

The National RV Central States Club celebrated its 10th Anniversary May 21-25, 2007 at a 4-day rally in Branson, Missouri. Rally hosts, Frank & Janice Koch and Gene and Betty Dunn, chose ABC Campground on the edge of Branson to provide a country setting with a convenient location and all the amenities.

A first night social with heavy hors d'oeuvres and beautifully decorated anniversary cake for dessert set the tone for a festive rally.

The second day began with a tour of the Ralph Foster museum, chapel, grist mill, and other sites at the College of the Ozarks where all students are required to work to help pay for their college education. A large Ozark pot roast lunch with "dessert to die for" was beautifully served by student waitresses in one of the private dining rooms at the huge, new Keeter Center.

Many members then drove to "The Landing," a newly developed shopping area anchored by Bass Pro and the Belk department store. A fire and fountain display every hour, trolley car transportation, and street lights which change colors make it a unique location on the shore of Lake Taneycomo. A fishing pier, restaurant over the lake, Hilton hotel, etc. are not yet finished.

The third day was set aside for individual activities prior to meeting at The White House Dinner Theater for a delicious meal followed by fast-paced musical entertainment representative of seven decades.

The fourth day began with a full catered breakfast followed by a business meeting, election of officers, and a drawing for many special gifts. After attending an afternoon show, The Promise, the club met at a restaurant for dinner, followed by The Hamner & Barber Variety Show for a most enjoyable evening. The next morning everyone reluctantly said their good-byes, wishing they didn't have to leave the excitement of Branson for the reality of returning home.

The National RV Central States Chapter of FMCA was chartered in 1997 with Howard Marr as President, Rosie Marr as Secretary-Treasurer and 79 members. A representative from FMCA, Charlie Adcock, presented a 10-year Certificate to Frank Koch, current president, with recognition given to those charter members who were present. A Lifetime Membership will be given to the club founder, Howard Marr, who was unable to attend.

The club had also celebrated their 5th Anniversary with a Branson rally, although the location was Chastain's Resort which is now a KOA.

The Central States Club currently has members from 10 states and has had rallies in 10 different states. The 2007 board officers are: Frank Koch, President; Matt Fricke, Vice-President; Betty Dunn, Secretary; Bill Maher, Treasurer; Gene Dunn, National Director and Frank Koch, Alternate National Director..

Volunteer positions include: Bill Gent, Website; Jim Soukup, Printed Newsletter, Bronwen Soukup, Southern Contact Person; Marianne Anderson, Care Person; and Robbie Fricke, Sheriff;