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Dear FMCA Member:

Welcome to Family Motor Coach Association, a member owned organization. My name is Barbara Schleuse, president of the Northwest Area.

FMCA is divided into 10 areas. The Northwest Area is the largest geographical area which includes Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and two Canadian Provinces: Alberta & British Columbia, Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

Each Area is composed of Chapters. The Northwest Area has 30 chapters that meet throughout the year. Each chapter is unique with its own personality. You do not have to belong to a chapter to attend a chapter outing. Guests are always welcome. On the Northwest Area website <u>www.fmcanw.org</u> you will find a list of chapters.

Chapter membership, for me, is the most rewarding part of FMCA membership. You can meet new people who just might become your best friends, exchange ideas, learn about RV care and safety, travel to new places, eat well and have fun.

Each chapter elects its' own officers including the National Director who represents the chapter at the annual Governing Board meeting where decisions regarding FMCA future are made. It is the most important meeting of the year. Only through chapter membership do you have a voice in the future of FMCA.

Also, each year the Northwest Area hosts an area rally where there are vendors, seminars and fun filled activities. We are the originators of the Hot Dog Bash and Hand Dipped Strawberry Ice Cream Sundae. Please consider joining us in Albany, OR next June.

Usually, two International Conventions are held each year – one in the spring and one in the summer. Members from all over the country meet for a fun-filled extravaganza. At a convention RVs are on display and vendors come from all over the country to sell RV related products and services. You just might find the perfect item for your RV that you didn't even know you needed. There are seminars presented by members and RV professionals. It's amazing what you can learn.

My husband Don and I welcome you to FMCA and the Northwest Area. Enjoy your membership by joining a chapter and meeting others who also enjoy RV'ing.

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