



*THE COLONIAL
VIRGINIANS
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PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Colonial Virginian's President's Message for May 2025

It is great to be relaxing today at Madison Vines RV Resort and Cottages. The campground has many amenities, is on US Route 29 a couple miles south of Madison, VA. Ellen and Ken Kane are great Rally Hosts. Weather has been nice with meals outside at the Kane's RV. Weather has been great for campfire at night. Thank you, Ken and Ellen, for hosting CV April Rally. Ellen reports more about April Rally on a separate page in this newsletter.

Family RVing Association (FRVA) Eastern Area monthly "Zoom" meeting was held at 7:30 pm Thursday April 17, 2025. FRVA membership is down to 56K from 70K a year ago. There was discussion from the 25 participants about how to attract new members. Some felt a single sheet listing FRVA benefits and having schedules for rallies would be beneficial. RVOovernights is a new FRVA partner with many locations for an overnight stay for a membership fee of \$29.95 per year. FRVA is no longer associated with Harvest Hosts. A new Chapter benefit will be Chapter affiliate links that will provide Chapters with a \$10 commission for every new member recruited. A date to remember is "RV There Yet?" Discovery Channel May 10. At the National Convention at Gillette, WY July 16-19, 2025, four National Officers will be elected. National Directors need to attend to vote. Member Lee Deal has graciously agreed to represent CV Chapter at Gillette since CV National Directors will not be at Gillette. GEAR (Great Eastern Area Rally) is November 5-9, 2025 at Ocean Lakes, Myrtle Beach, SC. Reservations must be made for sites with Ocean Lakes. FRVA GEAR 25 Rally Applications should be in the July-August FRVA magazine.

Eastern Area is hosting the National Convention at Perry, GA March 18-26, 2026. Chairs are being recruited for the event. There was discussion about EA Staff (Volunteers) being able to host Perry and GEAR in 2026. There was a motion to cancel GEAR in 2026 and the motion passed unanimously. GEAR 2026 will be cancelled at Lewisburg, WV and scheduled for 2027. A National Convention will be in Perry, GA and Gillette, WY in 2027. It is difficult for FRVA to find facilities that are affordable and suitable for National Rallies.

FRVA Council needs National Directors to participate. National Directors are encouraged to join the Council to look at reorganization. Feedback from Perry, GA attendees is that FRVA

takes to long to make decisions. It is also hard to maintain 15 members in a Chapter. Electronic voting should be available at National Conventions so National Directors can vote.

David Fowler, GEAR 2025 Rally Master reported that 117 have registered at Ocean Lakes for GEAR. RV Basics will be taught November 3-4, Golf Carts can be rented for \$25 per day.

Reminder for upcoming CV Rallies is Crosswinds Family Campground, Linwood, NC May 7-10, 2025 hosted by Coopers and Clemmers, June 16-19, 2025 Rudd's Creek Campground, Boynton, VA and Clemmer's residence hosted by Antons and Clemmers., July 9-13, 2025, Tuckahoe Steam and Gas Association Show (no host, dry camping) arranged by Clemmers, Easton MD. There are no CV Rallies scheduled for July, August, September, or October 2025. More information will be e provided for the June Rally in the June issue of Colonial Crier.

There is also a separate page with invitation to a music Rally in Parsons, WV in September-October, 2025. There is a separate page with invitation to make reservations to attend the Hot Air Balloon Festival in New Mexico in October 2025.

Why do crabs never volunteer? Because they are shell-fish.

Brenda and myself have experienced a blessed and busy April. We were home eight days in April and looking forward to spending more time at home soon. Make your day enjoyable.
Jerry

April Rally Update:

The April Rally was held from 4/28-5/1 at Madison Vines Campground in Madison, VA. The campout was hosted by Ken and Ellen Kane. The group was small but mighty, and a good time was had by all. In attendance were Ken and Ellen Kane, Jerry and Brenda Clemmer and Mary Lou Dudziak. Menu included breakfasts of Egg McMuffins, French Toast, and Yogurt/Berry/Granola Parfaits with homemade Pumpkin Bread. Dinners were Hot Sausage, Peppers and Onions, Pulled Pork BBQ (NC style) and Chicken Quesadillas in honor of Cinco de Mayo this week. For lunch we visited Yoder's Amish store. We had delicious sandwiches and ice cream for dessert. They have a wonderful little gift shop with very unique items. Our dogs Gus and Ruby made fast friends and had some fun on the lawn. We tried to go to the Graffiti House (from Civil War times) but couldn't determine if they were open during the week. The weather was wonderful and Jerry even scored some free firewood from one of the locals!! Ask Jerry about that adventure!! We certainly wish we had more members in attendance. Please talk about the chapter at any campouts you attend. We would love to increase our membership numbers and meet new campers. See you all in May....





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Rally Schedule

2025

MAY	7-9	Cross Winds Family Campground, Linwood, NC. Host: Coopers, Clemmers
JUNE	16-18	Rudd's Creek Campground Host: Clemmer
JULY	9-13	No Host Rally, Tuckahoe Steam & Engine Show See enclosed for info
AUG.	TBD	
SEPT.	TBD	
OCT.	TBD	
NOV.	TBD	
DEC.	TBD	

2025 Mountain State Forest Festival Sept. 27- Oct. 5

Hot Air Balloon Festival in New Mexico in October 2025.

Nov.	2-9	EAMA Rally, Ocean Lakes Campground Myrtle Beach, SC
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May 7-10, 2025 Rally – Colonial Virginians - No Host Rally – No Rally Fees

Crosswinds Family Campground

GPS 159 Sowers Road

Linwood, N.C. 27299

www.CrosswindsFamilyCampground.com

Phone (336)-853-4567

Currently : Coopers, Clemmers, Lindgrens, Kanes

Make reservations by 4-16-25 Bring wood for campfire

Please email me to let me what you are bringing to avoid duplicates:

Diane cooper4me48@gmail.com

Wednesday May 7

Heavy Hors'd'oeuvres – everyone bring something to share (this is going to be dinner)

Coopers: Cowboy Beans

Thursday May 8

- Breakfast –9:00 Coopers and Clemmers - Pancakes – Sausage
- Lunch – On your own
- Happy Hour - 5:00 – Bring your snacks
- Dinner – 6:00 Hendrix BBQ in Spencer, NC (Let me know if you are going or not)

Friday May 9

- Breakfast – 9:00 Coopers and Clemmers – Quiche, Fruit, Eggs, Bacon
- Lunch – On your own
- Happy Hour – 5:00 – Bring your goodies
- Dinner – 6:00 Pot Luck -Everyone bring something (let us know what you are bringing)
- Coopers will bring Chicken Tenders – Need Sides and desserts

Saturday May 10

- Breakfast –9:00 continental breakfast – Coopers
- Pack up and leave

THINGS TO DO

NC Transportation Museum - Tues – Sat. 9-5 Spencer. NC

Nascar Hall of Fame

Breweries & Wineries

New Sarum Brewery – Salisbury Childress Vineyards Thurs 11-6

Cauble Creek Winery 11-6 Cougar run Winery – Concord 10-5

Thrift Stores and shopping

Concord Mills Mall

Salvation Army

Marketplace on Main

Nazareth Thrift Store

Goodwill

Wanda's Good Stuff (further away in Mount Holly)

Value Village (near Charlotte)

Spanky's Ice Cream – Salisbury

Trails & Walking Parks

Dan Nichols Park

Eagle Point Nature Preserve

Riverpark at Cooleemee Falls



Campsite at Rudds Creek Campground, Buggs Island/Kerr Lake, from the Internet

Colonial Virginians Bugg's Island Rally
Monday June 16, 2025 to Thursday June 19, 2025 (three nights)
Hosts Jerry & Brenda Clemmer & John & Carol Anton
Updated 12/29/2024

In my younger years my vision was that Bugg's Island Lake and Kerr Lake were two separate lakes. In my high school years, a trip to Bugg's Island Lake revealed to me that when the lake was being developed the law-makers in Virginia and North Carolina could not agree on a name for the lake. Virginia named the lake "Bugg's Island" because of an island in the Roanoke River which is to this day, just below the dam. North Carolina on the other-hand, named the lake Kerr Lake (pronounced "car") in honor of a government official named John H. Kerr. There is another small reservoir in western North Carolina with the same name.

Please see the site map of Rudds Creek Campground (on Bugg's Island Lake) on the following page. There are many good sites, however, the area most suited to larger RVs is the last loop, farthest from the Campground entrance. The last loop has sites 53E through 100E. All are nice sites with water and 30 or 50 amps. There is a dump station. The section was recently walked and the following sites are recommended:

56E, 60E, 61E, 63E, 66E, 67E, 71E, 73E*, 75E*, 77E* 78E*, 79E*, 80E*, 85E*, 86E, 88E*, 89E, 90E, 94E, 91E*, 95E*, and 96E. The * indicates the 10 best sites.

It appears to me that reservations for CV June 2025 Rally can be made after December 16, 2024 at 10:00 am or later. The website is "Recreation.gov" ----- "Rudds Creek Rec. AR., John H. Kerr Dam and Reservoir" or "Campsites for Rudds Creek Rec. AR., John H. Kerr Dam".

This is being sent at this time due to the "Army Core of Engineers" reservation system which has some flaws.

Meals and other activities will be held at Clemmer's home about 2 miles from Rudds Creek Campground entrance. More information will be provided in future Newsletters.

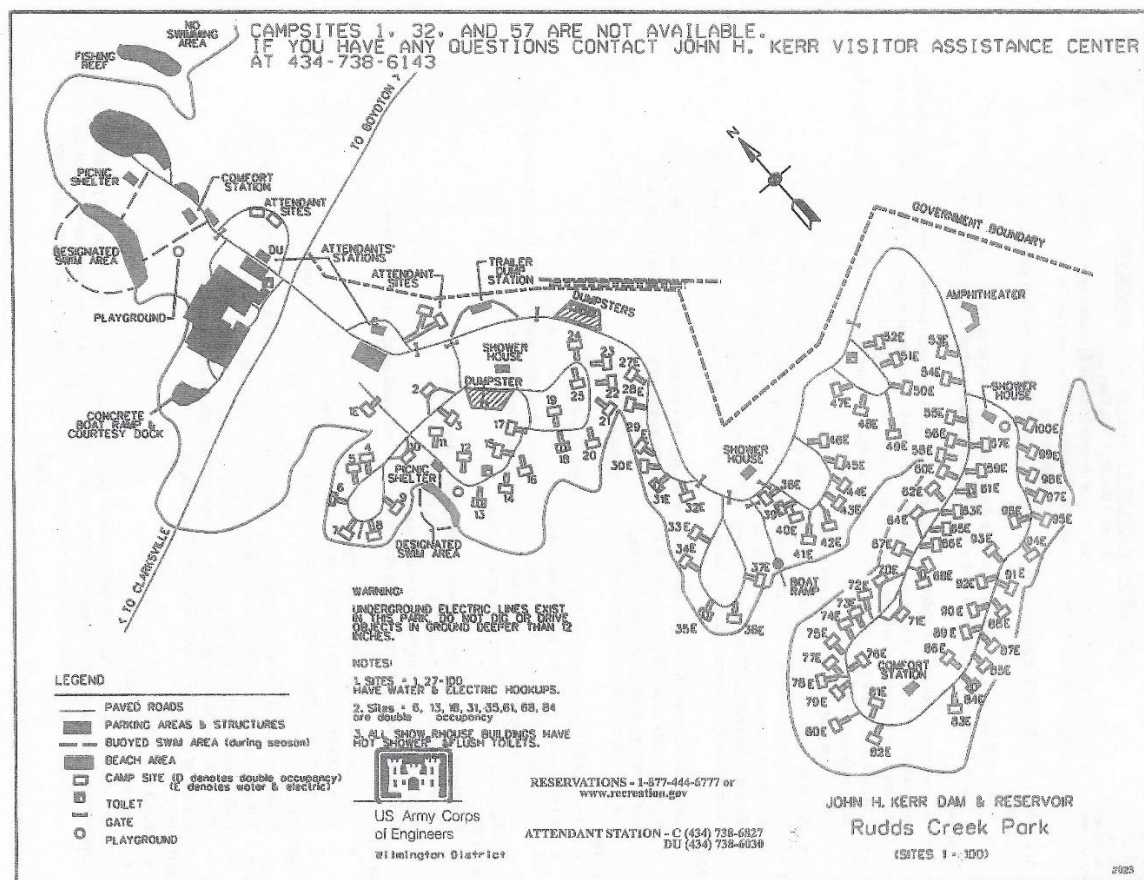




Photo copied from an annual past Tuckahoe Steam & Gas Engine Show in Easton, MD

CV “No Host Rally” July 9-13, 2025, 11472 Ocean Gateway, Easton, MD 21601

The 2025 annual Tuckahoe Steam & Gas Engine Show website has not been updated on the Internet at this time. An inquiry was emailed to Show promoters in early January. The January 8, 2025 reply is below. The local campgrounds recommended are MD State Parks and appear to be more suited for small RVs or tents and have limited electrical service.

The Clemmers will be parking on the show grounds and dry camping. We should plan to arrive together if we want to park together. Please note that the email below indicates that we attended the 2024 show. The Clemmers did not attend the 2024 show. Please let Clemmers know if you plan to attend in July 2025.

Good morning Jerry, thank you for your inquiry and happy new year to you and yours!

We're glad you enjoyed our 2024 show and are looking forward to seeing you all again! The dates for our big annual steam show for 2025 are July 10th-13th (Thursday-Sunday). Camping (and camping in groups) is permitted, however we can't guarantee a big group being together as the camping spots are first/come/first serve. Camping spots start at the end of the machine shop and loop around that perimeter of the grounds back towards the gate, and camping spots are also available in the field (opposite side of the grounds). There is a camping fee of \$15/day (in addition to initial show admission). Dry camping is perfect as these spots do not have utility hookups (however you are most welcome to use the restrooms on the grounds, which do have showers). If anyone would prefer a nearby campground which does have utility connections, the two most near the show would be Tuckahoe State Park and Martinak State Park.

Thank you again, and we certainly look forward to seeing you in July! Please feel free to write back or call if you have additional questions or if I can be of any further assistance at this time.

Very best, Ben Taylor (c/o TS&GA), 410-822-9868

2025 Mountain State Forest Festival
September 27-October 5, 2025

The Mountain State Festival is one of West Virginia's oldest and largest festivals in Elkins, WV. On average during this festival over 7500 people will attend and visit the festival during that week.

This year 2025 the 87th festival there will be:

- Grand Feature Parade
- Concert with Vegas McGraw
- Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Motorcycle Drill Team
- A lumber jack contest
- West Virginia Mountaineer Marching Band

Festival Stage on different dates will be Gandy Dancers, The Dixie Chicks Tribute Show, A night of Donce, Boys in the Band & Still Surfin Tribute to the Beach Boys.

Just an overall week of fun in West Virginia.

Camping will be at Five River Campground in Parsons, WV

Sites are full hookups –20, 30, 50 – electric, water & sewer

Our sites will be in the new section called "Shady Grove". 170 Full hookup sites.

Five Rivers Campground is located:

750 Walnut Street
Parksons, WV 26287

Website is: www.Riverrivercampground.com

Things to do:

Blackwater Falles, two different train rides within 1 hours drive, bike riding on an old train track trail, (it will take you to Elkins W VA 38 miles away paved).

Contact: Stephen Mahanes, 757-750-8281 for more Information.

Monaco International RV Club Balloon Fiesta



Hello Chapter President,

I hope this letter finds you and yours well, and 2025 is filled excitement and adventure. We of Monaco International RV Club want to invite you and your members to the Annual Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta.

As you may know, we of MI RV Club have had a desirable location at the Balloon Fiesta for several years, (this year Oct. 8 to the 12th). This VIP parking location faces the launch field and is on the front three rows of the RV parking area.

If you don't want to go onto the field, just sit in your lounge chair, enjoying your favorite drink at the MI social area, which gives you a complete view of the field any time of day or night on the front row.

Although these sites are boon docking, a freshwater wagon and gray and black tank contents removal truck (two different trucks) are available upon request with a service charge.

What's included with your rally fee? There's really too much to list here, but go to www.mirvclub.com and click on the Balloon Fiesta link for all of the exciting details. If the Balloon Fiesta is on your bucket list, as it is a not to be a missed event, this is the RV site for you. Additionally, for the adventurous there are opportunities to participate as one of the balloon's crew members. It may not get you a ride in the balloon but being a part of the crew provides a unique insight into the operation of preparing, launching and recovery operations. Just go to the Volunteer tent on the field and register.

All non-MI members have to do is join MI for \$40 which includes the \$15 membership fee and \$25 fee for name tags. The membership application is available on mirvclub.com.

Please click [here](#) for the Balloon Fiesta Flyer. I respectfully request that the flyer about the Balloon Fiesta be sent to your members. If you have any questions, please contact me by email as shown below.

Thanks,

Mike Sanders, President, MI
jmsblueknight@gmail.com

YOUR NAME

City, State

FMCA #123456

FMCA - Colonial Virginians

NAME BADGE ORDER FORM

Name Badge (with pin) \$8.00

Bolo Tie \$3.50

1st Name Badge

First & Last Name preferred on your name badge.

Address (City & State only)

FMCA # _____

2nd Name Badge

First & Last Name preferred on your name badge.

Address (City & State only)

FMCA # _____

Forward completed form and payment to:

CV Treasurer, 7 Prestwick, Williamsburg VA 23188

Colonial Virginians---FMCA Mmbership Application

Name – Last _____ First _____ Birthday _____
(Month/Day)

Spouse's Name _____ Birthday _____ Anniversary _____
(Month/Day) (Month/Day)

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phones: Home _____ Work _____

His Cell _____ Her Cell _____ FMCA # _____ Expiration Date _____

Membership - New ☐ Renewal ☐ Change ☐

Email _____ Email _____

Do you want the Colonial Crier newsletter e-mailed to you? Yes ☐ No ☐

Please make check payable to Colonial Virginians and mail your application and check to: Ray McCaskey, 7 Prestwick Williamsburg, VA 23188

Dues are \$20 per year with the first year prorated as follows from the time you join Colonial Virginians, January through March – \$20.00; April through June - \$15.00; July thru September - \$10.00 and October through December – \$5.00. This does not include camping and rally fees.

You must maintain your membership in FMCA in order to be a member of the Colonial Virginians.

Colonial Crier

Ken Woolard

1225 Glen Lochen Drive

Virginia Beach, VA. 23464