



www.cardinalvirginians.com

July/August 2025

A Message from our President

Happy July, Cardinal Virginians,

Our rally year is off to a great start, as we are just finishing up our June rally in Hillsville, VA. Unbeknownst to me, Sherree and Sarah arranged to celebrate my 70th birthday during the rally. (Wow, I really need to be more observant). It is great to have so many good friends and family there to share my special day, Even the sky opened up to celebrate, it will be remembered for a long time, I am truly blessed.

Getting together with our Cardinal Virginians friends is one of the reasons we love attending rallies. The camaraderie and knowledge that our group has to offer is always a mood booster. At the June rally we collected \$600 for a memorial donation for Dave Crabtree instead of a rally fee.

Speaking of rallies we do need to be thinking of next year's get togethers. As the rally host you get to decide where you would like us to travel, and what to do when we get there. Let's get some 2026 rallies planned and on the books. Let our rally master, Gary Lambert, know where and when. Right now, we have a clean slate, all months are available.

Our next rally is August 18-21, at Sun resorts Shenandoah Valley, phone 540-337-2267 You still have time to make your reservations and join us for a good time.

See everyone at the August rally,
Baynard

Hosting a Rally

We have had a great idea from Karilyn Pittman for hosting rallies! She would like to suggest that "seasoned" CV members ask new members to pair up with them to plan and host a rally. This way we can encourage the new folks to step up and get involved without feeling overwhelmed.

What do you think?

Contact our new members and let's host rally together!

**Our Christmas luncheon is now scheduled for Friday, December 12, at 1 PM,
At the Golden Corral in Roanoke Va. Make plans to join us and let Gary Lambert
know you will be attending.**

Gary Lambert, Wagon Master

SERVING OUR ORGANIZATION

I am excited to announce a volunteer who is willing to take over the role of newsletter editor. Sarah Bishop has responded to the call for volunteers to fill open roles in the Cardinal Virginians and feels this is an opportunity that she can accomplish even though she has a full-time job and responsibilities of a new Mom. Thank you, Sarah.

I have enjoyed many years of serving in this role as well as past president. Both Gene and I have filled presidential roles and trust me, we were not jumping up and down to do it, but we found it was not a difficult job once you are in the role. It takes the whole club to meet the requirements to maintain the status of Chapter. I have said it before, it is not a difficult job. I know lots of our members have the ability to fill many of the offices that will be open. Don't be bashful, you will be helping our organization remain viable.

Yes, this was another plea for your help.

Judy Matthews

A Note from your new newsletter editor:

I am excited to take on this role as the newsletter editor. It has been difficult to find ways to contribute to the group while still working full time and feel that this is a role I can step into fairly easily. I hope that I can continue to deliver the quality newsletter that you are all used to.

If you have anything that you would like included in future newsletters please email me at bishops816@gmail.com.

Thank you for this opportunity
Sarah Bishop

Rally Report from Hillsville

Cardinal Virginians June Rally Ramblings by Karilyn Pittman

The Cardinal Virginians June Rally was held at Lake Ridge RV Resort in Hillsville, VA. Our rally was hosted by Sarah and Jeremy Bishop along with Little Miss Adylee Joyce. Thursday evening, the day that most of the campers arrived, our hosts treated us to a wonderful Taco Bar dinner with all of the trimmings. No one went away hungry!

Friday was hot and sunny. We had several options to choose from to fill our day. Many of us explored the area, went shopping, enjoyed the pool or just relaxed and visited with others. Friday evening we enjoyed a potluck dinner and, as always, there was plenty to eat! After dinner, time was spent visiting with others, especially the new chapter members. We had a few guests who were camping with the Cardinal Virginians in order to “check the chapter out!” We hope that we made everyone feel welcomed and they will consider joining our awesome chapter!

Saturday was another hot day with a few pop-up rain showers. Saturday dinner featured pulled pork BBQ prepared by our hosts, with sides prepared by the rest of the campers. Dinner was a special occasion. We surprised our chapter president, Baynard Barton, for his 70th birthday! Rumor has it that he was thoroughly surprised and did not suspect a thing, even when his son-in-law, Jeremy, “kidnapped” him for Saturday afternoon so the rest of us could decorate the pavilion and prepare for his party. Apparently he was worried about being gone most of the afternoon. He was convinced that Sherree would give him “what for” for being gone right before dinner! 😊 It was all fun until the wind began to whip, the thunder and lightning started, along with a torrential downpour complete with pea size hail. It was definitely a party none of us will forget anytime soon! Everyone was soaked getting back to their sites but thank goodness, there was no damage sustained by any of our members or their rigs.

Sunday started out bright and sunny. Our hosts provided breakfast for all, followed by devotionals and goodbyes.

We are looking forward to our August Rally at Sun Resorts Shenandoah Valley with your hosts, Bob and Sherry Sonnessa, and Mark and Karilyn Pittman. Remember to always let the rally hosts know that you are planning to come so that they have an accurate headcount.





We had a wonderful bunch of campers and visitors throughout the Rally weekend. These included the following:

13 coaches and 1 cabin with a total of 27 attendees staying the whole weekend:

- Jeremy, Sarah and Adylee Bishop, our hosts
- Larry and Barbara Compter, FRVA members, Chapter visitors
- Baynard and Sherree Barton, our “ghost hosts”
- Bill and Brenda Robbins
- Betty Franklin and Rex Monroe & Stephanie, Rex’s sister
- Paul and Barbara Young
- Mark and Karilyn Pittman
- Feliza Jones
- Gail and Tommy Chaney, Feliza’s daughter and son-in-law
- Timm and Sharon Seaman
- Larry and Michelle Peterson
- Gene and Judy Matthews
- Mousa and Sue Ishak

Visitors throughout the weekend:

- Kamal Rojiani and Linda Tang, Thursday dinner
- Gary and Jane Lambert, Friday dinner
- Meagan Musick, Karilyn’s niece, Friday dinner
- John and Rhoda Schoepf, Saturday dinner & party
- Bob and Sherry Sonnessa, Saturday dinner & party
- Amy and Jimmy Martin, Baynard’s Sister and Brother-in law, Saturday dinner & party
- Baynard’s Uncle Walter and Aunt Frances Barton, Saturday dinner & party
- Beverly and Rick Showalter, Baynard’s cousins, Saturday dinner & party

CARING AND CONCERNS:

We need to keep John Davis in our thoughts and prayers. He has been experiencing severe back and shoulder pain. And let's keep Robbie in our prayers also. We have truly missed them at our rallies. And now we hear they have sold their motor home.

Please keep Evelyn Crabtree and the entire family in your thoughts and prayers as they continue to navigate through the grieving process for the loss of Dave. And let's continue to keep in touch with Evelyn to provide her support and love. Dave was a friend to anyone who met him. Both Dave and Evelyn will be greatly missed at our rallies.

Jane Lambert recently had cataract surgery and overall is doing well but just recently has encountered a few issues some pain and swelling of the eye lids. So we pray for a speedy recovery for her.

Judy was in the hospital due to a blocked intestine. A few days with a nasogastric tube in place, the blockage resolved and she was able to go home and avoid surgery.. There are no recommendations about what to eat or not eat, or if it will happen again or not. If you know of someone I need to reach out to please contact me at 540-270-7219 or fallenoakfarm@juno.com

Betty Franklin
Care and Concerns

****REPEAT REMINDER: DUES REMINDER (IN CASE YOU MISSED LAST MONTH)**

WOW! We have a new Year! In fact we have finished ½ of this year already 2025. We need to remember **dues are due! It's still \$25** with no inflation adjustment for the rising cost of living.

Make your checks payable to: *Cardinal Virginians*" and send to:

*Steve Bowers
206 Twin Cove Trail
Moneta, VA 24121.*

*If your circumstances preclude your membership this year, please advise by May 15th, and I'll move your membership to "inactive" for 2025.

Thanks,
Steve Bowers, Treasurer

2025 rallies

Hello again Cardinal Virginians,

Here is a list of our **2025 rallies** as of now. **Make those reservations now so you will not be left out! Campgrounds are already renting out nearby sites! We still need someone to host July.** Let Gary Lambert our Trail Boss know of your plans to host. Phone 540-354-1963 or email sazzmo@outlook.com. **Be sure to mark your calendars and make those reservations, and let the rally host know you will be attending.**

Cardinal Virginians July Rally: open, (FRVA 111th International Convention, July 16-19, Gillette, WY.)

Cardinal Virginians August Rally:

Our August rally we will be arriving on August 18 and departing on August 21, 2025 at Sun Resorts Shenandoah Valley 348 Lake Road, Stuarts Draft, VA. 24477. Phone 540-337-2267. Be sure to mention you are with the Cardinal Virginians rally when booking your site. Hosted by Mark & Karilyn Pittman, and Bob & Sherry Sonessa (Karilyn 540-661-5406 or karilypittman@gmail.com) (Bob 540-230-2431 or ssonessa@comcast.net)

Cardinal Virginians September rally

It will be September 10 thru 14 at Mayberry Campground, 114 Byron Bunker Lane, Mt. Airy, NC 27030, phone 336-789-6199. Be sure to mention you are with the Cardinal Virginians when making your reservation to obtain the site discount. Please let Jane and Gary know of your plans to attend so they can plan accordingly, email- sazzmo@outlook.com; phone- (540) 354-1963

Cardinal Virginians October rally:

Our October rally will be held arriving on October 30 departing on November 3, at Crossroads RV Park 243 S Church St, Lake City, SC, 29560 LakeCityRV.com Phone (843) 374-2131, be sure to mention you are with the Cardinal Virginians when making your reservations to obtain the rally discount rate.

Cardinal Virginians November

From Lake City we are traveling on to the Great Eastern Area Rally (GEAR) held this year November 3 thru 8 at Ocean Lakes Family Campground, 6001 S Kings Hwy, Myrtle Beach, SC, 29575. Phone 877.510.1413 OceanLakes.com
The Eastern Area have reserved 300 full hook-up sites at Ocean Lakes Family Campground in Myrtle Beach, SC. The sites will be available from Sunday November 2 until departure on November 9, 2025.

The dates for GEAR will be November 5th to 9th.

Site reservations for GEAR 25 are available now by calling Ocean Lakes Family Campground directly. Use the name **“2025 FMCA Eastern Area”** when making site reservations. This is for site locations only. Registration for GEAR 25 will be separate from the site registration. Chapters that want to be close to each other please review the map of Ocean Lakes and decide what sites you want before you make your reservation. There is no guarantee that the sites will be available. The price for GEAR 25 has not been established at this time and the program is still in the planning stage. We hope you will join us in Myrtle Beach.

Great Eastern Area Rally (GEAR) 2025 additional info:

The Bartons have reserved site 2160 at Ocean Lakes in Myrtle Beach, SC, arriving on November 3 and departing on Sunday November 9, the nice lady said sites 2153 thru 2164 should be available so our Cardinal Virginian friends can hopefully be close together. You will need to call Ocean Lakes, (877-510-1413) to reserve and get the discounted rates and a site nearby.

Our Christmas luncheon is now scheduled for Friday, December 12, at 1 PM, At the Golden Corral in Roanoke Va. Make plans to join us and let Gary Lambert know you will be attending.

Gary Lambert
Wagon Master

Cardinal Virginians 2025 Rallies (remaining)

MONTH	HOST	LOCATION
July	Open	
August 18-21	Sonessas +Pitmans	Sun Resorts. Stuart's Draft, Va
September 10-14	Jane and Gary Lambert	Mayberry Campground. Mt. Airy, NC
October 29- Nov 2	??	Crossroads Resort. Lake City, SC
November 5-9 early sites 11/2	GEAR	Ocean Lakes. Myrtle Beach, SC

WANT AND SELL ADS

For Sale: 2025 Coachmen Leprechaun 32-foot Class C motor home. Used once. Only 3,800 miles on Ford Triton gas engine. Absolutely no issues. All options including outside kitchen and entertainment system; fireplace; solar battery charger. Selling at a

loss to go back to a class-A. Priced at only \$117,000 (\$10,000 under bluebook).
Email tseaman24@gmail.com or call 540-679-9052 for photos and information.
If you have anything to go into the next it newsletter please send your info to me at
matthewsjh@gmail.com. Preferably in word format. Judy Matthews, Editor

Your Officers for October 2024/2025

*President, Baynard Barton

Vice President, Kamal Rojiani

2nd VP/trail boss, Gary Lambert

*Treasurer, Steve Bowers *Secretary, Donna Handy

*Newsletter, Judy Matthews

National Director, Steve Bowers

Alternate National Director, Bill Brown

*Chaplain, John Davis

Caring, Betty Franklin

Webmaster, Kamal Rojiani

*Face book Administrator, Carol Melton

*Need new candidates for election

206 Twin Cove Trl, Moneta, Va 24121

5Newsletter Distribution

*If you are receiving this newsletter in an individual mailing list from our beloved president, you may find that you will not always get that service as we send most of our communication through FMCA (for legal reasons). Therefore, if you are not on the FMCA mailing list, you don't receive the newsletter via that mechanism. I would request that you either assure you are on the FMCA mailing list or you start to check our website for the newsletter and other great information. If you don't get the newsletter in either one of those ways, please let us know so we can put your letter in the mail.

Communication is vital to our success.

Judy Matthews, editor