

Zoom Meeting Notes

1-15-2026

Gary Lyons called the meeting to order at 7:33PM with the following people present: Gary Lambert, Joe Kromash, Matt Hoetzel, Rene Bollinger, Nancy Craig, Charlie Stuckwisch, Dwellion Howard, Glenn Himes, David Bowen, Tina Parnes, Brian Parnes, Sue Cipa, Robbi Perry, Clarissa Sherrow, Gary Bowman, Berkley Alexander, Carol Graham, Richard Ziegler, and Phyllis Britz. There were several people who could not connect to the new format.

Gary stated that Tim Keppler was unable to connect to the meeting to give a website update and it was stated later in the meeting that there was still work needed in the IT restructuring.

Gary compared the 2025-2026 Chapter numbers from a late Oct. report. He stated there were 3 more Chapters gone from the Eastern Area – Tiffin Travelers, Kentucky Horse Shu Kru, and the ~~Dixie Traveliers~~ (corrected to read GMC Dixielanders). He also stated there were 5 more Chapters not certified in their second year. Most of the closure of Chapters is due to lack of people in membership or officer positions.

Paul Mitchell will begin Town Hall meetings with the Chapter Presidents and National Directors on January 29. All are encouraged to attend.

Gray reported the registrants for Perry number about 800 which is behind last year when there were 1200. Gary encouraged all who planned to attend to volunteer.

Area Presidents elections in 2026 are Eastern, Great Lakes, International, Northwest and Western. Gary stated he will not be running for President of the Eastern area and encouraged anyone interested to consider it.

Gary stated he would like to change the format of the Zoom meetings to focus on sharing information concentrating on recruiting and retention of members. This will begin next month.

Dwellion Howard gave a presentation about having a booth at the Greenville RV show. This is considered a “small” market. Volunteers manned the booth and passed out FRVA info. National supported them with marketing materials, etc. Dwellion had several suggestions for improvement – A large banner for the booth, prop up stands for info material, enrollment cards with a specific QR code to track results, and possible FRVA free memberships for a drawing. He explained that most people did not know what FRVA was or what they offered. He also said some volunteers were “afraid” to ask people for personal information due to the focus on the CAN SPAM act. He stated if people gave the information voluntarily it would be fine to make contact. He also stated they gained 9 new Chapter members at GEAR.

David Fowler stated that the Pelicans had done the Myrtle Beach show about 3 years ago with a booth. He also stated that one of the benefits of FRVA often not mentioned is the insurance savings. He gave 2 examples of people who saved thousands and Dwellion also shared his personal experience with savings.

Nancy Craig is a member of the National Retention Committee and gave a report about the focus on both recruitment and retention of members. She stated communication is a big issue. She stated they will have a survey at Perry with questions about

satisfaction with FRVA, why they came to Perry, if they belong to a Chapter and offer prizes for survey completion. She also stated later in the year there would be a survey from FRVA asking about leadership roles, what discounts are being used, if a member is involved in more than one Chapter, and why they joined and stayed in FRVA.

The 20th Century Wagontrainers are celebrating their 60th anniversary this year.

Dwellion asked Gary if the membership lists of the defunct Chapters could be shared to possibly recruit to another Chapter.

Nancy Craig suggested that campgrounds need to be aware of FRVA.

Robbi Perry asked if anyone in FRVA works with campgrounds that could promote membership.

David Fowler stated this was his last meeting and thanked everyone for their support. Janis Fowler also stated the same.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janis Fowler

Secretary Eastern Area