

# THE NAARVA



# VOICE

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 1

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WINTER 2026

## From The President's Desk...



Dear NAARVA Family,

I hope this new year has already brought you a sense of renewal, purpose, and excitement for the journeys ahead. Winter is often a quieter season on the road, but it's a valuable time to reflect, reset, and get our rigs, plans, and spirits ready for another incredible year together. NAARVA continues to grow because of your enthusiasm, commitment, and the community you help create. I am grateful for every member who carries our mission forward and keeps the heart of NAARVA strong.



*Rodney Thompson*  
**President**  
**National African**  
**American**  
**RVers Association**

With spring fast approaching, we are officially gearing up

for our regional rallies taking place from April through June. Now is the perfect time to prepare. Double-check your RV maintenance, review your travel routes, register early, and reach out to your regional leadership teams if you'd like to volunteer or get involved. These rallies are where friendships deepen, memories are made, and the true spirit of NAARVA shines.

We look forward to seeing you on the road soon and kicking off another unforgettable rally season together. Until then, stay warm, stay safe, and keep looking forward to the adventures ahead.

**Rodney Thompson**



# NAARVA Executive Board 2025 - 2027



**RODNEY THOMPSON**  
President



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2nd Vice President



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**JANICE CAMPBELL**  
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**JAMES CAMPBELL**  
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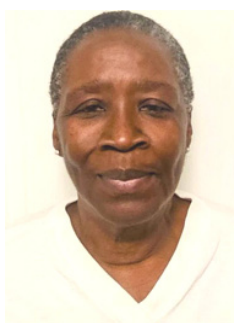
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Treasurer



**ANDREA JOHNSON**  
"AJ" HARVEY  
Assistant Treasurer



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Director, Eastern Region



**VENSON H. MILLER, SR.**  
Director, Southern Region



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Director, Central Region



**LIZ HEMINGWAY**  
Director, Western Region

## Appointed Positions

**Rev. Garland Scott**  
*National Chaplain*

**Connie Malone**  
*Parliamentarian*

**Jean Hampton** - *Ecologist*

**Ronald (Ron) Standifer** -  
*Historian*

**Mila Turner**  
*Public Relations Coordinator*

**Iris Raines**  
*Constitution &  
By-Laws Chair*

**Joellen Davis**  
*National Scholarship Chair*

**Iris Raines**  
*Benevolent Coordinator*

**Lonnie Fyles**  
*Nominations/Elections*

**James H. Gregory, Jr.**  
*NAARVA Voice Editor  
(Newsletter)*

Working closely with the  
Executive Board, Appointees  
will perform duties that complete many functions.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS

The NAARVA President is responsible for appointing volunteers for various committees, and you may be called upon, please think about serving when it's your time to serve.

# Update Your NAARVA Membership Portal!

Hello NAARVA Members,

On December 15, NAARVA launched a new version of the membership portal on the website. With this update, the member login page will look a little different, and you'll have to enter your same email to setup your account.

To begin the new login process:

- Go to [NAARVA.com/members](http://NAARVA.com/members)
- Sign in using the NAARVA registered email address and select forgot password
- Type email and enter code
- Go to your registered email, retrieve the code and follow the direction on the email (Check your spam or Junk if you don't receive the email)
- Log into your account (make sure all information is updated and correct)

If your membership has two registered email addresses, each member can create their own unique login and password. Your accounts will remain linked, and you will continue sharing the same membership benefits. If you have problems logging in, contact your Club President, Member-at-Large Liaison or Regional Director.

*James F. Campbell*

**Financial Secretary**

**NAARVA Headquarters**

**961 Roberts Branch Pkwy, Ste 106-240**

**Columbia, SC 29203**

**[FinancialSecretary@naarva.com](mailto:FinancialSecretary@naarva.com)**

## Letter from the Editor...

By the time you all see this we will have gone through both of the holidays. I hope that they were for you a safe and joyous opportunity to enjoy family, friends, whatever you hold dear, and anyone/thing we have allowed within our extended family. It is time to be thankful in the ways we hold meaningful for the memories past and the new chances, roads, and stages to come. The start of a new year is an exciting time for calm reflection, or to just to go for broke, and take it as it comes. Whichever your choice, we try, not always successfully, to plan within the province of our control, what we will do to make our dreams real, and how we will address these new times to come. Ready or not! Ah, yes...another New Year!

In this edition of *The VOICE*, our President reflects on roads both past and upcoming, you get reminders on updates and changes to our portal, the latest on Education, and Reverend Scott brings us his new message. Our Regions, mainly, the Eastern, Southern and Western are revealing their plans for their upcoming rallies, the Rocky Mountain RV Rollers talk about their charitable giving, the Virginia Camping Cardinals share with us the events and excitement of their cross-country odyssey, our NAARVA Ecologist reminds us of our ongoing challenges, and you get the next installment of our quarterly "Looking Ahead" listings of celebrations and club events.

As always, Thank You all for your participation.

Until the next time.... James



### ***Partner with NAARVA: Reach a Thriving RV Community!***

NAARVA is the largest network of African American RVers and our National Camp Rally is the perfect place to showcase your brand. Sponsorship opportunities offer direct access to an engaged audience of travelers and outdoor enthusiasts.

Brand exposure at national and regional events as well as online.  
Direct engagement with our members.  
Marketing across NAARVA's platforms.

#### **Sponsorship levels available for all budgets!**

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**Become a Sponsor:**  
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**Contact:**  
[mila.turner@naarva.com](mailto:mila.turner@naarva.com)

# Education Station

JOELLEN DAVIS, NAARVA  
Scholarship Committee Chairperson

ATTENTION, Graduating High School Seniors! The 2026 NAARVA Scholarship applications will be posted on the NAARVA website, [NAARVA.com](http://NAARVA.com).

Although, we are **NOT** having a National Rally this year, we will be awarding the SIX Scholarship Opportunities **4 - \$1,000.00 Scholarships** for Graduating High School Seniors who will be attending a 4-year College/University; and **2 - \$500.00 Scholarships** for Graduating High School Seniors who will be attending a Community College/Trade School. All awards will be announced by the end of June 2026.

We encourage all NAARVA members to be alert, watchful and vigilant. Scholarship application forms will be available in March.

**Spread the word!**



*Joellen Davis*

## *How to Submit Articles to The Voice*

If you want to share news from your Club, or have something to say about RV'ing, E-mail your information to your Regional Director. **The deadline for the VOICE content submissions for Spring 2026 issue is March 10, 2026.**

NAARVA members may access *The Voice* through the NAARVA website: [www.naarva.com](http://www.naarva.com).

If you do not have an E-mail account or access to a computer, **call 704-333-3070**, and a hard copy will be mailed to you. *The Voice* is published four times yearly by NAARVA.

Voice Editor: James Gregory [imscholar2@cs.com](mailto:imscholar2@cs.com).

As an ongoing practice all attempts will be made to post the next NAARVA VOICE edition in the first week of the month following the submission deadline month. The Spring NAARVA VOICE will be posted during the first week of April 2026.

## **Easy Way to Pay NAARVA Dues!**

Paypal provides an easy way to pay your dues and Charter Renewals. Check it out at [naarva.com](http://naarva.com)

## **Join Our NAARVA Group**



Find us on  
**Facebook**

## **NAARVA Partnerships**



LOG INTO THE NAARVA MEMBERSHIP PORTAL FOR  
INSTRUCTIONS TO REDEEM OUR EXCLUSIVE PERKS!



10% OFF RESORT BOOKINGS



10% OFF +  
FREE TIRE SERVICES



10% OFF ALL CAMPGROUNDS



FREE RV NIGHT OR 20% OFF STAY



DISCOUNTS ON RV ITEMS &  
REPAIR/MAINTENANCE



10%+ OFF ALL CAMPGROUNDS



4 MONTHS FREE MEMBERSHIP



\$50 OFF RV TANK CLEANING

## NAARVA Chaplain's Corner...

### **The One Percenters** **"Profound Gratitude"**



**REV.  
GARLAND  
SCOTT  
NAARVA  
Chaplain**



In the nature realm or in the world, there is a term called **The One Percent, 1%**. This term has two distinct and widely recognized meanings: a socio-economic (wealth and income), and in the motorcycle culture (outlaw motorcycle gang). I want to introduce another term for the One Percent, The One Percenters that have "Profound Gratitude."

Luke 17:11-19, *"Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, 'Jesus, Master, have pity on us!' When he saw them, he said, 'Go, show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. 16 He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, 'Were not all ten cleansed?"*

*Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?' Then he said to him, 'Rise and go; your faith has made you well.' "*

I cannot over-emphasize the importance of understanding each word in God's Word. I have read and heard this story over a hundred times, but I have never taken the time to break down the meaning of the words and phrases in this Scripture.

"Now on His way" in verse 11 is a key geographical and theological marker in Luke's Gospel. Luke wrote this phrase to show Jesus resumed and continued His final journey toward Jerusalem. Luke 9:51 tells us when this final journey started, "As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem." This verse marks a massive shift in Jesus' ministry, moving the focus from His teaching and healing in Galilee to His ultimate destiny: His passion, death, and resurrection in Jerusa-

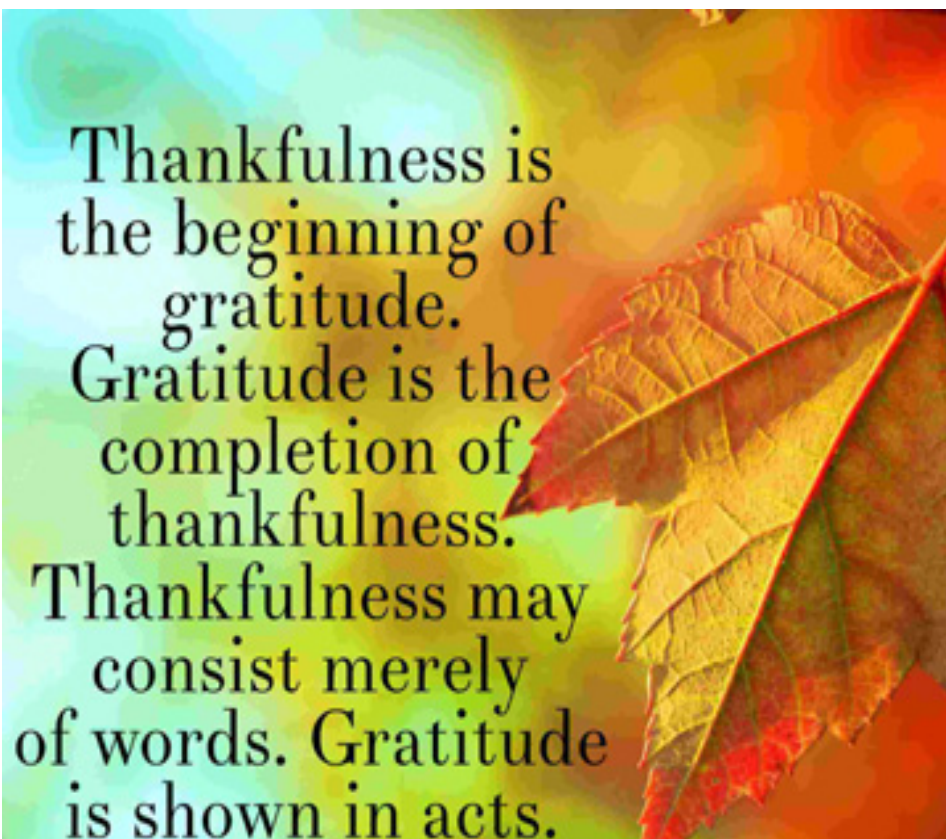
lem.

As He was going into a village, ten men with leprosy met Him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, 'Jesus, Master, have pity on us!' Can you imagine the life of a leper in the time of Jesus? It wasn't just a physical disease; it was a social death sentence. Separated from family, community, and worship, they were utterly isolated. They stood at a distance, calling out their desperate plea for mercy. This story begins with ten men — ten outcasts — united by their shared suffering. Their cry for mercy is a cry we all understand. We, too, are often afflicted by sin, illness, and isolation; we need a Master to show us mercy.

Let me help us gain a better understanding of the ten men with leprosy, how they stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice. It is plausible that these ten men were nine Jews. One was a Samaritan, Luke 17:18. Usually, the Jews had no dealings with the Samaritans, and the Samaritans had no dealings with the Jews, because when the Jews of the northern kingdom intermarried with Assyrians after their captivity, this union produced a half-Jewish, half-Gentile race called Samaritans.

Jews and Samaritans have key differences in their religious authorities, Holy Scriptures, and holy sites, stemming from their historical origins as descendants of the separate northern Samaritan and southern Judean Kingdoms of ancient Israel. Samaritans accept only the Pentateuch — the first five books of the Torah — and believe Mount Gerizim is their holy center of worship. In contrast, Jews take the entire Hebrew Bible and consider

*(Continued on page 7)*



## Chaplain's Corner...

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Jerusalem and the Temple Mount holy. Additionally, Jews follow rabbinic authority, whereas Samaritans view the Levite priests as their religious authority.

The Jews and Samaritans were bitter enemies. They were separated by history, theology, and deep-seated prejudice. A Jew would not share a drink with a Samaritan; they certainly would not live alongside one. But these ten men were a group of lepers who were bound together by their shared social isolation, as the disease of leprosy forced them to live as social outcasts. They were forced to shout, *unclean, unclean*, to warn the healthy people nearby. They had no other companionship but each other, united by their illness. Their shared experience fostered a temporary fellowship despite their differing backgrounds.

The moment they were all afflicted with the same desperate need — the need for healing — their human differences became meaningless. Leprosy was a great equalizer. It reminds us that when we face a crisis, a shared pain, or a common threat, our petty divisions — our race, our politics, our social standing — can suddenly fade away. They stood together at a distance and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!” They demonstrated faith in Jesus’ authority and power.

When Jesus heard their unified cry for help, He gave a simple, yet profoundly faith-testing command. “Go show yourselves to the priests.” The priests were the only ones authorized to declare a healed leper clean, allowing them to return to society (Leviticus

13 and 14).

Leviticus 13 and 14 form a single extensive legal unit concerning diseases and purity, focusing primarily on a severe skin ailment often translated as leprosy and various forms of mold or mildew in clothing and houses. These chapters served a dual purpose: a public health guide and a spiritual illustration of sin and restoration. Chapter 13 focuses on diagnosis and isolation, while Chapter 14 focuses on purification and restoration.

The miracle, however, didn’t happen immediately. The Scripture says, “As they went, they were cleansed.” Their healing was an act of faith and obedience. They started walking while still sick, trusting Jesus’ Word. Their skin was restored, their bodies made whole, and their isolation was broken.

The ticket back to life was in their hands. They had done the minimum required: they cried out for mercy, and they obeyed the command to go. This speaks volumes about the nature of God’s grace. God is incredibly generous. He provides for the needs of all His people, the just and the unjust.

After the healing, how many do you think returned to Jesus? The central point of this story is not the miracle of the healing, but the miracle of the human heart’s response. Only one returned. Jesus asks the piercing question: “Where are the other nine?”

The Bible doesn’t address what happened with the other nine. But we do know, according to Scripture, that they were obedient to the Law, fulfilling the requirement for their return to society. They saw their healing as the end of the transaction; they were cured, and now they had things to do. They failed to recognize the greater duty of grati-

tude and worship to the One who healed them. Their hurried departure suggests their priority was the blessing — their restored life — rather than the Blessor, Jesus the Christ.

The one man, however, had a fundamentally different reaction. He didn’t just notice he was clean; he truly saw the magnitude of the grace he had received. He returned. He changed his course. He prioritized a moment of worship over his immediate legal obligations. He gave praise to God. His response was loud, public, and he focused on God. He fell at Jesus’ feet. This was an act of humble adoration and worship. He offered his entire self in gratitude.

This story points out a crucial detail: He was a Samaritan, a foreigner, the Greek word for foreigner is *allogenes*, meaning a different race, another nation, other-born, stranger, an outsider, doubly marginalized. It was the one least expected to show proper respect who offered the most valid form of worship. His gratitude broke through social and religious barriers.

To those who returned — the One Percenters—Jesus makes a final, profound statement to the one: “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.” The Greek word used here for ‘well’ is *sozo*, which means to save, to make whole, or to deliver. This is a deeper kind of restoration than the cleansing received by the nine. The nine received physical healing. They were stored in society. The one received wholeness and salvation. He was restored to a right relationship with God.

His thankfulness was the visible fruit of a deeper, saving faith. He saw in Jesus not just a healer, but his Lord and Savior. His gratitude demonstrated a faith that embraced the Giver, not just the gift. But the story doesn’t end with the miracle. It ends with a question, a powerful, convicting question: “Where are the nine?” “Where are the nine?” is not a question of an ungrateful god, but a re-

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## Notices of Member Deaths

Please e-mail NOTICES OF MEMBER DEATHS to [benevolence@naarva.com](mailto:benevolence@naarva.com). Please include the following in your e-mail:

- Deceased Members’s Full Name
- NAARVA Number (if known)
- Regopm amd Club Name
- Date of Death (Month, Day, Year)

Iris Raines, NAARVA 2nd Vice President, is the Benevolent Coordinator.



## CENTRAL REGION

### Hello NAARVA Members!

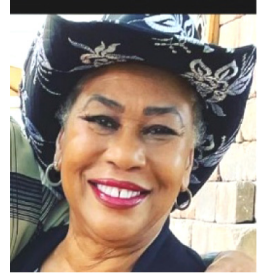
The Central Region is busy planning our 2026 Rally. June 7 - 14, 2026 at the Cardinal Center in Marengo, OH 43334. You can look forward to another fantastic rally featuring, full hook-ups, in-door pool and an onsite restaurant along with all the fun activities we are planning. Look for the registration packet in January 2026.



The Central Region Election of Officers is also scheduled for 2026. The application to apply for office will go out via Constant Contact in the Central Region Winter Newsletter. All positions are open, Director, Assistant Director, Secretary, Assistant Director, Treasurer and Financial Secretary. All members are encouraged to consider serving on the Central Region Executive Board. If you are considering running for office and have questions, send your inquiry to [naarvacentralregion@yahoo.com](mailto:naarvacentralregion@yahoo.com). We are all blessed to be members of this historic organization and survival depends on members running for office, giving input, volunteering and offering suggestions that will help our organization grow.

On behalf of the NAARVA Central Region Executive Board..... **Sylvia Allen**, Director

**Sylvia Allen**  
Director, Central  
Region



## Rocky Mountain RV Rollers Help Out Local Community

Every year, the *Rocky Mountain RV Rollers* have committed to giving back to the local community through their annual Charitable Donation Fund. Over the years, the Rollers have given monetary funds to the American Red Cross, United Way, Food Bank of the Rockies, KOA Kids Kare Camp, and various Homeless Shelters. Members have also donated blankets, socks, and tarps for those in homeless shelters and prepared food baskets for those in need. This year, the Rollers decided to purchase miscellaneous hygiene items and prepare specific Hygiene Kits for men and Women. Each kit had 10 items in a zip lock bag for safety and security.

I am very thankful for the fifteen Rollers who were able to come out on November 29th and help put together the Hygiene Kits to give to the Denver Rescue Mission. We put together over 40 kits! When I took them to the Denver Rescue Mission, they were so appreciative it really warmed my heart! I KNOW that the funds we used from the Roller



treasury were put to a good cause. It always feels good when you can help someone else and pass on that caring spirit! Thank you, Rollers for supporting this endeavor!

**Submitted By:**  
**Joellen Davis, President**



### Chaplain's Corner... (Continued from page 7)

flection of the ungrateful human heart. It is a question Jesus asks of us today: take time to truly see the miracles in your life — your health, your family, your provision — and, above all, the cleansing from sin through the cross of Jesus' blood.

We see healings, blessings, breakthroughs, and miracles being performed each day through the divine power of God's grace and mercy. But ingratitude blinds us. It causes us to see God's daily, miraculous provision, our health, our family, our freedoms, not as gifts to be cherished, but as the default setting of existence. It makes us forget

the state we were in before God intervened.

The one who returned was a Samaritan, a foreigner, in the eyes of the Jews. He had been marginalized twice: once by his disease and once by his identity, Samaritan. Yet he was the only one whose heart was truly changed. This One Percenter showed profound gratitude, going beyond polite; he was physical in his actions and worship of Jesus.

True, profound gratitude is a spiritual thermometer of our soul. It is evidence that our faith is alive, and that we recognize God as the loving, inter-

vening Lord and Savior, the Master of our lives. **Praise God, Praise God, Praise God. Amen**

## EASTERN REGION

### *Memories Are Forever*

The month-long, 11 RV caravan, cross-country trip by the *Virginia Camping Cardinals* (VCC) began with a comprehensive plan, expertly choreographed covering many essential elements. These elements include a circular or looped route, pre-arranged RV campgrounds, activities and points of interest at each stop, task coordinators, and cost estimates. Cost estimates were developed for fuel, drive times, and anticipated campground or lodging expenses. Critical coordinators included Group Chaplain, Destination Activity information Coordinator, Weather Tracker, Medical/Emergency Contact Coordinator, Photographic/Video Coordinator, Traffic Logistics, and Fuel Stop Coordinator. This clear structure helped ensure all responsibilities and activities were well defined and managed.

Several months before the journey, our Wagon Master and VCC president, Michael Terrell developed and distributed the trip itinerary with dates by which to reserve our spots at each campground. He reminded everyone to make sure their coaches were in tip-top shape. He also suggested bringing extra items like belts and fluids for emergencies. Our Medical/Emergency Contact Coordinator, Angela Wilkins recommended we carry along emergency vests and consider wearing compression socks. She also reminded us to stock up on medications so as not to run out.

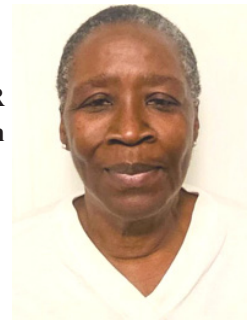
Our initial rendezvous location was in Argillite, KY, on September 10th. There we went over the plan includ-

ing average driving speed and rest stop breaks. Mike created a group text message list so members could relay important information. Two-way radios were extremely useful and a must have for any caravan. We also reviewed our various tasks and completed emergency contact cards distributed by Angela. Each person on the trip was provided with an Emergency Magnetic File for Life Card. The information included emergency contact information, a list of physical conditions and current medications. It was recommended that these cards be placed inside each coach and also be kept with each one while on excursions. Passengers from another RV, Montonya (Cookie) Boozier and Pamela (Dee) Dickens volunteered to share the driving with solo driver, Jackie Glover, which was a tremendous blessing. We started each morning with a glorious prayer from our Chaplain, Olric Wilkins, praying for continued safe travel and blessings for our families and homes. Mike conducted a two-way radio check.



We had an early start to the next stop in St. Charles, MO. Our Traffic Logistics and Photographic/Video Coordinator, Pamela (Dee) Dickens kept the caravan exiting each RV park moving smoothly to avoid traffic jams. The line-up for the caravan proved to be important. Not all members of the group drove 40-45 foot class A's. Mike recognized that smaller coaches were difficult to see so they were kept up front.

**LINDA TRILEUR**  
Director, Eastern  
Region



Also, it was important to keep a steady speed so the caravan would run as tight as possible. Along the way, we received fuel stop information from our Fuel Stop Coordinator, Deborah Godbolt, using our group text. Our Destination Activity Information Coordinator, Patricia Terrell, provided points of interest at each stop. Each evening ended with a detailed weather update for the departing and arrival cities from our Weather Coordinator, Francina McRae.



Off E-A-R-L-Y the next morning to WaKeeney, Kansas. A few visited The Shiloh Vinyards and the Castle Rock formations. Others visited Dodge City. One of the highlights here was a trip to the city of Nicodemus. As the first well-known all-black community on the plains, Nicodemus, Kansas became a national

exemplar of Black self-improvement.

Next, on to Fountain, CO, near Colorado Springs. Many visited Pike's Peak, 14,000 feet above sea level. This adventure is not for the squeamish! There are several ways to get to the top. Some took the train and others drove up. While descending by car, drivers are required to make a man-

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## Memories Are Forever...

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datory stop for a brake inspection. And that's all I want to say about that!

On to Laramie, WY for an overnight stay. The Grand Teton National Park near Alpine, WY was next on our list. What an experience! Some saw Yellowstone National Park and Old Faithful for the first time!

In Twin Falls, ID we visited Shoshone Falls, a waterfall on the Snake River, sometimes called the "Niagara of the West". There are some amazing rock formations in the Twin Falls area, who knew! And of course, we took time to share a meal together!



Next was down the road to Boise, ID. Here we rested, did some laundry and, what else, went to Walmart!



In Klamath Falls, OR we visited Crater Lake. Fed only by rain and snow, it's one of the deepest lakes in the U.S. and one of the most pristine on Earth. The royal blue lake was a beautiful site to see!

Have you ever seen a self-driving car? Well, there's plenty on the streets of San Francisco! Wow, what an adventure!

Many folks walked the entire Golden Gate Bridge, and we got pictures... check out our Facebook page. Several members visited Alcatraz Island and



were able to exit the ferry and walk the halls of the prison. And there is no way to visit San Fran' without a stop at Fisherman's Wharf and Pier 39 where the Sea Lions hang out.

After three days in San Francisco, we were off to Visalia. More varieties of fruits and nuts are produced in the San Joaquin Valley of Central California than anywhere else in the US! Some folks visited General Sherman, the giant sequoia tree in the Sequoia National Park. It is the largest single-stem tree on earth!

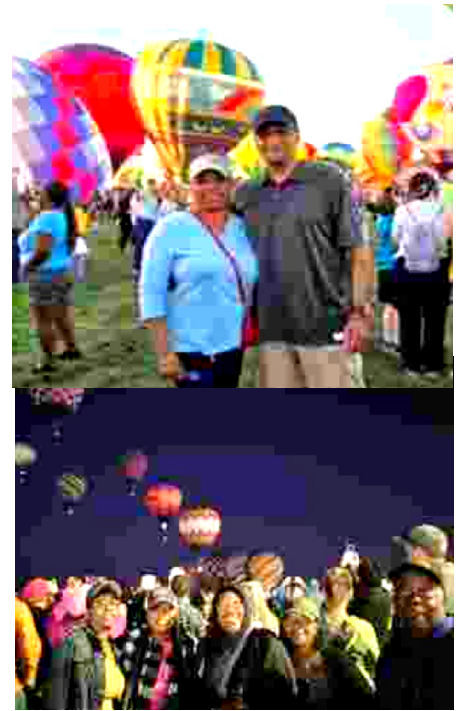
Quick, which U.S. city uses the greatest amount of electricity? It's Vegas baby! And there we were!

Some folks went to the west rim of



the Grand Canyon where the glass bottom balcony is located... yikes! Others visited Hoover Dam, which is recognized as a historic landmark for its engineering innovations. Thousands of tourists visit each year.

Many of us had friends and family members nearby join us at our locations! One member met up with her niece in San Francisco, others meet with friends in Napa, CA for lunch and a glass of wine. Another member checked in on a daughter in Kansas, and another met with friends in Okla-



homa. In Flagstaff, family members from California camped with us, and took the historic Grand Canyon Railroad to the south rim of the Grand Canyon.

The piece de resistance, (and most expensive excursion) was the International Balloon festival in Albuquerque, NM. The festival has grown into the world's largest balloon festival, attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors annually and features hundreds of balloons from around the world.

The best steak I've ever eaten was in Amarillo, TX. We were there and yes, we waited almost an hour at The Big Texan Restaurant, home of the 72 oz. steak!

One of the most moving experiences of our journey was a visit to the Greenwood Rising Black Wall Street History Center in Tulsa, OK. NAARVA arranged a visit to the center during the 2022 National Rally in Shawnee, OK. You cannot visit too many times! We also dined at an incredible eatery, C'est Bon Kitchen. You've got to check out the video on the VCC Facebook page or YouTube channel. It's really cool!

Next to the last stop was Memphis, TN. We stayed right across the street from Graceland. Some visited the Lorraine Hotel where Dr. Martin

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## Memories Are Forever...

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Luther King Jr. was assassinated.

The trip ended in Stone Mountain, GA with a potluck and a celebration for our incoming president, Jesse McRae's birth-



day. Mike thanked everyone who assisted in making this trip a success. Everyone would leave the next morning for their homes or next destination.

Here are a few comments for those who came along for the ride. "The trip was magnificent; it could not have been better." "It's a trip that can be passed on to any group of 5 or more people to learn proper planning..." "I was able to go to Yellowstone to see wildlife, the balloon festival was awesome..." "This trip was absolutely fantastic... I checked off many things on my bucket list... Old faithful was surreal... as was the Greenwood Center and the Lorraine Hotel. I travel internationally but there is so much to see here in the U.S." "This trip has been absolutely fantastic... if there was a flaw it was the fact that it ended too soon." "The trip was superb, a trip of a lifetime... we saw so much of the United States of America, we didn't have to go to Europe or Asia... it allowed us to interact with

each other (in ways which) we don't normally do."

We saw God's Creation in a brand new light. It gave us a tremendous appreciation for the beauty of our country. We met some wonderful people. I was very impressed with the way our president put things together, we did not have to guess about anything." "We were blessed with prayer by our Chaplain each morning. God put a special light on this trip... we had great weather."

The planning for this trip was developed by Michael Terrell, whose extensive experience brought both credibility and thoroughness to the process. Drawing from previous trips, Mike ensured that fuel stops were carefully spaced to avoid delays, consideration given to RV fuel tank capacities, and staying ahead of inclement weather demonstrated how lessons learned from past journeys were directly applied to enhance our travel experience.

There are many more pictures of our extraordinary journey. Visit our Facebook page and YouTube channel for the full array. And finally, the trip doesn't end until the last RV is home!

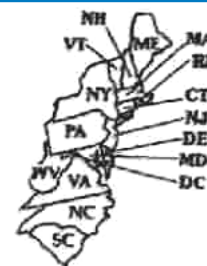


**Join NAARVA for an  
unforgettable weekend of  
great music, factory tours,  
and fellowship!**

**Save the dates!  
June 18-21, 2026**



## NAARVA EASTERN REGION National African American RVer's Association



### EASTERN REGION CAMP RALLY April 30 - May 3, 2026

**Linda Tailleur**  
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**Michael Terrell**  
Asst. Director

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**Lola Porter**  
Scholarship

**Thomas Turcker**  
Coordinator of  
Members-at-Large

**Cheryl McNeil**  
Chaplain

**Donald Tolleut**  
Sgt.-at-Arms

**William Christmas**  
Web Master

**Charles Simmons**  
Photographer

**York Winns (DJ Mike)**  
Eastern Region DJ

Welcome Rally Attendees to the 2026 NAARVA Eastern Region Camp Rally at the Coastal Georgia RV Resort Brunswick, GA, Thursday, April 30th through Sunday, May 3, 2026. If you wish to enter the resort before April 30, 2026, we are offering Early Bird admission commencing Tuesday, April 28th through Wednesday, April 29th. Please see registration form for fees and indicate your desired dates and amount.

A menu selection form is included in the registration packet. Meals will be distributed at your designated time. There will be NO substitutions. Your name tag must always be worn, especially when picking up meals.

Coastal Georgia RV Resort, located in Brunswick, Georgia, offers 163 spacious sites, all 35 feet wide, with lengths ranging from 60 to 79 feet. There are 11 Lakefront, and 8 Endcap sites available on a first-come/first-serve basis. All other sites are Standard Buddy pull through sites with full hookups including 30 & 50 amp service and picnic tables. The resort also has Cable TV and Wi-Fi, swimming pool, game room, 3 bathhouses, 3 laundromats, and a K9 corner. There is a store where you can find RV supplies as well as LP gas. The entire resort is handicap accessible. Bring your fishing rods and enjoy fishing on the lake. Shuffleboard Court and horse-shoe pits are available. Resort check-in time begins at 12 noon. The departure time is 11:00 a.m. Do not attempt to enter the resort before your paid arrival date as your RV site may not be available.

There are many things to do and see locally within a few miles of the resort. These attractions include Historic Downtown Brunswick, Jekyll Island, St. Simons Island, and Cumberland Island. We are planning several games for your fun and excitement including card tango and bean bag baseball. So, bring a chair, your "A" Game and prepare to claim bragging rights. Lip sync and karaoke are back, so start working on your performance. Sign-up sheets will be located at the registration table. Also come ready to participate in the cake walk for delicious treats. Club members/persons who wish to park together must put their club's/person's name on their registration form to ensure that you are parked together. You will not have to send in your registration form together or arrive together. If you do not specify a name or club on your registration form, we cannot guarantee that you will be parked together.



As we enter into another year of camping, we appreciate your continued commitment to NAARVA Eastern Region by ensuring that your Eastern Region membership dues are up-to-date by March 1, 2026.

We look forward to seeing you at this rally as there will be fun, fellowship with family and friends as we make our way to Georgia. Please stay safe during your camping adventures.

**Respectfully Submitted, Linda Tailleur, Director, NAARVA Eastern Region**

**(Complete registration packet on Eastern Region Website)**

# NAARVA



## Southern Region Camp Rally April 19-26, 2026

### SOUTHERN REGION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS:

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DIRECTOR

Paul Clayton  
Assistant Director

Audie Jindlitz  
Secretary

Lynda Daniel  
Assistant Secretary

Ray Raman  
Treasurer

Alexis Miller  
Financial Secretary

Tae Helling  
At-Large Liaison

### Fellow RVers,

I am excited to share plans and invite you to join us for the 2026 NAARVA Southern Region Camp Rally April 19-26, 2026 at Camp Margaritaville RV Resort, in Breaux Bridge, Louisiana. Our theme this year is **"Making Memories"**. It's my honor to invite you to come make memories with us!

We have worked diligently to ensure favorite rally activities like line dancing, bean bag baseball, golf and fishing tournaments and card game competitions are included in the schedule. We have planned special events like a casino bus trip, crafts, nightly bike rides, an RV Swap Meet and informational sessions that are relevant for all RVers.

Camp Margaritaville provides leveled, oversized sites with concrete pads equipped with individual hook ups for water, sewage, and electricity.

Take time to review this informational packet and get ready for a week of fun, relaxation, and memory making! All – NAARVA members and non-NAARVA members are welcome and encouraged to come make memories with us!

**Look forward to seeing you April 19 – 26, 2026!**

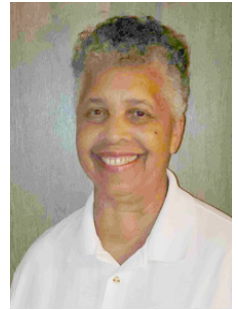
**Complete package on Southern Region Website.**

## WESTERN REGION

Hello, NAARVA Family!

As the year 2025 ends, the Western Region is celebrating a wonderful year of growth in our region. Several clubs ended the year with Christmas campouts and parties. We are working hard to prepare for our 2026 Western Regional Rally in Oregon. Elections are coming up next year and we are excited for a wonderful year of RV'ing. Come join us.

LIZ HEMINGWAY  
Director, Western Region



# 2026 Western Region Rally

## "Rv'ing On The Bay"

### June 2nd – June 7th, 2026



**Ko - Kwel RV Resort & Casino**  
**3201 Tremont Ave**  
**North Bend, Oregon**  
**Complete package on Western Region Website.**



# NAARVA ECOLOGY PROGRAM

## *“Loving Our Earth - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Respect”*

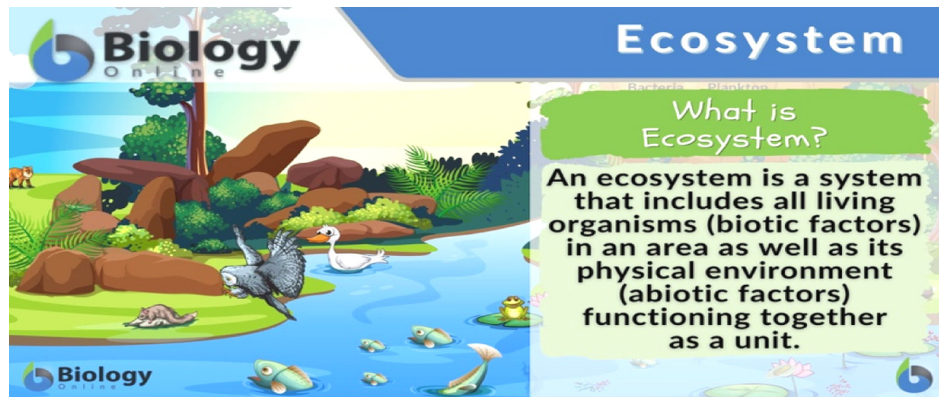
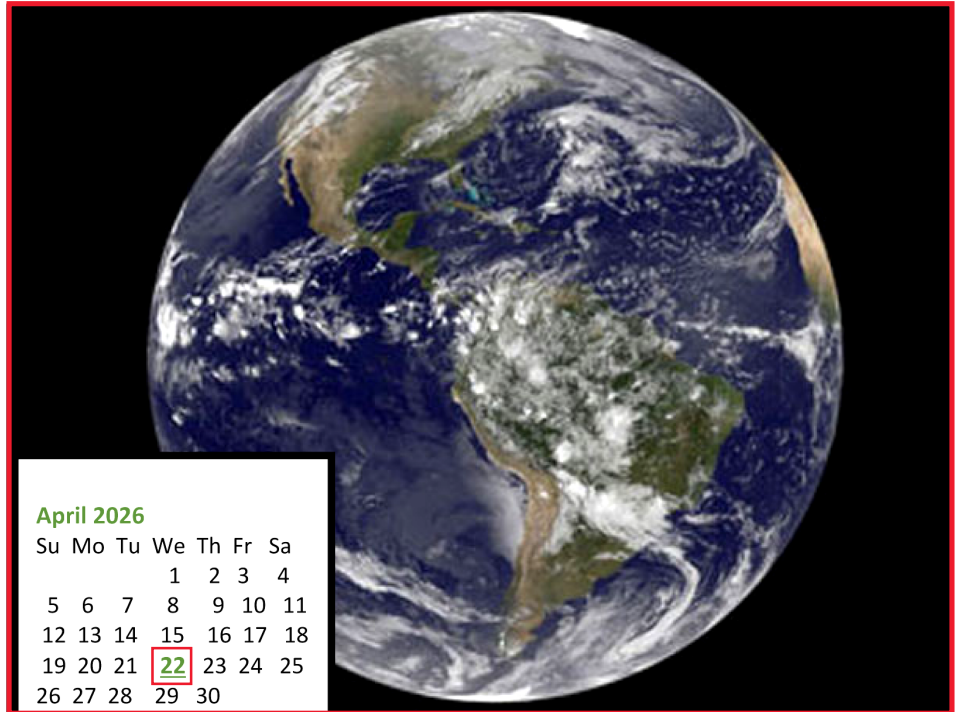
### NAARVA Committed to the Resolve of Plastic Pollution

Jean Hampton, Ph.D., NAARVA Ecologist

**Earth Day**, observed on April 22nd since 1970, will once again celebrate our obligation and commitment to safeguard the well-being of our global environment, and to promote human accountability for sustainable living. It is a day of activities that encourages and informs human behavior through awareness, policy, and reverence, as well as promoting support of existing and developing local, global, and national policies that are key to sustainable living.

**Ecology** is the science of how living organisms, such as humans, thrive with each other within various environments. This science ultimately reveals how we and other living organisms impact, change, support, and flourish in natural earthly environments. Earth remains our only planetary environment. Within this vast global and diverse setting are countless ecological units, or biomes (ecosystems), each naturally engineered to support native organisms. It is imperative that we remain watchful of our “anthropogenic” (human induced) impact on these biomes which support life sustaining capabilities. It is human activity that has stressed our earth biomes, for both living and non-living bodies, thus creating a human footprint on our earth that has moved us into what is proposed as the Anthropocene era, a geological period in which humans present a planetary force of change.

This particular period is not a desired change, demonstrating a move toward planetary unsustainability and loss of ecological vigor. In short, it is humans who are unmistakably responsible for current environmental failings. From polluted waters and air, to loss of biodiversity (from tiny microbes to giant whales), to destruction of supportive abiotic systems such as polar ice, forestry reserves, and terrestrial provisions, we have caused global devastation to the complex web of life that would otherwise provide and maintain a healthy planet. It is humans that have availed our planet to ruinous prospective of unsustainability for healthy life and living as we know it.



**Identify 3 plants, 3 animals (both living organisms), and 3 abiotic factors in the above ecosystem?**

**Animals (living/biotic or organic)**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Plants (living/biotic)**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Non-living (abiotic factors)**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

(Continued on page 16)



## ECOLOGY:

(Continued from  
page 15)

Of all living organisms, humans are singularly and divinely assigned as the dominant earthly species. Thus, we are granted requisite intelligence and judgment to keep earth secure, sustainable for life and living, and to maintain supportive, natural biomes for habitation. If we don't, our future will suffer the eventual disasters of environmental ruin, including potential eradication of many life forms that contribute to health biomes, with non-quantifiable and non-recoverable destruction of effective earthly ecosystems.

Humans should understand that the earth and its non-human components (land, water, air, plants, and animals) can live on without us; that nature, biotic and abiotic, can, in our absence, recover from human abuse and negligence. It is well demonstrated that nature can prevail, continue on, and even flourish in our absence. (I imagine at this point, gratefully so.) Aptly stated, human existence is dependent on nature, but nature is not dependent on the presence of humans; nature will redeem itself in our absenteeism. If trees could speak our language, they might tell us how valueless we are to their continued existence. The oceans and their occupants would elaborate on how much more fertile and ecologically sustainable they would be without the ruinous presence of humans. Animals would explain to us that they are most

likely to endure, if only humans were less invasive and caustic.

I encourage you to review and study credible environmentally based websites which summarize the damages of human contribution to unsustainability. In most natural circumstances, in the absence of human invasion and our ensuing injury and negligence, other living organisms can best survive in their own natural environment. It is a must that we focus our intelligence on the health of the natural environment. This, rather than using our intelligence to support personal or corporate profit. As you travel the road, look at the grasslands and landscapes... particularly in metropolitan areas. No living creature but humans can wreak such filth and level of disregard. We are divine, inherent stewards of planet earth. Google the oceanic "great garbage patches" and review/consider the horrific impact of their presence, and how they came to be. Visit [EPA.gov](http://EPA.gov) to review the status of, and public impacts on air quality, ground water and drinking water. Visit [education.nationalgeographic.org](http://education.nationalgeographic.org) and read on marine debris and numerous other environmental subjects and concerns. Become educated by the [Earth.org](http://Earth.org), the [US Forest Service](http://USForestService), the 2025 [COP 30 United Nations](http://COP30UnitedNations) climate change conference conclusions and consider the origins, volume and NOAA ([noaa.gov](http://noaa.gov)) listed climatic impacts of the various air pollutants on our atmosphere. Consider the hazards of plastic pollution, that of unbridled

purchasing, the fails of effective waste management, and most of all, the dearth of effective global policy and enforcement to mandate universal remediation provisions.

Visit [oceanservice.noaa.com](http://oceanservice.noaa.com). If our lands, trees, oceans and waterways talked to us, would we listen? If they spoke our language, or we theirs, would this have an effective impact? Maybe we would listen if a variety of grossly and adversely impacted creatures such as elephants, whales, birds, insects and jungle species would speak and describe their progressive loss of supportive habitat, their severe reduction in numbers, and their illnesses brought on by destructive human-based activities. Of course, this is impractical thinking. Humans, endowed with the divine gifts of insight and intelligence, should answer the clearly existing and appalling environmental degradation now occurring. We absolutely have the capacity to do so — individually, civically, and socially.

At all levels, both popular and governmental, we must take action in preventing ecological deterioration resulting from harmful climate change, reduction in adequate food resources, decreased biodiversity, disease and hunger, and failing habitat and survival for all living things. A number of environmentally damaging events and occurrences are regarded as potentially irreversible known as "Tipping points". These "Tipping points" are unstoppable

(Continued on page 17)



Can you guess where this waste will go?



Land and habitat lost from rising coastal waters.



**Deforestation in the Amazon.**



**Coral bleaching.**

## ECOLOGY:

*(Continued from page 16)*

occurrences that can approach a “point of no return”, and can serve to accelerate damaging changes in our environmental systems. At present, such points include permafrost, arctic ice sheets, and glacier melting... each of which result in additional warming trends in our oceans and atmosphere. Visit the [Worldwildlife.org](http://Worldwildlife.org) site to review the projected environmental damages from impending “tipping points”.

Consider the damages of rising seas. Caused by ocean warming and melting glaciers and ice sheets, the 2014 global sea level had risen 2.6 inches above the 1933 average. Sea level continues to rise at a rate of about 1/8th of an inch per year. Rising sea levels lead to deadly and destructive storm surges, which push farther inland causing more deadly and destructive storm surges with frequent flooding. This “nuisance” flooding is estimated to be from 300 percent to 900 percent more frequent within U.S. coastal communities than it was just 50 years ago.

As carbon emissions and glacial melting continue to warm our oceans, prolonged exposure to warm waters cause corals to expel the colorful and nourishing algae (bleaching) that inhabit them. Too long of an exposure causes disease and death to the corals, and they can no longer support nourishment for marine life. Bleaching events in 2016-17 wiped out half of the shallow corals on the Great Barrier Reef.

Worldwide systematic reduction of carbon emissions is necessary to counter air, marine, and other environmental habitats. Many organizations have developed their own hierarchy of waste management practices. It is

proposed that NAARVA follow and develop standardized environmental practices for the NAARVA membership per an exclusive organizational pyramid of waste management.



**REDUCE** our employ of nonperishables such as plastics.

**REUSE** items on a regular basis rather than replace them; choose reusable materials. **RECYCLE** used items via standardized responsible methods.

**RESPECT** Mother Earth, your neighbors, and our global environment.

### References:

Global-tipping-points.org;

[www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov); [www.Earth.org](http://www.Earth.org);

[www.USForestServices](http://www.USForestServices); [EPA.gov](http://EPA.gov);

[www.nationalgeographic.org](http://www.nationalgeographic.org)

2025 COP30 UNN Climate Change conference;

[www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org); [worldwildlife.org](http://worldwildlife.org)



# *Looking Ahead: January, February, March*

## *Celebrations and Regional Club Events*

### *January*

#### **New Year's Day**

**Thursday January 1, 2026**

As the clock struck midnight, a kaleidoscope of fireworks painted the sky in a dazzling display of hope and new beginning on New Year's Day.



#### **Alpha Kappa Alpha Day**

**Wednesday, January 14, 2026**

Celebrated annually on January 15 to honor the founding of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the first Black Greek-letter Sorority.

#### **Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday**

**Monday, January 19, 2026**

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday serves as a reminder of the enduring power of dreams and the tireless pursuit of justice for all, echoing the timeless words of Dr. King himself.



#### **National Spouses Day**

**Monday, January 26, 2026**

Dedicated to appreciation and spending quality time with your spouse. It encourages couples to express gratitude and strengthen their bond without the focus of gift giving.

# *Looking Ahead: January, February, March*

## *Celebrations and Regional Club Events*

### *February*



#### **Dump Your Significant Jerk Day**

**Sunday, February 5, 2026**

Is celebrated the first Sunday in February, encouraging people to end toxic relationships and reclaim their happiness. It's a day to evaluate your relationships and take action if you're with someone who treats you poorly.

#### **Chocolate Day**

**Monday, February 9, 2026**

Chocolate Day is part of a week-long celebration of days in conjunction with Valentine's Day. The second of six days leading up to the holiday. Chocolate Day comes after Rose Day and before Propose Day. This week of gearing up the ultimate celebration of love and affection is a natural space for Chocolate Day to find itself.



#### **Western Region** **California Cruisers RV Club**

**February 18 - 22, 2026**

Pechanga RV Resort  
45000 Pechanga Pkwy.  
Temecula, CA 92592

#### **Southern Region** **Texas Sojourners**

**February 26 - March 1, 2026**

Lagoon Ranch RV Resort  
150 Emerald Ln.  
Onalaska, TX 77360



# Looking Ahead: January, February, March

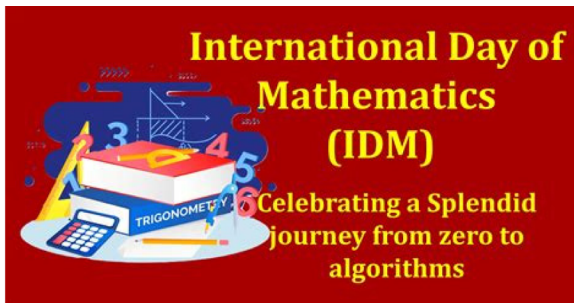
## Celebrations and Regional Club Events

### March

#### Daylight Savings Time - Begins

**Sunday, March 8, 2026**

Daylight Savings Time (DST) was introduced to make better use of natural daylight and reduce energy consumption by shifting human activities into the evening hours.



#### International Day of Mathematics

**Saturday, March 14, 2026**

This day aims to highlight the importance of mathematics in understanding and addressing global challenges.

#### Spring Equinox

**Friday, March 20, 2026**

The Spring Equinox, also known as the Vernal Equinox, marks the official start of spring in the Northern Hemisphere. In 2026, it will occur on March 20.



#### Palm Sunday

**Sunday, March 29, 2026**

Palm Sunday is the Christian feast that falls on the Sunday before Easter. The feast commemorates Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, an event mentioned in each of the four canonical Gospels. Its name originated from the palm branches waved by the crowd to greet and honor Jesus Christ as he entered the city.