



Escapees Mid-Atlantic Chapter 20 Spring 2014

Vol. XXIX No. 1

President – Frank Simon pinoakfrank@yahoo.com

Vice President – Dave Middleton davidm@pa.net

Secretary – Barbara Simon simondo@yaho.com

Treasurer – Phil Devonshire – phdevon@gmail.com

Newsletter – Cindy Devonshire – cynthia.devonshire@gmail.com

President's Corner

Spring is popping up all over! The desert is in full bloom and more to come, but at last it's time to head to a warmer place - Other than WV. Spring Escapade in Goshen, IN is calling May 12-17. So we are headed in that general direction - We Barb and I will see you there or at the next Chapter 20- meeting.

Respectfully,
Frank Simon

From your "New" VP:

May 12-17 (early bird may 10th) 2014 in Goshen, Indiana will be ESCAPADE 2014. Chapter 20 will conduct a business meeting at the ESCAPADE with date/time to be provided later. Hope to see many of you there. Escapade is always a great time to meet and greet new/old friends.

July 10-13, 2014 we will be at the Grange Fairgrounds in Centre Hall, Pa. GPS directions use the address 169 Holman Lane, Centre Hall, Pa. 16828. There will be a four day Bluegrass music festival being held at the fairgrounds and everyone must hold festival tickets to enter fairgrounds. Tickets for festival will be available at the gate and you will pay for your camping at the gate also. Camping is \$20.00 a day for water/30 amp electric, dump available upon leaving fairgrounds. Honey wagon pumpout available every day with arrangements made with fairground people. Cost last year was \$15.00. Festival tickets prior to May 3rd are \$45.00 per person, tickets prior to 1 July are \$55.00 per person. Tickets at gate are \$70.00 per person. There are plenty of food vendors/t shirt vendor/craft vendors/ etc at festival. Escapees wishing to be parked with other Escapees are requested to have 8" X 11" paper on drivers side windshield. After registering at gate with festival/campground people you will drive down slight hill and turn right (there will be an Escapee sign) to go to parking area. (Please send email to DAVIDM@PA.NET so i will know who to expect.

Sept 11-13, 2014 we will be at Roxbury Holiness Camp at 13763 Cumberland Hwy, Orrstown, PA 17244. Camping will be full hook up and approximately \$30.00 a night for 30amp and \$35.00 a night for 50amp. You will register with Dave Middleton and pay upon arrival. I would like to know by August 15th if you will be coming. Last minute decisions can be worked around but you may be away from group. Early arrivals can also be arranged. As you may expect from the campground name this is a religious retreat / convention center but they have a nice campground and only ask that there be no open display of alcohol / tobacco products on the campground property.

I need assistance in looking for/at future rally sites from the membership. I don't feel right in determining by myself where we camp in that it may not please the majority of Chapter 20 members. So please look at possible sites/previous site etc. where we may camp in 2015. We also had a very large Chap 20 gathering this last winter in Sumter Oaks, Bushnell FL organized by Cynthia/Phil. So if there are going to be a bunch of Chapter 20 people in FL of Jan/Feb 2015 how about a informal rally at Sumter Oaks again? Food for thought, details/dates to be kicked around during rallies this summer.

Hugs,
Dave

Treasurer's Notes

We have had two new couples join Chapter 20 so far this year! Welcome to Beth and Mark Pickering and Phil and Terri Tobin. Also, many people have paid their 2014 dues. This really helps our chapter. Dues are \$5 per couple, per year. Please send checks made out to **Mid Atlantic Chapter 20 to:**

**Mid Atlantic Chapter 20
Phil Devonshire
3381 South Hill Road
Wyalusing, PA 18853**

Thanks!
Phil

Sumter Oaks News

Cindy and Phil Devonshire spent the winter at the Escapade Park in Bushnell Florida. We had many friends and Chapter 20 members that were either camped at the park, camped nearby, or were passing through the area. So, on one sunny day we organized a 'Chapter 20 and Friends Social Hour'. We had thirteen couples attending the social and we saw some other people during the winter. Attending the social were: Phil and Cindy Devonshire, Keith and Shirley Murphy, Betty Bear (She looks great!), Ed and Elaine Lipscomb, Janet Thompson and Ralph Scruton, Lee Trueland, Don and Carmen Loveday, Dave and Thelma Middleton, Tom and Debbie Abernathy, Jim and Beryl Eichlin. Guests included Larry and Marilyn Forbes, Larry and Carolyn Jarvis and Tom and Jean Forney.

Chapter 20 members that stayed at the park at other times were Sherwood and Linda Cook, Mark and Beth Pickering, Rudy Mager and Fran, and Phil and Terri Tobin. We also traveled to Wachula to visit with Monica and Joe Behun and Joe and Ellie Brugger. Bob and Molly Pinner were also at the park, working on schedules and plans for the upcoming Escapade.

As Dave has mentioned, we have been thinking about a more formal Chapter 20 get together next winter. Keep a lookout for news on that possibility.

Anyway, it was fun to just sit in one place and have so many Chapter 20 friends come to us!



If you haven't yet made plans to attend the Escapade, it is still not too late. Chapter 20 will be having a social hour with a business meeting at the Escapade. This will be **Tuesday May 13 at 4:30 - Room 1 of the ECCC building.** Hope to see you all there!

Lots of fun and educational things to do! Beautiful countryside, great food, good friends. Come on and join us!

ESCAPEESRVClub ESCAPADE

Something for Everyone!

Five Educational and Fun-filled Days

Escapees RVers University

- 70+ educational seminars
- Workshops
- Demonstrations
- RV maintenance
- Safety
- Lifestyle and enjoyment

Craft instruction

- Beading
- Tatting
- Quilting
- Wood carving
- Fishing and more

Evening Events

- Door prizes
- Entertainment
- Ice cream socials
- Line dancing
- Jam sessions
- Games
- Lots of friendship

RVers' Boot Camp

- Tire and weight safety
- Fire and life safety
- Hitch-up
- Basic RV systems
- RV Driving

Over 100 Exhibitors

- Indoor and outdoor market
- Gadgets for your RV
- Parts/accessories
- Cleaning/polishing products
- Tow and toad products
- Decorating products

Escapees Club Services

- Club products
- Mail-forwarding service
- Rainbow Parks
- SKP Co-Op representatives
- Chapter/BOF representatives
- Escapees SmartWeigh

Escapades are five-day events held yearly. Each Escapade offers 70-plus seminars on a wide variety of RV-related topics—from boondocking to tire safety. An extensive agenda of demonstrations and craft and hobby workshops is offered daily.

ESCAPEESRVClub 100 Rainbow Drive, Livingston, TX 77351
888-757-2582 • 936-327-8873

www.escapees.com/escapade

ESCAPADE 2014

May 12–17, 2014, in Goshen, Indiana

Enjoy springtime in the RV capital of the world for a week of fun and RV education. Rich in heritage, history and hospitality, Goshen invites you to explore the nearby neighborhoods of Amish and English as they share a way of life that beckons you to savor the delights of their charming homelands.

Frank and Barbara Simon will be representing Chapter 20 on the ROW. Stop by and say, "Hello!" You might even get a delicious piece of candy!! We will be having a Social Hour/Business meeting. This will be **Tuesday May 13 at 4:30 - Room 1 of the ECCC building**. Hope to see you all there!

We will again be offering some Chapter 20 t-shirts for sale. We hope we will have the variety of sizes that you will need. If you have ordered one before, it will be available at the social hour.



Rhonda Vincent
(Saturday)



Nothin' Fancy
(Saturday)



Little Roy & Lizzy
(Thursday)



Jr. Sisk & Ramblers Choice
(Friday)



Hillbilly Gypsies
(Saturday)



Ralph Stanley II
(Friday)



The Spinney Brothers
(Thursday)



Joe Mullins & Radio Ramblers
(Thursday)

Hotel Information
Super 8 Motel - 717-242-8888
Best Western - 717-667-9595
Coenfort Inn - 570-726-4901
Quality Inn - 717-248-4961

Performance Times
Thurs.-Sat 11am-11pm, Sun 9-4pm

CONTACT: 717-348-3537
Promoter: Ryan Frankhouser
Website: www.remingtonryde.com



Larry Gillis (Thurs)

8th Annual
Remington Ryde Bluegrass Festival
 July 10-13, 2014
 Centre Hall, PA 16828

\$45 Advanced Ticket Price!

1500 Hookups 30amp / 500 Tent Pads

4 Day Advanced Ticket Price by May 3, 2014 - \$45.00
 4 Day Advanced Ticket Price by July 1, 2014 - \$55.00
 4 Day Advanced Ticket Price Gate Special - \$70.00

Day Prices (Pay at the Gate)
 Thursday - \$20 Friday - \$20 Saturday - \$25 Sunday - \$15
 (Children 12 & under free with paid adult)

Festival Information: Chair Seating, Shade Tents, Handicap Parking, Public Restrooms, Shower Houses, Golf Carts Welcome, Pets Welcome, Food & Craft Vendors, Workshops, Kids Stage, Lots of Jamming! GPS: 169 Homan Lane, Centre Hall, PA 16828

Camping Information: 1500 Hookups 30amp & Water (\$20/day) without Electric (\$12/day), Also, 500 Tent Pads w/ Hookup (\$15/day). **Free Dump Station** Venue- www.grangetfair.net
 Festival Gate opens Tuesday July 8th @ 9am!

****Other Acts****

- Remington Ryde (Host Band Daily)
- Danny Stanley & Bluegrass Gentleman (Fri)
- Bluegrass Mountaineers (Friday)
- Idletymes (Saturday)
- Jay Armsworthy & Eastern Tradition (Sunday)
- Carroll County Ramblers (Sunday)
- Mountain Therapy (Friday)
- California Ramblers (Thursday)
- Tussey Mountain Moonshiners (Sunday)
- Jesse Alexander Band (Sun) and many more TBA!!

TO ORDER ADVANCED TICKETS please send a check or money order made payable to Ryan Frankhouser to 1037 Wooded Pond Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17111 with a **stamped envelope**.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____

of Early Bird Advance @ \$45.00 _____ (by May 3, 2014)
 # of Advance @ \$55.00 _____ (from May 4 - July 1, 2014)
 Pay Camping Fee at gate TOTAL: _____

Please contact Dave Middleton by phone [717 432 3387](tel:7174323387) or email at davidm@pa.net if you are planning to attend.

Yellow Shirts at the Troy Rally



Chapter Information

If you need to check on Chapter 20 Activities, please check the Escapee's Website at:

<http://www.escapees.com/chapter20>

Check the voice mail at:

Chapter Voice Mail Information: 888-757-7701 ext. 8020

Chapter 20 Photos and newsletters:

www.midatlanticchapter20.weebly.com

34 RV Fire Facts That Can Save Your Life



Man pulled from burning RV dies from his injuries

Couple Found Dead In Apparent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning At KOA

Multiple crews respond to RV fires in Las Vegas

Overnight fire destroys 11 campers, 2 boats in Colbert County RV park

RV fire reported near Great Falls High School

Crews Investigating RV Fire in Oceano, [CA]

Family loses RV, home in interstate fire, but good Samaritans take action

Midnight fire totals area truck camper

[RV] Propane tank explosion east of Lacey hospitalizes couple Monday night

These are just some of the first three month's of 2014 headlines pulled from a Google search.

At best, a fire in your RV can delay or ruin a vacation. At worst, it can mean injury, financial loss, and even death. Unfortunately, RV fires are one of the largest causes of RV loss in America today. The following tips can help you recognize the most common fire hazards and protect yourself from the damage and injury fires are notorious for causing.

1. A pinhole-size leak in a radiator or heater hose can spray antifreeze on hot engine parts. Antifreeze contains ethylene glycol concentrate and water. When the water boils off, the remaining ethylene glycol can self-ignite at 782 degrees F. During your monthly fire inspection, check all hoses for firmness, clamp tightness, and signs of leaking.
2. Rubber fuel lines are commonly used to connect metal lines to the electronic fuel injection system, or to the carburetor in older coaches. Check all the lines and connections between the fuel tank and the engine on a monthly basis. If there is any sign of a leak, have the lines replaced and the entire system inspected by a qualified mechanic as soon as possible.

3. A hard-working engine manifold can get as hot as 900 degrees F. The heavy insulation in the compartment reflects the heat back to the top of the engine, and a fire can easily break out. Inspect your radiator and have any problems repaired by a qualified person as soon as possible.
4. Grease, oil, and road dust build up on the engine and transmission, making them run hotter. The grime itself usually doesn't burn, but if combined with a fuel leak or short-circuited wire, a fire could start. Keep your coach's underpinnings clean, and it will run cooler, more economically, and longer.
5. A dragging brake can create enough friction to ignite a tire or brake fluid. Some of the worst fires are those caused when one tire of a dual or tandem pair goes flat, scuffs, and ignites long before the driver feels any change in handling. At each stop, give tires at least an eyeball check. When tires are cool, tap your duals with a club and listen for a difference in sound from one tire to the next. You can often tell if one is going soft.
6. Spontaneous combustion can occur in damp charcoal. Buy charcoal fresh, keep it dry, and store it in a covered metal container. Rags soiled with auto wax or cleaners that contain petroleum products or other oil-based cleaning materials can also spontaneously combust if disposed of in a combustible container. Put dirty cleaning rags in a metal container with a lid. *[FWS recommends using only disposable shop paper towels and discarding them in an outside container.]*
7. A hot exhaust pipe or catalytic converter can ignite dry grass.
8. Driving with propane on can add to the danger if you are involved in an accident or have a fire. Most refrigerators will keep food cold or frozen for eight hours without running while you travel. Shut the propane off at the tank.
9. If you store your coach, be sure to check the flue before starting your refrigerator on propane. Birds and insects can build nests and clog the flue, causing a fire or excess carbon monoxide to enter your coach.
10. Batteries produce explosive gases. Keep flame, cigarettes, and sparks away. Be sure your battery compartment is properly vented. Keep vent caps tight and level. Check your battery monthly. Replace swollen batteries immediately. Use extreme care when handling batteries—they can explode. *[FWS recommends storing all small batteries in fitted plastic containers so they are not loosely moving about. Loose batteries can inter-connect and create a fire.]*
11. Have any wiring in your coach done by a capable electrician, and use common sense in using any electrical aid. Check all 12-volt connections before and after every trip. Most coach fires are caused by a 12-volt short.
12. Gasoline and propane can pose an immediate, explosive danger. Though diesel fuel is less volatile, it dissipates more slowly, so it remains a danger longer. Deal at once with any leaks or spills, and use all fuels in adequately vented areas.
13. Even if the flame on your galley stove goes out, gas continues to flow and could result in an explosion. A stove should never be left unattended or used to heat your coach. Open propane flames release high levels of carbon monoxide.
14. In a compact galley, all combustibles—from paper towels to curtains—are apt to be closer to the stove, so use even more caution in your coach than you do at home. A box of baking soda—the ingredient in powder extinguishers—can be used in lieu of a fire extinguisher for minor galley flare-ups.
15. Develop a plan of action before a fire occurs.
16. Make sure all travelers know what the smoke alarm sounds like and what to do when they hear it. Test your smoke detector regularly.
17. Have at least two escape routes—one in the front and one in the rear of the coach. As soon as they're old enough, teach children to open hatches and emergency exits.
18. Review with everyone the "Stop, Drop, and Roll" rule so they know what to do when clothing is on fire.

19. Make sure visitors can open the front door. Not all manufacturers use the same lock and latch assembly.
20. Choose a rallying point where everyone will meet immediately after escaping, so everyone can be accounted for.
21. Show travelers how to unhook electricity (screw-on cords can be tricky) and how to close propane valves, in case either of these measures is called for.
22. Practice unhooking your tow vehicle as quickly as possible to avoid spreading the fire to other vehicles.
23. Re-emphasize to everyone aboard that objects can be replaced, people can't. Never stay behind or re-enter a burning coach to retrieve anything.
24. There are plenty of fire and life safety tools that can save lives, but for them to be effective, they must be in working condition and you must know how to use them properly.
25. You should have three fire extinguishers for your coach—one in the galley, one in the bedroom, and one outside of the coach in an unlocked compartment or in your tow vehicle. Make sure family members know how to use the extinguishers and understand which extinguishers are effective on various fires.
26. During your monthly inspection, check the fire extinguisher gauge to determine if there is pressure in the extinguisher. If the gauge indicates empty or needs charging, replace or recharge the extinguisher immediately. To test non-gauged extinguishers, push the plunger indicator (usually green or black) down. If it does not come back up, the extinguisher has no pressure to expel its contents. If you need help testing your fire extinguishers, check with your local fire department.
27. Do not pull the pin and expel the contents to test your powder extinguisher. If you use a portion of the powder extinguisher, have it refilled or replaced immediately. When you have a fire extinguisher refilled, ask to shoot off the charge first (most refill stations have a special place where this can be done safely). This lets you see how far it shoots and how long a charge lasts.
28. Invert and shake your dry-powder or dry-chemical extinguisher monthly to loosen the powder. The jarring of the coach does not loosen the powder; in fact, it packs the powder, which may make your extinguisher ineffective.
29. Deadly, invisible, odorless CO usually results from exhaust leaks or misuse of heating devices. Be sure to put your CO detector in the bedroom. The proper location is on the ceiling or on an inside wall at least eight inches from the ceiling and at least four feet from the floor.
30. Liquid petroleum gas, like gasoline fumes, tends to pool in low spots in the coach until a spark sets it off. Newer motorhomes are equipped with an automatic shut-off for when its sensor detects an LPG leak. If you have a leak, be sure to shut the propane off at the tank.
31. The first rule of RV firefighting is to save lives first and property second. Get yourself and your family to safety before attempting to extinguish a fire. Only if you can do so without endangering yourself or others should you use firefighting aids on hand.
32. Get help. Adults and older children should know how to dial 911 or 0, and how to get emergency help on any CB, VHF, or ham radio available.
33. It's crucial to know your location so firefighters can find you.
34. If you have a quick-disconnect fitting on your water hookup, these hoses can be unhooked instantly to fight a fire. If a nearby coach is burning and you cannot move your coach but can safely stay close enough to keep it hosed down, you may be able to save it.



The above 34 tips is contributed by Mac McCoy and is reprinted with his permission.

Mac McCoy served 33 years in the fire service. He holds a BS degree in Fire Science and a Masters degree in Fire Administration. Mac has served as a firefighter, paramedic, Captain, Assistant Chief of Training, Deputy Sheriff, and for 12 years as the Fire Training Coordinator of Oregon's Fire Marshall's Office and Public Safety Academy. During his tenure with Oregon Fire Marshall's Office, Mac helped pioneer the states HAZMAT program. Mac has taught civilians, military, firefighters and law enforcement fire-fighting skills and techniques in the United States and abroad. For additional fire safety information and products, visit Mac's website at: <http://www.macthefireguy.com>

From our Chapter Directors:

Spring is popping up all over! The desert is in full bloom and more to come, but alas it's time to ramble on. **Spring Escapade** in Goshen, IN is calling May 12-17. So we are headed in that general direction. Check the website for details or call Escapees [888-757-2582](tel:888-757-2582) – ask for KIM to register.

If not Escapade, we hope you have some **Escapees Rallies** set in your travel plans for spring into summer. Do check the Magazine or website for rally dates and locations. All groups enjoy members as well as visitors. Check their website for details, then call to let them know you are coming.

The WARE (Western Area Escapees Rally) is in Lodi April 13-17 for those headed north thru California. You can register at the rally or send an email to Walt & Kellie Gunn (kwgunn@gmail.com) or phone [510-414-6680](tel:510-414-6680).

There is always something to do along the way --- time to get out and explore!

SKP Hugs,

Susie & Denny Orr

PLEASE REMEMBER:

If for some reason you change your address, email address, telephone number...let us know!! Check the top of the newsletter for all the officer's addresses. If you don't let us know, we may not be able to contact you.