woods, Myrtle Beach. It is happening at the Ocean Lakes CG, so no dry docking. Hope to see many of you there. They are accepting reservations NOW.

Sometimes, or a lot, adults want to play games. Thanks to TCW new members, Rita and Greg Brandis, who offered the ability to play bean bag baseball. It was offered to all after breakfast, and 4 agreed to play.

Myself, George Hicks, and Rita and Greg, played 7 innings of fun filled baseball. A lot of laughing, and a bit of heckling. One team jumped into a big lead after a number of home runs. The other team just could not overcome the early inning shellacking. And the winner is....all 4 members that played. We all had such a great time. Hope to do that with more players next time

A very sad note, Joe Veri, a long time and active member of TCW, very recently passed away. Deepest condolences from myself and Ellen to Lydia.

Remember, It Is All About Fun,
Matt Hoelzel - President TCW

Rally VP Message

Rich Russo

There are two rallies remaining this year. Seaside June 5-9 hosted by Nick and Naomi Theisz, and Seaside September 4-7 hosted by Bob and Valerie Payne.

The 60th anniversary rally will be held next year in Cape May. Details will follow in future newsletters.

Sunshine VP Report and Other News

Helen Caserta

Happy Spring Everyone. Everything is beautiful here in Tennessee - hope you are finding the same where you are.

I sent a sympathy card to Lydia Veri upon the death of Joe Veri, who passed on Friday May 2nd of cancer. His cousin is Dennis (and Angel), also long time TCW members. Joe will be truly missed in the upcoming season.

No other sickness or needing cards requests at this time, but if you, or you know someone that wants/needs a card, please let me know. My email is Louie158@gmail.com or phone is 973-600-5748.

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster Comments

Dennis Lawyer cbdenlaw@gmail.com

I anticipate the next Newsletter to be in July, after the June Seaside Rally.

Charlotte and I are planning to go to FRVA Gillette International Convention this year so she can represent TCW at the FRVA National Convention. Hopefully we will see you there.

I wrote a section on using the FRVA website. I reported on what I learned in a seminar in Perry.

All comments or questions associated with the financial report can be directed to Nick.

Membership VP Report

Debby Osborn

Welcome to our new members Nadine and Chuck Parker of Burlington Twp, NJ.

We say goodbye to Chuck and Sue Parker who moved to Texas.

Renewal for this year is still being worked out. Currently membership is estimated at 21 families.

2025 TCW Business Meeting

April 26th, 2025 Lancaster PA

President Matt Hoetzel called the meeting to order at 10AM with the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence for members that we have lost.

A motion was made by Hank Blatt and seconded by Greg Brandis to accept the minutes as published in the previous TCW newsletter. This was approved by all.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Treasurer -Nick Thiesz- No report

Rally VP- Rich Russo- No report

Membership- Debby Osborn- No report

Sunshine-Helen Caserta- No report

Editor/Webmaster- Dennis Lawyer- The next newsletter will be published in one month.

A nominating committee for the 2026 ballot slate - Mary Burdge, Matt Hoetzel and Steve Acropolis volunteered for this committee

Old Business

The Eastern Area Rally will be held in Myrtle Beach SC at the Ocean Lakes RV Resort on November 4-8, 2025

National Director, Charlotte Lawyer, will be attending the FMCA convention in Gillette, Wyoming in July 2025

Clarrisa Sherrow, Eastern Area VP, reported that as of this date there are only 265 attendees.

New Business

The 60th Anniversary for TCW will be held in Cape May NJ June 5-9, 2026. Matt is forming a planning committee for this event. Greg Brandis volunteered to serve. If you would like to serve on this committee, contact Matt at 908-421-3090

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Burdge, Secretary

Silver Palms Rally Wrapup

February 24-27

<https://www.silverpalmsrv.com/> 4143 Highway 441S Okeechobee Fl 34974

Matt & Ellen Hoelzel - Host

Right at the beginning, I want to thank Helen Caserta/John Reynolds, Tom and Carol Hornor, and Dennis and Charlotte Lawyer for repeatedly attending the rally at Silver Palms. It is such a joy to get to know y'all the more time we get to spend together. That is what attending rallies is all about. Not the food, but the relationships.

Now, don't get me wrong, the food that has been served over the many years I have been a member of TCW, has been awesome. And so it goes at Silver Palms. Put Ellen in front of the Blackstone grill and the two breakfasts and 3 dinners she prepares each Silver Palms rally has been chef like.

There are many members from the NE that come to Florida. Yes, you have paid for sites somewhere. I still hope you come and enjoy the start of rally season in the South Central part of Florida. The temps are wonderful and nothing like listening to music around the pool before sitting under a tiki hut for happy hour. Maybe next year. Already looking forward to 2026. Matt and Ellen Hoelzel - host



Lancaster, PA Spring Rally Wrap up

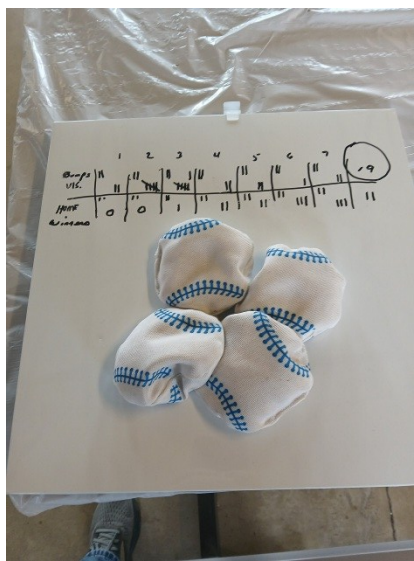
The Lancaster rally (4/24-4/27) at White Oak Campground hosted by Mary and Bill Burdge and co-hosted by Marissa and George Hicks was a great gathering bringing together 11 coaches filled with new and old friends. Attendees included Hank and Judie Blatt, George and Marissa Hicks, Bill and Mary Burdge, Matt and Ellen Hoetzel, Bob and Eileen Tittle, Steve and Wendy Acropolis, Greg and Rita Brandis, Deb and Jim McCann, Joe and JoAnn Merullo, and Carl and Linda Russ. Thank you to Jersey Gems members for joining us- I hope that we can do more rallies together in the future.



The weather was seasonably cool, and although it rained at times, we were comfortable having meals and playing games in the rec hall with a roaring fire in the fireplace. Delicious food was served for dinner and breakfast and the potluck dinner was exceptional.

Greg introduced us to beanbag baseball and play-off games will be planned for the Seaside Rally in June. We have reserved 12 sites for next year- May 14-17.

Please make your reservations early. You can reserve online at <http://www.whiteoakcampground.com/groups>. Use our reservation code TCW-26. You can also call-717-687-6207 to reserve.



The following FMCA conventions and area rallies may be of interest to the membership.

FMCA's 111th International Convention

- July 16-19, 2025
- Gillette, WY

Northeast Area Rally

- October 08-11, 2025
- Essex Junction, VT

Greater Eastern Area Rally

- November 4-8, 2025
- Myrtle Beach, SC

Readington Brewery and Hope Farm Wrap UP

Matt & Ellen Hoelzel - Host

May 5-9

937 US Highway 202 S, Neshanic Station, NJ 08853

<https://readingtonbrewery.com>

The Readington Brewery and Hop Farm is a brand new rally location. Located right off of Hwy 202 in beautiful Neshanic Station. Only a few miles from the Northlandz miniature railroad/village attraction and Flemington. Earlier reports of rain, rain, rain, were completely exaggerated.

Ellen and I planned 3 dinners and 2 breakfasts. Had a Meet and Greet on the first day. Want to welcome our new member, Chuck and Nadine Parker who attended their first rally here at the Brewery and Hop Farm.

There were a few rainy periods and a few beautiful sunny and warm periods. Unfortunately our new member, Chuck, was injured doing "something" and had to depart early. Frank Winters, who came with a wonderful guest, Judy, also had to leave early due to unforeseen issues. I want to say a sincere thank you for the 2 couples that signed up.

It was a beautiful area to be for a few day during the week. If this rally happens next year, I hope more members choose to support this rally. I really don't understand why more didn't come out. TCW has regularly dry camped so that would not keep members away. If anyone has any recommendations, please don't hesitate to call me.



Seaside Rally
June 5-9

Nick and Naomi Theisz Host
Rich Russo Co Host

Rally Fee \$100

Registration Deadline: **May 15**

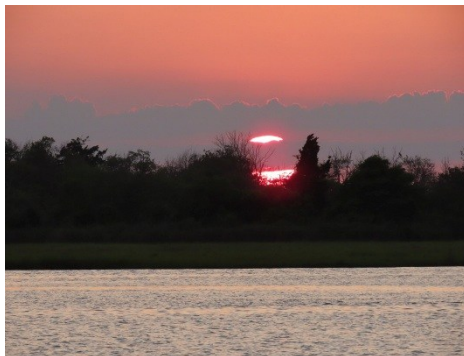
Update: As of May 7, there are 9 families signed up to attend.

Breakfasts: Pancakes, Quiches, Doughnuts and Bagles

Dinners: Pizza, Chinese, Italian

Daytime Games: Bocci, Cornhole, Saran wrap ball games

Will arrange a boat ride if we get enough people registered and interested.



DIRECTIONS: Garden State Parkway Exit 82 – Route 37 East. Follow Route 37 East all the way over the bay bridge. Once over the bridge, follow Route 35 North for Seaside Heights. On your left you will see the RV's parked in the lot. Get in the left lane and make a legal U-turn across from the Acme Supermarket. (N39°56.814, W74°4.731)

Mail to: Nick Theisz,

June Seaside Registration Form:

Sent \$100 check made out to TCW

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ FMCA# _____ Email: _____

Coach Length: _____ # Slides _____

Is this your first TCW Rally? _____ Y/N Do you need Handicap Parking? _____ Y/N

Total # of people in RV _____

Do you need 24 hour generator? _____

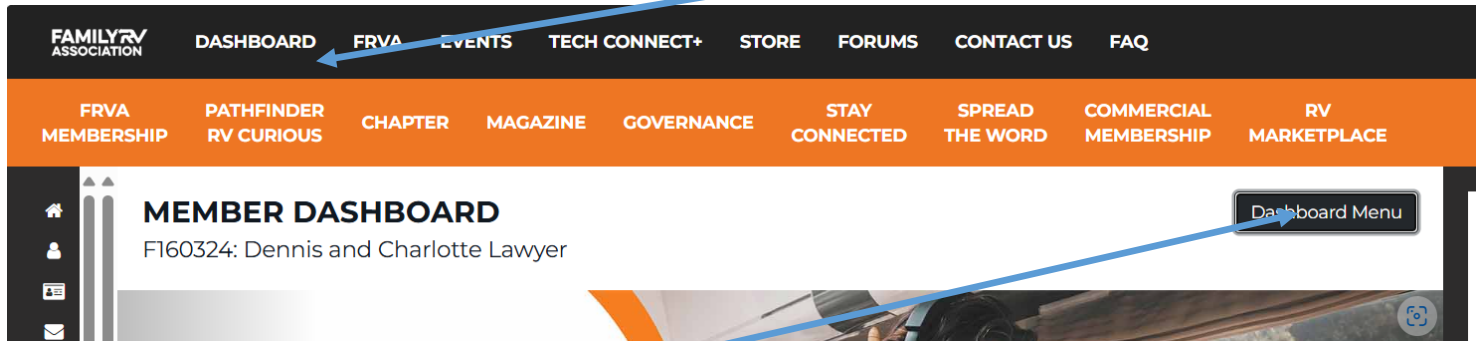
During the Perry Rally, I attended a seminar about the FRVA website, that I believe was useful.

There is a “hidden” menu that everyone has, and puts more information up front to use.

To take a look, sign into the www.frva.com website and log in.

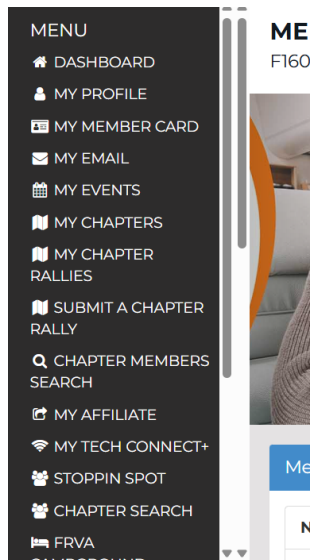
DASHBOARD

After I log in, the FRVA Dashboard comes up.



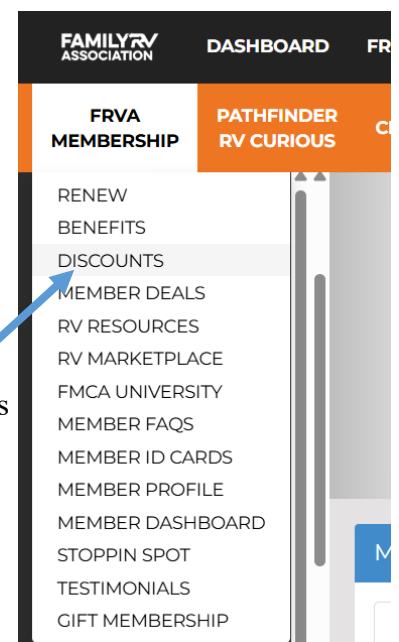
Then Click on Dashboard Menu

You then get the following menu that gets you easily to important information. Stoppin Spots can be particularly useful. They can get you to FRVA members in a location where you need mechanical help or a place to stay at night. To use, after Stoppin Spot, click on and add the city and state you are located. Please check it out on the website.



FRVA campground, where you can stay at the campground at the FRVA headquarters.

University: which has years of magazine articles about places to go and how our RV systems work.



One item not on the Dashboard and you should check out is the current discounts for FRVA members. Items are being added all the time.

Go to FRVA Membership then Discounts: All the discounts in one place

20th Century Wagontrainers, Chapter of FMCA

Membership Form

Name: _____ FMCA #: _____
Street Address: _____ Apt. _____
City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____
Home Phone () _____
Cell Phone: () _____ His Cell Phone: () _____ Hers
E-Mail address(s) _____
Year First Joined TCW Chapter: _____
Motorhome Information: Manufacturer: _____
Model: _____
Year: _____ Length in Feet: _____ No. of Slideouts: _____

The above info will be included in our annual membership directory sent to members only.

Are you an FMCA member? Yes No

Only those who are FMCA members in good standing may belong to this chapter.

TCW welcomes all FMCA members who own a self contained wheeled vehicle that includes permanently installed cooking, sleeping, and sanitary facilities.

Dues are \$15.00* per year

If you are sending your dues, please attach your check payable to: Twentieth Century Wagontrainers.

If you are an existing member, please enter your F number and any changes you would like made to your membership information

Mail to:

Nick Theisz

74 Salem Rd.

Township of Washington, NJ 07676-4529

Questions? Contact: Debby Osborn, Membership VP. Phone 609-802-2480 .

Email: debbyosborn@yahoo.com

TCW Badges

To order TCW badges, you need to call Debbie of Lasered Effects at 732-377-9344 to order them. They are \$18 each. Shipping is extra and Debbie will determine the cost on shipping after getting your mailing address.

The company name is Lasered Effects, LLC 15 Hastings Court, Bridgewater, NJ 08807.