

THE NAARVA



VOICE

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 2

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SPRING 2024

From The President's Desk...

NAARVA Family,

As your President, it is my absolute joy to guide our vibrant community through another year filled with adventure, camaraderie, and exploration. The open road calls to us with the promise of new experiences, and I am thrilled to share with you the exciting lineup of rallies we have planned for this year. Mark your calendars, because these are gatherings you won't want to miss!

Southern Region Rally - April 2024: Spring Into Adventure! First up, we have the Southern Region Rally scheduled for April. As flowers bloom and the southern landscapes come alive, there's no better time for us to gather and kick off our year of exploration. This rally promises a mix of relaxation, fun activities, and opportunities to connect with fellow RVers who share your passion for travel and adventure. Details on the exact location and activities will be sent out shortly, so stay tuned!

Central & Western Regions Rally - June 2024: Summer Escapades! As we move into the heart of summer, our Central and Western Regions Rally in June is your ticket to unforgettable experiences and the chance to make lasting memories. Whether you're drawn to the majestic landscapes of the West or the heartwarming communities of the Central region, this rally will of-

fer something for everyone. Expect a variety of outdoor activities, community dinners, and evenings filled with laughter around the campfire.

NAARVA National Rally - September 2024: Celebrating Our Community! The pinnacle of our year, the NAARVA National Rally in September, is an event that truly embodies the spirit of our association. Bringing together members from all regions, this rally is a celebration of our shared love for RVing and the rich cultural heritage that unites us. The National Rally will be packed with workshops, cultural outings, and plenty of opportunities for fun and fellowship. It's more than just a rally; it's a family reunion on a grand scale.

A Call to Adventure - I encourage each and every one of you to join us at

these rallies. These gatherings are the heart and soul of NAARVA, offering not just fun and relaxation, but also the chance to strengthen our bonds and build new friendships. The road ahead is filled with promise, and together, we will make 2024 a year to remember.

Let's rally together for adventure, fellowship, and the creation of new memories.

Whether you're a seasoned RVer or new to the lifestyle, you'll find a warm welcome and an inclusive spirit at every NAARVA event.

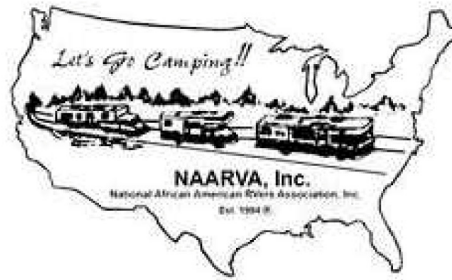
Keep an eye on your inbox and our official website for more details on each rally, including registration information and itineraries. Let's make 2024 a year of exploration and connection!

Stay adventurous!

Rodney Thompson

President, National African American RVers Association





Newly Appointed Executive Board Members

NAARVA Family,

We want to take this time to acknowledge the following NAARVA members who have moved to other positions and the newly appointed members to the Executive Board.

Brian Skipper, 1st Vice President, Central Region, Akron Adventurers Kamper Club

Iris Raines, 2nd Vice President, Southern Region, Georgia Easy Riders RV Club

Sarah Runnels, Treasurer, Southern Region, Texas Sojourners

James Campbell, Financial Secretary, Eastern Region, Member-At-Large

Venson Miller, Southern Region Director, Southern Region, Texas Sojourners

Join me in welcoming them!!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS

We currently have a vacant position on the Executive Board which is the Assistant Financial Secretary. If interested, please reach out to me at rdnthmp@sbcglobal.net.

March 21, 2024
Rodney Thompson
NAARVA President #006-2024

NAARVA Executive Board 2023 - 2025



RODNEY THOMPSON
President
rdnthmp@sbcglobal.net



BRIAN K. SKIPPER
1st Vice President
btmns@yahoo.com



ELAINE STANDIFER
General Secretary
standeo190@gmail.com



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



BELINDA MOORE
Director, Eastern Region
queenbee2300@aol.com



VENSON H. MILLER, SR.
Director, Southern Region
vensonsr@gmail.com



SYLVIA ALLEN
Director, Central Region
spallen1972@yahoo.com



CHARLES GILL, JR.
Director, Western Region
cdg2511@comcast.net

2023 - 2025 Board Members Not Shown

IRIS RAINES - 2nd Vice President
STANLEY COUSINS ~ Assistant General Secretary
SARAH RUNNELS - Treasurer
JAMES CAMPBELL - Financial Secretary

Appointed Positions

Rev. Garland Scott
National Chaplain

Connie Malone
Parliamentarian

Jean Hampton - Ecologist

Ronald (Ron) Standifer - Historian

Elaine Standifer
Public Relations Coordinator

Stanley Cousins
*Constitution &
By-Laws Chairperson*

Joellen Davis
National Scholarship Chairperson

Beth Gill
Benevolent Coordinator

Lonnie Fyles
Nominations/Elections

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

Diane Bowman
Property Review Chairperson

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.

Exciting News!

Membership Dues Reimbursed with Grouper Partnership!

We're thrilled to share some exciting news — National African American RVers Association has teamed up with Grouper, a Medicare Advantage and Supplement plan benefit, to reimburse your membership dues!

What is Grouper?

Grouper is not a Medicare Advantage Plan, nor a Medicare Supplement Plan, but is a company that works with these plans to encourage healthy living through activities that build meaningful social connections and shared experiences. They work with health plans to cover the membership of social organizations because “social fitness” contributes to improved mental, physical and social well-being. Grouper believes in the power of social connection and has teamed up with insurance providers who believe the same.

What Does This Mean for You?

Starting now, members with an eligible health plan can enjoy NAARVA membership without the cost. Whether you're a long-time member or new to our community, this partnership ensures you can participate and make the most of your time enjoying various activities and spending quality moments with friends.

Check Your Eligibility

Curious to know if you qualify? It's easy! Enter Groupergroups.com/NAARVA, to check your eligibility in just a few simple steps. Grouper will reach out within 5 business days to inform you if your health plan covers this social benefit. We look forward to sharing more about how this partnership with Grouper is designed to enhance your RV Camping experience and overall well-being.

Incentive Offer! Register by April 26th

To make our partnership even more beneficial for you, Grouper is offering a special enrollment incentive. All members, age 65 or better, who register by April 26th, will receive an exclusive \$20 Amazon Gift Card. This gift card will be delivered via e-mail to all enrolled, regardless of eligibility, after the April 26th deadline.

If you have any immediate questions, feel free to contact Grouper at 833-906-1700.

Wishing you wonderful times in your NAARVA family and looking forward to a healthier, happier future together!



ELAINE STANDIFER
Public Relations
standeo190@gmail.com

You Play, We Pay

NAARVA MEMBERS 65+ CAN HAVE THEIR DUES REIMBURSED FOR FREE!

Grouper

March 28, 2024
NAARVA
Executive Board
#008 2024

A Word From the Editor....

Ah...Spring!!We sit and watch the snow turn to rain, the damn weeds and lawn grass take on new and invigorated growth, and remember all the things that we had planned to complete during winter that still aren't done. OH, WELL! We still have a new year ahead of us, we can just get those winter tasks done later than planned;>) Just think.... we can now look forward to scheduling RV and trailer repairs, enjoying any remaining club camaraderies during these remaining winter months, and the growing excitement and anticipation for a new RV'ing season.

In this edition of the *VOICE* you are getting communication of new Board

appointments, rally info, grades on faith, a means to get dues paid, and greetings from our Regional Directors.

I want to thank all of the clubs who have updated their upcoming 2024 planned events. It is from this information that you will see at the end of this *VOICE* issue our “Looking Ahead” for the months of April, May, and June. As always “Thank you” all for your participation....Until the next time.....

James





IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Recent upgrades have been made to the NAARVA website with the new addition of an interactive membership portal. This is the first step in an improvement to how you can interact with your organization. You will now be able to check on your membership status, make changes to your membership, print membership cards, display a digital version of your membership card on your iPhone and Android phones, and retrieve NAARVA announcements. This improvement will also allow NAARVA to do a better job of communicating and managing the flow of information to you. This is the first step in allowing us to issue online surveys, collect membership feedback, and conduct online voting. We're making advancements to improve our organization.

WE NEED FOR YOU TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. Go to the NAARVA website www.naarva.com.
2. Select the blue button "**Members Login/Portal**".
3. Enter your NAARVA email address in the MEMBER LOG IN section.
(*That is the email address that currently receives your NAARVA communications.*)
4. Select the green button "**Lookup Email**".
5. If your email address was recognized, you will be asked to enter and confirm a password. This will be your own personal and secure password to get you into the NAARVA membership portal. If your email address was not recognized, please send a note to the NAARVA office.
6. Once in the membership portal, please update your information (if needed) by selecting the "Edit Membership Information" button located at the bottom of the page.
7. If changes were made, select the green button at the bottom of the page "**Update Member Information**". This will save the changes you made.

Thank you for your help. This will enable us to do a better job with tracking NAARVA membership and improving communications.

March 22, 2024
NAARVA Executive Board
#007 2024



COMING SOON

You can be a NAARVA Lifetime Member!
YES – a NAARVA member for life!

By becoming a lifetime member, you are showing your commitment to NAARVA, your love of camping & the great outdoors, and your dedication to being with fellow campers who share your heritage.

- The cost of Lifetime Membership is a one-time fee of \$500. This does not include annual regional dues. The lifetime membership fee will be reduced or prorated to compensate for future years already paid.
- Lifetime Members will receive a gold membership card, a t-shirt for each member & partner, and a choice of a hat or visor for each member & partner.



Front



Back



The color of the t-shirts and hat/visor will be gold, to set this group apart from ordinary members.

- More perks and benefits will be offered to Lifetime Members with an announcement and detailed information coming at a future date.
- The Lifetime Membership level will start for the next dues/renewal year. The membership fee is non-refundable. These members will retain their “lifetime membership” level with no end date and at no additional cost as long as they maintain “good standing” status as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws and the region to which they belong.



STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION

March 21, 2024
NAARVA Executive Board
#004 2024



What Grade Do You Deserve?

Since birth, we have been indoctrinated into the world's educational grading system, from highest to lowest: A, B, C, D, and F. We incorporated this system as a guide to evaluate our performance. So, it is not indicative to think our God uses this same system to grade the performance of His people.

Paul warns us that we all are sinners and fall short of the glory of God, Romans 3:23. All of us deserve His wrath and punishment. But, God, in His infinite grace and mercy, has provided a way that His wrath can be appeased and we can be reconciled to Him. It is through the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ as the payment for our sins. It is through faith in Jesus Christ as God's perfect sacrifice that we can be reconciled to God.

Paul calls this a free gift that brings salvation from death, rescuing us from the wrath of God in judgment on sin. Christ is our propitiation. He satisfied the wrath of God against our sins, Romans 5:15-18, John 14:6, 1 John 2:2.

When we feel we need to do something to be worthy, we must remember that God has already given us a way. Jesus said, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me,"* John 14:6. There is no other propitiation or sacrifice that can be made. When we turn our lives over to Christ, we receive;

A. "Acceptance" for accepting the calling of Jesus Christ. Jesus often called salvation and the subsequent indwelling of the Holy Spirit a free gift, John 5:15, 16, 18.

B. "Baptism," John the Baptist said, "I indeed baptized you with water unto repentance, but he that cometh

after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear; he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire." Matthew 3:11.

C. "Christ-like," we become a new creature. Our minds and hearts have been reshaped and reconditioned not to follow the world continually, but now we follow after Christ, 2 Corinthians 5:17.

D. "Discipleship," we walk and follow with Christ; we become one of His disciples. We are His students, and He is the master teacher. Jesus was quite explicit about the cost of following Him. Discipleship requires a committed life, Matthew 16:24.

F. "Finish," we finished the race, fought a good fight, and most importantly, we kept the faith, 1 Timothy 6:12, 2 Timothy 4:7.



REV. GARLAND SCOTT
NAARVA Chaplain
scottnlimp@yahoo.com

Paul knew his life was ending and summed it up in terms of effort, discipline, and hard work that resulted in the prize or a reward given to him not by his work but by his efforts and suffering during the course of running in faith. The gift of salvation through Jesus Christ from God is free; you must accept it to receive your A, B, C, D, and F.

Praise God, Praise God, Praise God! Amen.





**The 2024 National Rally Registration Form
Is Available Online at - NAARVA.com!**

"NAARVA's Family Reunion"

September 8th - September 15, 2024

**Lakewood Camping Resort • Myrtle Beach, SC
Hosted by Eastern Region**



RALLY PARKING

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 don't put that name on your registration form, we cannot guarantee that you will be parked together.

**THE MAILING ADDRESS FOR
NAARVA REGISTRATION IS:**

**NAARVA NATIONAL RALLY 2024
P.O. BOX 220246
CHARLOTTE, NC 28222**

**"PLEASE NO NOT SEND VIA UPS
OR FedEx!"**

March 21, 2024
NAARVA Executive Board
#005-2024

CENTRAL REGION



SYLVIA ALLEN
Director, Central
Region

spallen1972@
yahooo.com

Hello NAARVA!

Central Region continues to move forward with planning for the Central Region Rally in Sparta, IL, June 16 - 23, 2024. If you are not a member of Central Region and would like to attend the Rally you will find the Central Region Registration Packet, Schedule, and Winter Newsletter on NAARVA's website at www.naarva.com. If you have

questions reach out by sending an email to:

naarvacentralregion@yahoo.com.

Now, let's take a few minutes to meet Mr. Norman Ellis, the Founder of NAARVA. NAARVA is the result of his vision to have an African American RV organization where like-minded people can camp, commensurate and enjoy RVing.

The National African American RVers Association was officially founded in 1994 in Ohio. Mr. Ellis is an active member of NAARVA and resides with the *Ohio Buckeye Roadrunners*. If you plan to attend the Central Region Rally in June, take time to say hello and get to know



NORMAN ELLIS

more about Mr. Ellis.

Let's Go Camping!

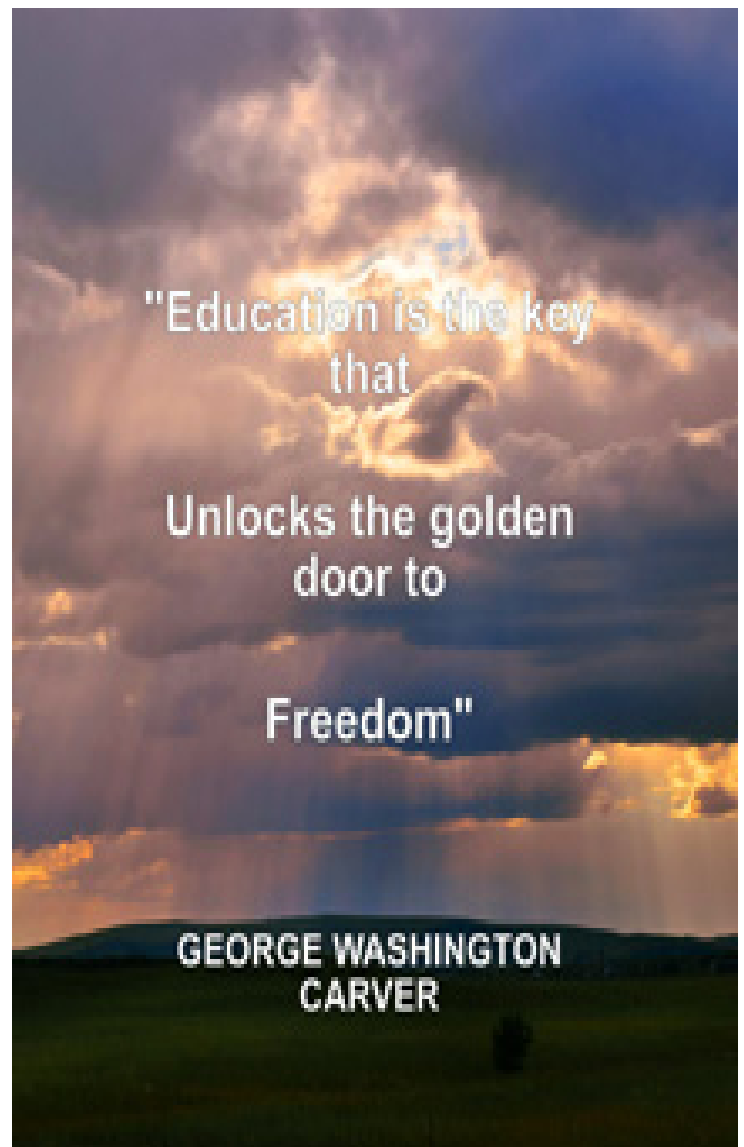
**Sylvia Allen, Director
NAARVA Central Region**

Education Station



JOELLEN DAVIS
NAARVA Scholarship
Committee Chairperson

ATTENTION!
Graduating High School Seniors!
The 2024 NAARVA
Scholarship applications
are now posted on the
NAARVA website,
NAARVA.com
Check your E-mails for a
"Constant Contact"
follow-up as well.



WESTERN REGION

CHARLES GILL, JR.
Director,
Western
Region



cdg2511@comcast.net

Greetings from the Western Region

Hopefully all of us have endured the winter and getting ready for our 2024 RV season. We've had many storms out west, and we're ready to enjoy some sun and warmer temperatures.

We continue to grow out west, as many new families are becoming introduced to NAARVA. The lifeblood of our association is dependent on attracting new families. Being visible at RV Shows and conversing with pro-



spective buyers provides all our members with an opportunity to talk about NAARVA. Many still don't know that we even exist.

Currently, we are in the planning stages for our 2024 Western Region Rally. This year it will be held at the Black Oak Casino and RV Park in Tuolumne, California. Dates are June 25 thru June 30, 2024. We welcome any members who may be traveling out west to register and spend some time with us. Tours, games and fun are planned for the entire week.



This is also an important time for the business regionally. Elections are upon us in all regions, per the NAARVA By-Laws. We've been exposing our membership to the work performed by all elected positions and creating a smooth transition to those voted in and stepping up to leadership roles.

Change is good, and we're fortunate to have knowledgeable, skilled members who are dedicated to the ideals held within the NAARVA family.

Looking forward to seeing many of you out on the road. Safe travels.

Charles D. Gill, Jr.

Looking Ahead: April, May, June 2024 *Celebrations and Regional Club Events*

April

**Eastern Region - The Triangle RVER's
April 10 - 24, 2024**

**Club Anniversary
Vista Point Campground
Lake Jordan
2498 N. Pea Ridge Rd.
Pittsboro, NC**



**Western Region -
Funseekers/Rain City
Travelers rV Club
April 11 - 13, 2024**

**Ferndale, Washington
No Host Outing
<https://thecedarsrvresort.com>**

Looking Ahead: April, May, June 2024

Celebrations and Regional Club Events

Eastern Region - New Horizon RV Club April 11-14, 2024

KOA Ladson, SC
9494 U.S. Highway 78
Ladson, SC 29456
800-562-5812



Eastern Region - Virginia Camping Cardinals April 11 - 14, 2024

Camp Hatteras RV
2798 Highway 22
Rodanthe, NC 27968
Group 6 Wagon Masters
Michael and Patricia Terrell

Eastern Region - DC Connection RV Club April 19 - 21, 2024

Americamps RV Resort
11322 Air Park Road
Ashland, VA 23005
Phone: (804) 798-5298
<https://americamps.com>
Robinson / Moore



Eastern Region - Leisure Travelers Camping Club April 19 - 21, 2024

Grant Old Mill Stream Campground
2249 Lincoln Hwy.
E. Lancaster, Pennsylvania
Host Family - Grant



Central Region - Rocky Mountain RV Rollers April 20, 2024

Babajoon's Kabobs
1005 West 120th Ave.
Westminster, CO 80234 - (303) 974-5400
Hosts: Tony and Toni Goggans

Looking Ahead: April, May, June 2024

Celebrations and Regional Club Events



Western Region - California Cruisers RV Club
April 24 - 28, 2024

Bonelli Bluffs
1440 Camper View Rd.
San Dimas, CA 91773
Wagon Masters: Richard & Donna English, Tracy Bennett

Central Region - Akron Adventurers Kamper Club
April 25 - 29, 2024

Evergreen Lake Park - Conneaut
703 Center Road
Conneaut, Ohio 44030



International Jazz Day
April 27 - 30, 2024

Will be celebrated in more than 190 countries on April 30. UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay and UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador Herbie Hancock announced that the city of Tangier, Morocco will serve as the Global Hosts and will anchor the International Jazz Day programs around the world.



May

Mother's Day - May 8, 2024

Mother's Day is a day that focuses on generally recognizing mothers' and mother figures' roles.

Some people gift flowers or nice jewelry; others go out for a meal. Sometimes, a long-distance phone call is how you show a mother in your life your appreciation. There are more phone calls made on Mother's Day than almost any day of the year.



Looking Ahead: April, May, June 2024

Celebrations and Regional Club Events



Eastern Region - New Horizon RV Club
May 9 - 12, 2024

River Bottom Farms Family Campground
357 State Rd. S-32-45
Swansea, SC 29160
(803) 568-4182

Western Region - Funseekers/Rain City
Travelers RV Club
May 16 - 18, 2024

Harmony Lakeside RV & Cabins Resort
563 State Route 122
Silver Creek, Washington
Hosts: Ron and Teresa Toliver
rvinnstyleresorts.com/washington/harmony-lakeside-rv-park/



Central Region - Rocky Mountain RV Rollers
May 16 - 20, 2024

Cutty's Resort
3428 Hayden Creek Road
Coaldale, Colorado
Hosts: Bobby and Evelyn Whitlock
Abe and Karleen Williams

Eastern Region - DC Connecion RV Club
May 17 - 19, 2024

Sun Outdoors Frontier Town
8428 Stephen Decatur Highway
Berlin, MD 21811
Phone: (410) 641-0880
<https://sunoutdoors.com/maryland/Standifer/Renfro>



Looking Ahead: April, May, June 2024

Celebrations and Regional Club Events



Eastern Region - The Triangle RVER's
May 17 - 19, 2024

Peachtree Campground
5828 NC 99 South
Belhaven, NC 27810
(252) 943-4227

Central Region - Akron Adventurers Kamper Club
May 23 - 26, 2024

Evergreen RV Resort
16359 Dover Road (250)
Dundee, Ohio 44624
www.evergreenparkrvresort.com



Memorial Day
May 27, 2024

Memorial Day is observed on the last Monday of May. It was formerly known as Decoration Day and commemorates all men and women who have died in military service for the United States. Many people visit cemeteries and memorials on Memorial Day and it is traditionally seen as the start of the summer season.



June

Eastern Region - Virginia Camping Cardinals
June 7 - 9, 2024

Raleigh Oaks RV Resort
527 US Highway 701 South
Four Oaks, NC 27524
Group 1 Wagon Masters Jimmy & Les Jackson



Looking Ahead: April, May, June 2024

Celebrations and Regional Club Events



Central Region Rally June 16 - 23, 2024

World Shooting & Recreational Complex
1 Main Event Ln.
Sparta, IL 62286
(618) 295-2700

Juneteenth June 19, 2024

Juneteenth is an annual observance on June 19 to remember when Union soldiers enforced the Emancipation Proclamation and freed all remaining slaves in Texas on June 19th, 1865. This day is an opportunity for people to celebrate freedom and equal rights in the United States.



Western Region - Funseekers/Rain City Travelers RV Club June 20 - 22, 2024

Hee Hee Illahee RV Park
Salem, Oregon
Host Noni Causey
<https://heeheillahee.com/>

Eastern Region - DC Connection RV Club June 21 - 23, 2024

American Heritage RV Park
146 Maxton Lane
Williamsburg, VA 23188
Phone: (757) 566-2133
www.americanheritagervpark.com
Jenkins/Gilbert

American Heritage Campground Williamsburg VA RV Park



Looking Ahead: April, May, June 2024

Celebrations and Regional Club Events



Eastern Region - Leisure Travelers
Camping Club
June 21 - 23, 2024

Sun Retreats Rehoboth
25491 Dogwood Lane
Hillsboro, DE
Host Family: A & L Allen

Western Region Rally
June 25 - 29, 2024

Black Oak RV Park and Casino Resort
19400 Tuolumne Road North
Tuolumne, California 95879



Eastern Region - New Horizon RV Club
June 27 - 30, 2024

Coastal Georgia RV Resort
287 S. Port Pkway
Brunswick, GA
(912) 264-3869

Rules for Submitting 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 Summer 2024 issue is June 10, 2024.**

NAARVA members may access *The Voice* through the NAARVA website: 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.

Easy Way to Pay NAARVA Dues!

Paypal provides an easy way to pay your dues and Charter Renewals. Check it out at naarva.com

**Become a Friend of
NAARVA.**

