

February 12, 2014

MASON-DIXON



Discoverys

THE MASON-DIXON HERALD

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi everyone,

Last month I wrote here "I hope everyone has survived the cold weather" as if it was all behind you!!! Well I won't even go there this month as it seems to be never ending cold everywhere but Florida. Just keep warm and keep your coaches from freezing! Pat just flew to Pennsylvania yesterday from here in Florida and reports that there is at least a foot of snow by our home and a possible 10-12 inches more is expected Wednesday! She flew home to be with her sister as her sister recovers from knee surgery.

We did hold a brief chapter meeting during the SE Regional at Lazydays. The main thing discussed was the schedule of rallies for this year and the information on them follows below.

Chapter Elections were also discussed and I appointed a nominating committee of two people to come up with a slate of officers to be voted upon at our April Rally. Marshall Mauck and Marshall Godwin are the two members on the nominating committee. If you receive a call from them about serving as a chapter officer please give it strong and favorable consideration. The duties are not harsh but are essential to the success of the chapter and are for the benefit of all of us. **We will plan to hold elections at the April Rally and we will publish the slate of officers presented by the nominating committee as soon as available for your consideration.**

I have now assumed the duties of Treasurer for DOAI. As always, if I can be of assistance to anyone in the chapter please let me know.

Dick

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Our 2014 Rally Schedule

Our first rally for 2014 will be in Wilmington, NC. We hope you will join us. Wilmington is beautiful in April with the azaleas and other plants blooming. You will enjoy the downtown area, and the beaches are not far away.

Place: Wilmington KOA
7415 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28411

Phone: 888-562-5699

When: Wednesday April 2, ending Sunday April 6, 2014, with early arrival April 1.

Cost: \$53.00 per coach, per night, including tax.

Please make your own reservations. When you call the campground, tell them you are with the Mason-Dixon Discovery's.

Beginning this year, this KOA will not hold a block of campsites for club rallies. They said they had to make this change because some groups wouldn't cancel until late, or would not show. They will try hard to put our group together. For this reason, and the popularity of the Wilmington, NC area, make your reservations early.

Hosted by: Martha and Tom Hundley
Elizabeth and Bob Deal

Our last 2014 rally will be in **October, at Fort Whaley CG in Whaleyville, MD.** hosted by Marilyn and Jim Brown assisted by Bob & Elizabeth Deal. The rally will **start on Wednesday October 8th, with early arrival on Tuesday the 7th.** **Departure will be on Sunday October 12th.** More information on this will be forthcoming in a couple of months.

Prayer Concerns

Alice Ricciardi is doing well but still has a few more cancer treatments so remains in need of our prayers.

Hank Hayden is undergoing a lengthy series of treatments for cancer. Hank has a blog set up on a site called Caring Bridge that exists to serve people sharing medical information. In order to use the site you will have to open an account with Caring Bridge but it is not a spam concern and is easy to do and you may find it a useful site

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for other people as well. . You may access it using this link:

www.caringbridge.org/visit/hankhaden In his most recent report Hank has just completed a treatment and says he is receiving good reports but still he has to undergo a number of additional treatments.

TREASURERS REPORT

The balance in the Mason-Dixon Account as of the end of January is \$4,577.61

DOAI RELATED INFORMATION –

The **2014 National Rally will be held at the Complex in Gillette, Wyoming** starting on **Tuesday August 26 and departure on Sunday August 31**. Those who attended the National at Urbanna, VA had the opportunity to see a presentation on the Complex at Gillette and what a fine facility it is and the great things to see and do when you attend the 2014 National. Pat and I have been to a FMCA National Rally at Gillette and it IS very large and very nice. **Based on comments heard at the SE Regional it seems like we may have a nice sized group of Mason Dixons going to Gillette!**

THE BACK NINE

I first started reading this email & was reading fast until I reached the third sentence. I stopped and started over reading slower and thinking about every word. This is very thought provoking. Makes you stop and think. Read slowly!

And then it is Winter...

You know... Time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unaware of the passing years. It seems just yesterday that I was young, just married and embarking on my new life with my mate. Yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all the years went. I know that I lived them all. I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams.

But, here it is... The “back nine” of my life and it catches me by surprise...How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my youth go?

I remember well seeing older people through the years and thinking that those older people were years away from me and that “I was only on the first hole” and the “back nine” was so far off that I could not fathom it or imagine fully what it would be like.

But, here it is... my friends are retired and getting gray... they move slower and I see an older person now. Some are in better and some worse shape than me... but, I see the great change... Not like the ones that I remember who were young and vibrant... but, like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd become.

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Each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day! And taking a nap is not a treat anymore... it's mandatory! Cause if I don't on my own free will... I just fall asleep where I sit!

And so... now I enter into this new season of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and ability to go and do things that I wish I had done but never did!! But, at least I know, that though I'm on the "back nine", and I'm not sure how long it will last... this I know, that when it's over on this earth...it's over. A new adventure will begin! Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done...things I should have done, but indeed, there are many things I'm happy to have done. It's all in a lifetime.

So, if you're not on the "back nine" yet... let me remind you, that it will be here faster than you think. So, whatever you would like to accomplish in your life please do it quickly! Don't put things off too long!! Life goes by quickly. So, do what you can today, as you can never be sure whether you're on the "back nine" or not!

You have no promise that you will see all the seasons of your life...so, live for today and say all the things that you want your loved ones to remember...and hope that they appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them in all the years past!!

"Life" is a gift to you. The way you live your life is your gift to those who come after. Make it a fantastic one. LIVE IT WELL! ENJOY TODAY! DO SOMETHING FUN! BE HAPPY ! HAVE A GREAT DAY Remember "It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver. LIVE HAPPY IN 2013!

LASTLY, CONSIDER THIS: ~Your kids are becoming you..... but your grandchildren are perfect! ~Going out is good.. Coming home is better! ~You forget names.... But it's OK because other people forgot they even knew you!!! ~You realize you're never going to be really good at anything.... Especially golf. ~The things you used to care to do, you no longer care to do, but you really do care that you don't care to do them anymore. ~You sleep better on a lounge chair with the TV blaring than in bed. It's called "pre-sleep". ~You miss the days when everything worked with just an "ON" and "OFF" switch.. ~You tend to use more 4 letter words ... "what?"..."when?"..." ??? ~Now that you can afford expensive jewelry, it's not safe to wear it anywhere. ~You notice everything they sell in stores is "sleeveless"?!?! ~What used to be freckles are now liver spots. ~Everybody whispers. ~You have 3 sizes of clothes in your closet.... 2 of which you will never wear. ~~~But Old is good in some things: Old Songs, Old movies, and best of all, OLD FRIENDS!!

Stay well, "OLD FRIEND!" Send this on to other "Old Friends!" and let them laugh in AGREEMENT!!! It's Not What You Gather, But What You Scatter That Tells What Kind Of Life You Have Lived.

TODAY IS THE OLDEST YOU'VE EVER BEEN, YET THE YOUNGEST YOU'LL EVER BE, SO ENJOY THIS DAY WHILE IT LASTS.