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May 2025

A Message from our President

To All Cardinal Virginians,

Happy May to everyone!

It has been super good to be able to experience the world blossom out again this spring. It is not long now until summer camping. Be sure to make those reservations for our rallies, *you can always cancel, but not always find a site at the last minute.*

We just finished our wonderful first rally of 2025, at Madison Vines RV campground in Madison VA. Betty Franklin and Sherree Barton did a superb job. It was good to see our old friends again after our winter hiatus, and it was good to welcome some new faces to our group, hope to see everyone again soon!

Sherree and I traveled straight from Madison Vines to Occoneechee State Park in Clarksville, VA, for the VAFP (Virginia Association for Parks) spring meeting. I thought myself pretty smart snagging a camping site right on Buggs Island Lake, but the internet failed to show that the lake is about 50 feet below our site, down the embankment. Humm....I guess everything you see on the internet is not always as it seems.

And as a reminder: **This is my last year as your Cardinal Virginians president, so be thinking about who you'd like to take over the presidency in October, keeping our chapter moving forward**

Keep those wheels turning !

Baynard

EDITORIAL

As mentioned above, this is Baynard's last hurrah as our President. As I was thinking of all the really great possibilities we have amongst our membership, I realized no one has stepped up and volunteered. Then I realized there must be a misconception about what being president involves. The office does not require that you perform the duties the same way Baynard does—in fact, you can do better, worse, or the same. It can be filled by man or woman. It is not a time-consuming activity. And by the way, the pay will not move you to a higher tax bracket!

Please step up and volunteer your services so that our chapter will continue to provide a great camping venue for all of us who enjoy the company of other campers and great assistance when we're not sure how to solve our vehicle/camper problems and/or how to find great places to go when we take off on our own.

Thank you for your willingness to consider
Judy Matthews, Editor

APRIL 2025 RALLY REPORT

The first Cardinal Virginians rally of 2025 was held at Madison Vines in Madison Va. A total of 14 coaches/campers and 2 cabins were in attendance, and joining us was our dear founding member of the Cardinal Virginians, Feliza Jones.

Members in attendance were:

Bill and Brenda Robbins, Dave and Evelyn Crabtree, Rex Monroe and Betty Franklin, Baynard and Sherree Barton, Stan and Sandra Olah, Brent and Mona Ferguson, Mark and Karilyn Pittman, Bob and Sherry Sonnessa and their guests son-in-law Blayne and Granddaughters Kinley and Kennedy, Feliza Jones, Karen and Ray Morton, Gary and Jane Lambert, Gene and Judy Matthews, Kamal Rojiani and Linda Tang, Leon and JoAnne Kates, John and Rhoda Schoepf, and Larry and Michelle Peterson.

Thursday, After everyone arrived and were set up, a delicious Sloppy Joe dinner was provided by our hosts, Rex Monroe, Betty Franklin, & Baynard and Sherree Barton.

Friday consisted of some members touring the Graffiti House in Culpepper and others shopping or just hanging out. Friday night's dinner was provided by Madison Vines followed by a rousing few games of Bingo. Brent Ferguson was the lucky winner of \$125!



A mighty fine looking group

Saturday started out with some rain but by the afternoon the sky was clear with sunshine and a beautiful breeze. There was a corn hole tournament which the Cardinal Virginians Brent and Blane(guest of the Sonnessa's) won. Brent also won at the axe throwing contest held in the afternoon.

Saturday evenings happy hour was followed by a very tasty brats, beans and Cole slaw dinner provided by Madison Vines.

All in all a great weekend with great weather and of course tons of great food... come join us for the next rally in May at Crosswinds Family Camp Ground in Linwood, NC!

Submitted by Sherry Sonnessa

CARING AND CONCERNS:

We send out our thoughts and prayers to Steve Miller as he recovers from a recent stay in the hospital. Wishing him a quick recovery.

Please contact me if you know of anyone I need to reach out to at 540-270-7219 or fallenoakfarm@juno.com

Betty Franklin

DUES REMINDER

WOW! We have a new Year! 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 April rally:

Our April rally we will be arriving on Thursday April 24 departing on Sunday April 27 at Madison Vines RV Resort and Cottages, 110 Campground Ln, Madison, VA. 22727
Phone 540-948-4186. Be sure to mention you are with the Cardinal Virginians rally when booking your site. 15 sites and being held. More info to follow. Hosted by Betty Franklin and Sherree Barton (Betty-540-270-7219 or fallenoakfarm@juno.com) (Sherree 276-223-7364 or sbarton@appleshackcrafts.com)

Cardinal Virginians May rally:

Our May rally we will be arriving on Monday May 12 and departing on Friday May 16 at Cross Winds Family Campground, 160 Campground Lane, Linwood, NC 27299 (GPS address is 159 Sowers Rd, Linwood). Phone 336-853-4567. Be sure to mention you are with the Cardinal Virginians rally when booking your site. 14 sites are being held until April 23, 2025. More info to follow. Hosted by John and Diane Cooper (434-941-0688 or jcoop5342@gmail.com)

Cardinal Virginians June rally:

Our June rally we will be arriving on Thursday June 26 and departing Sunday June 29 at Lake Ridge RV resort, 8736 Double Cabin Rd, Hillsville, VA, 24343. Phone 276-766-3703. Be sure to mention you are with the Cardinal Virginians rally when booking your site to get the 15% discount. 15 sites are being held until April 1, 2025. More info to follow. Hosted by Jeremy and Sarah Bishop (and Adylee Joyce Bishop) (276-613-5487 or bishops816@gmail.com)

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 rally:

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.
Gary Lambert

Wagon Master

CARDINAL VIRGINIANS RALLYS 2025		
MONTH APRIL 24-27	HOST/S FRANKLIN & BARTON	LOCATION Madison Vines
MAY 12-16	COOPER'S	CROSSWINDS FAMILYGG Limwood, NC

JUNE 26-29	Bishop's	LAKE Ridge RU RESORT Hillsville, VA
JULY	OPEN	Open
AUGUST 18-21	SONNESSAS + PITTMANS	SUN RESORTS STUARTS Draft VA
SEPTEMBER 10-14	Jane & Gary Lambert	Mayberry Campground, 114 Byron Lane, Mt. Airy, NC 336-789-6199
OCTOBER 29- Nov2	?	CROSSROADS RESORT LAKE CITY, SC
NOVEMBER 5-9; Early sites Nov 2	GEAR	OCEAN LAKES MYRTAL BEACH, SC

WANT AND SELL ADS

Please feel free to advertise any items you would like to sell. Just send me the information for our newsletter.

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 206 Twin Cove Trl, Moneta, Va 24121

Secretary, Donna Handy

Newsletter, Judy Matthews

National Director, Steve Bowers

Alternate National Director, Bill Brown

Chaplain, John Davis

Caring Concerns, Betty Franklin

Webmaster, Kamal Rojiani

Face book Administrator, Carol Melton