

March 31st, 2017

Greetings to my FMCA friends,

Today, I'm asking for your help and input to make a difference in FMCA's tomorrow.

You see, when the current executive leadership came into office, we faced BIG challenges.

Membership in FMCA had been on the decline for many years. The cost of providing the benefits we all value was snowballing into ever bigger numbers.

The future of FMCA was dim. We asked ourselves, "what do we do next?"

As a leadership team, we could have taken the path of least resistance and done nothing. That would have pushed critical decisions to a future-elected group.

But burying our heads in the sand wasn't the right thing to do for FMCA. Or for our friends and fellow FMCA members.

It was time for us to step up and make critical recommendations. After extensive research and discussion, the Executive Board voted *unanimously* to recommend changes to the governing documents that would allow all RV owners to join FMCA. These recommendations will be put to a Governing Board vote in July, and if they pass, the entire membership will be asked to approve before any changes take place.

You are probably well aware of the strong feelings on both sides of this change. It is a pretty big remodeling project for our association. But I want you to know why I agree with this decision:

- I have seen the future without change. It is difficult, and shorter than any of us would want for FMCA.
- I have been involved in all decisions, and I am in full agreement with the Board's recommendation.
- I care deeply about FMCA, its members, and its future. The recommendation is made with this commitment first and foremost.

You and I know change is hard, but often necessary for the greater good and the future. The turning point for me was when we allowed ourselves as a group to be guided by this statement: **FMCA is not about the equipment; it's about the people.**

Members have posted comments online that indicate a clear majority are in favor of this remodel. We will continue to invite members to voice their opinion up until the Governing Board meeting in Indianapolis in July.

We'll also continue to pass along feedback, such as this [FAQ collection](#) that is being distributed to the membership next week. I encourage you to also post this on your chapter's website. As regional and chapter leaders, you now have a copy of the document before it goes to all members. My hope is that it will help you with answers to any questions that may come up. If you know of any members who haven't received the FAQ document for any reason, please share it.

Three things I ask of you:

1. Attend the convention in July. You can register [here](#).
2. If there are any questions you are unable to answer, please let me know [here](#). I'll personally help you respond.
3. Keep in mind that change like this doesn't happen overnight. We are laying the foundation for a healthy, successful association for the next generation of members. During the building process, we'll be listening for input from members, responding to the needs of the membership, and acting as good stewards of FMCA's resources.

Thank you,

David Kessler
International Area National Vice President

Save the date: Under a Tucson Sun, February 5-9, 2018