



www.cardinalvirginians.com.

October Newsletter

A Note from Our President

Hello again Cardinal Virginians,

The weather has been superb lately and was absolutely wonderful for our September rally. Gary and Jane Lambert have certainly outdone themselves hosting this month. We welcomed the Big Lick camping club from Roanoke and surrounding area. They are a great group of folks and hopefully they will want to join us again in the future.

And in speaking of the future, the **Cardinal Virginians welcome our new president, Gary Lambert**. Gary has been filling in for me for some time now at the Eastern Area meetings, as they fall during the same time as my Friends of Hungry Mother State Park meeting. It is only natural that he assumes the roll of Cardinal Virginians President. Let's give Gary a warm welcome.

I have really enjoyed the position of Cardinal Virginians President, it has been my honor and pleasure to serve, but it is time to hand the position over, and Gary will do a great job.

This fall will have Sherree and I traveling from Maine to Florida, as we visit our son and family in upstate New York, and travel on to Acadia National Park. Then we will head to our October rally in Lake City, SC, and on to GEAR. From Myrtle Beach, we will continue on to take the coach to Florida, for the winter (and hopefully not having to winterize the coach this year.)

Until we next meet,

Baynard



From Gary Lambert, our new Chapter President

Hello fellow Cardinal Virginians,

I'm Gary Lambert, your new incoming president. I am not a speech writer and certainly will not have the kind of notes that our dear outgoing president did. Baynard did a great job during his three years as your president and if I can do half as good of a job as he did, I will be grateful.

We are closing out our 2025 season with a pre-rally at Lake City RV Park in South Carolina, then heading over to Ocean Lakes Resort in Myrtle Beach for GEAR. Hope everyone that is planning to attend has made their reservations and we look forward to seeing you there.

We have most of our rallies for next year lined up with maybe 1 or 2 months still open, so put on your thinking caps and come up with a place for us to go and let your wagon master, Bob Sonnessa, know.

Now just a little about me. I have been camping since I was a kid laying on the ground on a blanket looking up at the stars. Went to a tent, then to a pop up, to travel trailer, to 5th wheel now motorhome. I guess the next stop will be the old folk's home. I have been a member of Cardinals for 7 years and have loved every minute of it and meeting some great people.

Looking forward to making our chapter larger with more members.

See you down the road.
Gary

Hosting a Rally

We now have most of our rallies scheduled for 2026! Thank you to everyone who stepped up and volunteered to host. There may still opportunities available for hosting if you are interested. It is never too soon to start looking ahead to the 2027 season either!

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.

This is a great idea going forward as we hopefully continue to grow and gain new member

Rally Report for September 10th - 14th Mayberry Campground, Mount Airy, NC.

There were 11 coaches in attendance. It was hosted by Jane and Gary Lambert .

Other attendees were Baynard and Sherree Barton, John and Diane Cooper, Brent and Mona Ferguson, Doug Griffith and Jo Lynn Valenti and Paul and Barbara Young.

Also joining our group were guests from the Big Lick group that Gary and Jane belong to. Bob and LaVerne Cosner, Dennis and Debbie Epperly, Joe and Phyllis Kuehn, Ervin and Daphne Gladden, and Merl and Donna Bell.

Jane and Gary provided happy hour and a wonderful dinner for the those of us that arrived on Wednesday followed by delicious brownies, haystacks, and ice cream sandwiches. We enjoyed a cool peaceful evening by the fire.

On Thursday everyone was on their own to explore the area. The remaining campers arrived Thursday afternoon. We had heavy hors d'oeuvres provided by the group for dinner and again enjoyed a cool peaceful evening by the fire.

Friday morning our hosts provided an amazing breakfast for the group. The rest of the day everyone explored the area again. We met for dinner at 5:00 at 13 Bones in Mt. Airy.

On Saturday, again we were on our own to explore or stay at the campground and relax. Our hosts provided pork and roast and the campers brought a side or dessert to share. We had banana splits provided by our hosts.

Sunday morning we had a continental breakfast and sadly we all had to say goodbye for this trip. Both groups seemed to hit it off and had many stories to share with each other.

Many thanks to Jane and Gary for hosting and all of those in both groups who helped to make a successful rally. I think Gary must have put his order in early for the beautiful weather that we enjoyed.

Sherree Barton



Upcoming Rallies 2025

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.

2025 Rallies (remaining)

Month	Host	Location
October 29- November 2	Un-hosted	Crossroads Resort. Lake City, SC
November 5-9 (early sites 11/2)	GEAR	Ocean Lakes. Myrtle Beach, SC

A note about the October Rally

Glad to see you are joining us for our un-hosted October PreRally at Lake City before GEAR.

We have tentatively come up with a schedule for the first few day's meals. We can enjoy other pursuits as they come along.

For our arrival day Wednesday October 29, we hope to find a suitable local restaurant for our evening get together welcoming meal, since everyone will be traveling that day.

Then on Thursday evening October 30, we were thinking of a Heavy Happy Hour conviviality for the evening.

On Friday evening we might try a pot luck dinner, with everyone their favorite items. We can decide on Saturday and Sunday as we go along

Of course, depending on the weather and the availability of an inside space to gather, things can change.

It will be good to see everyone again, we are certainly looking forward to getting together.

Baynard and Sherree

A note regarding GEAR

To all our Cardinal Virginians planning on attending GEAR in. Myrtle Beach

It would be nice to know if you are planning on attending the GEAR in Myrtle Beach. That way we can plan some group get togethers while there.

Please drop me an email or text if you are coming, So we can get you included.
bbarton@appleshackcrafts.com Text- 276-223-2797

Thanks,
Baynard

Cardinal Virginians Rallys 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			

July, 2026 Cardinal Virginians Rally

7/23/26-7/26/26

Co-Hosted by Michelle & Larry Peterson and Karilyn & Mark Pittman

Cozy Acres Campground

2177 B Ridge Road

Powhatan, VA 23139

(804)598-2470

www.cozyacres.com

We have arranged for the July, 2026, Rally to be held at Cozy Acres Campground in Powhatan, VA. We have worked with the campground staff to save 14 campsites for our group. There is a variety of sites in various prices ranges.

The campground has agreed to hold the campsites until June, 2026, however, we recommend that you make your reservations as soon as possible in order to get the site that you desire.

They will require one night's deposit to hold your site.

Your co-hosts will be on waterfront sites. The Petersons will be on Site 117 and the Pittmans will be on Site 118. These sites allow our RVs to face each other and the gathering spot for the rally will be between these two sites.

All sites have full hookups. The prices range from \$62.00/night to \$90.00/night. The sites that we have secured, along with the prices and a brief description, are listed below. If the sites we blocked are no longer available, the campground may have other sites, however, we encourage you to book sooner instead of later. Remember to mention "Cardinal Virginians" when booking your site.

Site Number	Description	Price	Campers
37	VIP site Pull through with Gazebo	\$90/night	
38	Super Site Pull through with paver patio	\$62/night	
39	Super Site Pull through with paver patio	\$62/night	
52	Super Site Pull through with paver patio	\$62/night	Sonnessas
53	Super Site Pull through with paver patio	\$62/night	Bartons
54	Super Site Pull through with paver patio	\$62/night	Bishops
55	Super Site Pull through with paver patio	\$62/night	
56	Super Site Pull through with paver patio	\$62/night	
115	VIP Site Back-in Waterfront with a patio	\$80/night	
116	VIP Site Back-in Waterfront with a patio	\$80/night	
117	VIP Site Back-in Waterfront with a patio	\$80/night	Petersons (co-hosts)
118	(motorhomes only) Pull-in Waterfront with a patio	\$80/night	Pittmans (co-hosts)
119	VIP (motorhomes only) Pull-in Waterfront with a patio	\$80/night	Rapps
120	VIP (motorhomes only) Pull-in Waterfront with a patio	\$80/night	

We have reserved the clubhouse for the weekend to be used in the event of rain.

***A reminder: Please let us know when you make your reservations and what site you chose. Having an accurate headcount is very helpful when planning meals and activities.

You can email us at karilypittman@gmail.com (Karilyn) or shell2is67@gmail.com (Michelle)



Caring and Concerns

- Keep Becki Pillis in your thoughts and prayers as she had hip replacement on August 25th. We hope she is having a speedy recovery
- We continue to send our love and prayers to Feliza at the loss of her brother.
- Robbie Davis had a fall and hurt her arm and shoulder. Let's keep her and John in a prayers.
- 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 as he continues to recover. Also, hugs to Brenda as she helps nurse Bill back to a full recovery
- Tim Handy has knee surgery on October 15. Please keep Tim in your thoughts and prayers for a successful surgery and quick 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 November newsletter please get it to me by Oct. 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