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September Newsletter

A note from the President

September is one of my favorite months. The heat of summer is waning with just hints of fall now in the air, and campgrounds are not as busy with the school year back in swing. Let's get out there and enjoy all that camping has to offer. Our September rally at Mayberry Campground is just around the corner.

Speaking of getting out there, at our August rally we met a host of new folks from the Colonial Virginians that seem to have our same love of getting together as a group to celebrate life. I do hope they will join us again in the future, and it appears we may join them for their rally at Anchor Down in August next year. It was also great to have Bill Brown back with us along with his wife Donna. (Bill single handedly kept our Chapter together during the rough times of the pandemic).

I have a quick story to tell. When Sherree and I started out for the August rally we found that I had a headlight not working. Easy replacement right? Well, not so. The manufacturer design had made it impossible to get to the retaining screws that hold the sealed beam bulb. I wanted some advice on how to proceed and asked a few of our Cardinal Virginians as well as the Colonial Virginians members how they would get to it. Well, the next thing I know, everyone is out there with their tools proceeding to dismantle our coach. Needless to say, I now have two new headlights thanks to everyone's work.

That is another reason to join a Chapter and attend rallies. There seems to always be someone around to help with whatever problems you might have. Thanks loads guys!

Remember to make those rally reservations, our October rally before GEAR has an August 31 deadline to reserve to assure a camping site (and the 25% discount). Even if you are not sure you can make it, you can always cancel, but you cannot always find a site.

We have now some 2026 rallies arranged. Team up with some new members and cohost with them. Now is the time for us to get next years calendar on the books. Let our Rally master/Trail Boss, Gary Lambert, know of your hosting plans.

Life just seems better when shared,
Baynard

Hosting a Rally

We now have some rallies scheduled for 2026! Thank you to everyone who stepped up and volunteered to host. There are still opportunities available for hosting if you are interested

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.

This idea could also be applied in reverse. So if you are a new member who is thinking about hosting for the first time, don't be afraid to ask those "seasoned" members for help hosting.

August Rally Report

We had a great time at Sun Resorts Shenandoah Valley. The Pittman's and Sonnessas' did a great job hosting so many of us.

We had 14 coaches, and Feliza (in a cabin) attend, which included three members of the Colonial Virginians rally group. John Cooper gathered several members early Tuesday morning for a mile + walk. Karilyn Pittman provided materials for a painted barn quilt cardinal. Ellen Kane (Colonial Virginians) provided materials for rock painting and garden stakes.

There were campfires at night with good conversations and games. The weather was good and the food was great as always. There were a couple previous members that visited as well. Overall it was a great time with old and new friends alike!

Mona Ferguson



August Rally Attendees:

Mona & Brent Ferguson with daughter Sarah and grandson Sonny
Sherree & Baynard Barton
Judy & Gene Matthews
Sharon & Timm Seaman
Diane & John Cooper
Ellen & Ken Kane (Colonial Virginians)
Jeanette & Jim Harlow (Colonial Virginians)
Brenda & Jerry Clemmer (Colonial Virginians)
Betty Franklin & Rex Monroe
JoAnne & Leon Kates
Donna & Tim Handy
Barbara & Larry Compter
Feliza Jones
Jeanie & Steve Miller
Donna & Bill Brown
Gaye & Gehrig Ferguson

Visitors:

Timm and Sharon's grandson Tyler visited before the rally
Gary and Jane Lambert visited Wednesday
John and Robbie Davis visited on Wednesday

Cardinal Virginians Meeting 8/20/25

A business meeting was held at the August rally. The following things were discussed

Slate of officers for 2026

President-Gary Lambert
Secretary- Donna Handy
Treasurer-Steve Bowers (unless someone steps up)
National Director-Bill Brown
Wagonmaster- Bob Sonessa
Newsletter- Sarah Bishop
Webmaster-Kamal Rojiani
Facebook-Sherry Sonessa
Caring Concerns-Betty Franklin
Chaplain-anyone

Rallies for 2026

April- Lamberts and G. Fergusons
May- Coopers and Kanes
June- Compters and Handys Wytheville KOA 25-28
July-TBD

August-Colonial Virginians Anchor Down in TN 24-30

NO HOST RALLY Clemmons 58-59,Coopers 133 Get site now!!! 1 877 784-4446 filling fast.

September- Sonessa's and B. Fergusons Lancaster, PA

October-open

December-holiday lunch

Motions and Discussions

1. To not charge those who host the rally fee. Passed
2. To pay the FRVA and CV dues for our president. Passed
3. To waiver CV dues for anyone who brings in a new member. After discussion FAILED
4. To dispose of required rally financial form. After discussion, no motion and check with FRVA.

Upcoming Rallies (2025)

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

| MONTH | HOST | LOCATION |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | |
| 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 |

September Rally Agenda

For ALL meals, bring your plate, bowl, silverware and drink and whatever else you want to eat with.

Wednesday travel day; 5:30 Happy Hour provided by the host, Followed by dinner consisting of hamburgers & hot dogs with potato salad & baked beans, and ice cream sandwiches & cookies.

Thursday; Breakfast and lunch on your own and the day is free to do whatever you want.

5:30 Happy Hour and dinner combined. Heavy Hors devours by campers so bring something to share as (This will be our dinner!)

Bring your own drink, plate/bowl and silverware.

Fellowship around a camp fire.

Friday; Breakfast at 9:00 provided be host. Eggs, sausage gravy and biscuits, Bacon, sausage, pancakes & fruit. Bring your own drink of choice, along with your plate/bowl and silverware. Lunch on your own

5:00 dinner at 13 Bones in Mt Airy. We will leave the campground around 4:40.

Come back to the campground after dinner for ice cream sundaes/banana splits and fellowship.
Camp fire if time permits.

Saturday; Breakfast and lunch on your own.

5:00 Happy Hour bring a snack and your drink.

6:00 dinner will be **pot luck**, host will grill pork tenderloin and beef roast. Bring a vegetable, salad or dessert.

Also bring your plate/bowl, silverware and drink.

Sunday; 9:00 Continental breakfast, pastries, fruit, hard boiled eggs & Bagels. Bring your own drink. ? devotions and good byes.

Drive carefully and safe travels to everyone and thank you for coming.

A note from your Trail Boss

Thank you to everyone that has stepped up and volunteered to host a rally for next year (2026). We still have August and maybe October still open.

I know some of you are saying that August is already scheduled but let me explain. August rally is being done by the Colonial Virginians and is a NON HOSTED rally. Which means that no sites have been blocked off, so if you go you will be put wherever they have a site for you and you are on your own each day. I checked into booking a site and was told that I would have to move part of the way through my stay. I decided not to go for that.

The cost for a site is \$99 per day. So I have made a decision to open back up August for our chapter to anyone that would like to host. If you would like to do this, please let either me or Bob Sonnessa know.

Here is a schedule of our rally's for 2026

Gary Lambert Bob Sonnessa
Trail Boss for 2025 Trail Boss for 2026/27

Upcoming Rallies for 2026

| Cardinal Virginians Rallies for 2026 | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | |

| Month | Host/s | Campground | Location | Phone # | |
|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|--|
| April 29 - May 3 | Lamberts & G.Fergusons | Madison Vines CG | 110 Campground Ln, Madison, VA | 540-948-4186 | |
| May ? | Coopers & Kanes | | | | |
| June 25 - 28 | Compters & Handys | Wythville KOA Holiday | 231 KOA Rd., Wythville, VA 24382 | 276-228-2601 | |
| July 23 - 26 | Pittmans & Petersons | Cozy Acres CG | 2177 Ridge Rd. Powhatan, VA 23139 | 804-598-2470 | |
| August | OPEN | | | | |
| September ? | Sonnessas & B. Fergusons | | Lancaster, PA | | |
| Oct | Seamons ? | | | | |
| November | | | | | |
| December | OPEN | Christmas Party | | | |

Caring Concerns

Bill Robbins had a fall on July 4th while trimming a tree branch when the ladder he was on slipped and fell. He fell about 6 feet and broke his right femur and injured his hip. Surgery and physical therapy followed the fall. Let's keep Bill in our thoughts and prayers for a quick recovery so he and Brenda can join us at our rallies. They are hoping to be able to attend the September rally. Also, hugs to Brenda as she helps nurse Bill back to a full recovery.

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

Betty Franklin
Care and Concerns

Your Cardinal Virginians Officers

Current Officers

President, Baynard Barton
Vice President, Kamal Rojiani

2nd VP/trail boss, Gary Lambert
Treasurer, Steve Bowers *Secretary, Donna Handy
Newsletter, Sarah Bishop
National Director, Steve Bowers
Alternate National Director, Bill Brown
Chaplain, John Davis
Caring, Betty Franklin
Webmaster, Kamal Rojiani
Face book Administrator, Carol Melton

Upcoming officers

President-Gary Lambert
Secretary- Donna Handy
Treasurer-Steve Bowers (unless someone steps up)
National Director-Bill Brown
Wagonmaster- Bob Sonessa
Newsletter- Sarah Bishop
Webmaster-Kamal Rojaini
Facebook-Sherry Sonessa
Caring Concerns-Betty Franklin
Chaplain-anyone

Editors note

If you have anything you would like included in future newsletters, please send it to me. You can email me, (bishops816@gmail.com) text me (276-613-5487) or even reach out through Facebook. Please have anything you want included to me by the 25th of the previous month. (for example, if you want something in the October newsletter please get it to me by Sept. 25) This insures that I have plenty of time to make sure I include it. Thank you again for this opportunity to serve the Cardinal Virginians as your newsletter editor.

Newsletter Distribution

If you are receiving the email individually from our wonderful president, please know that this may not always be the case. For legal reasons we send most of our communications through FMCA. Make sure you are on the FMCA mailing list to ensure that you continue to receive the newsletter and other important information from that source. You can also check our website for the information or if necessary we can put this newsletter in the mail.

Sarah Bishop, editor