

What's inside:

Pg 1: President's Message Pg 2: Editor's Message Pg 3: Call for Candidates, Alfa's For Sale Pg 4: Article: Living in an RV during Coronavirus Pg 5: New Members Pg 6: Alfa's For Sale Pg 7: Article: Traveling During These Difficult Times Pg 9: Useful Sites Pg 10: Recipe Pg 11: Housekeeping Pg 12: Recipe Pg 14: AlfaSeeYas Store

On our GPS...

April 2021: AOC Rally in Branson MO has been rescheduled for 2021!

FMCA 'news'

Cancelled events through August 2020...

President's Message

by Larry York

Greetings to all. Hope you and your loved ones are safe and doing well as we hunker down and wait out this virus situation.

We, like many of you, have had to significantly alter or outright cancel our travel and social plans for at least the first half of this year.

As of our last newsletter, several AlfaSee Yas Chapter members had planned to attend the 101st FMCA Convention and RV Expo the end of March at the Pima Fairgrounds, near Tucson, AZ. After the convention, we had planned to spend all of April and most of May on the road, traveling part way with Marvin and Pat Berry. We were going to visit family en route to my 55th high school reunion in Fredericksburg, TX, then attend the South Loafers' Chapter pre-rally followed by the Alfa Owners' Club Annual Rally in Branson, MO, and finally beat feet back home to attend our Granddaughter's high school and veterinary tech school graduations in the Phoenix area.

On March 13th, the FMCA Executive Board made the call to cancel the Tucson convention. Soon after that, the rally master for the AOC Annual Rally announced that the rally would be cancelled and that the rally would be held at the same location in April 2021. A few days after that, our class reunion was postponed to a yet to be determined date in the future. In addition, here in Arizona, all graduations are postponed until further notice. Further, the FMCA Executive Board has announced that the FMCA Summer Convention, August 26th – 29th, 2020 in Lincoln, Nebraska has been cancelled.

The nomadic lifestyle of RVing has definitely been impacted. Some campgrounds have closed temporarily (an example is that ALL State Parks in New Mexico have been closed), some campgrounds have stopped accepting new reservations, but

Website: http://www.alfaseeyas.com

Edition: #61



Editor's Message

Jeannette Harper

Though very little 'travel' is happening right now, I still wanted to reach out to you all and say 'Hi!'

I am going to share some fun and hopefully uplifting items in this edition of the newsletter.

Also, in this edition I am going to be posting some song titles well they will be the first letter of each word. I'm hoping YOU will have fun trying to guess the actual song title!! These will be from the 50's and the 60's! (An example: IBTWYPB by Bobby Hyland. Answer: Itsy Bitsy Teeny Weeny Yellow Polkadot Bikini)

You will see in this issue we still have some Alfa's "For Sale"...

And it is time to get serious about stepping up and becoming an officer of the Chapter!

Happy trails y'all!

fortunately, some have allowed current guests to extend their stay, while other campgrounds continue business as usual. Some states are requiring folks to self-quarantine if traveling from another state. Rest stops have been closed. Etcetera, etcetera....

On a positive note, we, and I am sure many of you, have now run out of excuses, finally found the "round tuit", and are slowly working off those "honey do" list items, and other things you have been putting off/procrastinating on. I washed and waxed the coach, got several small jobs finished on the '56 Chevy I'm rebuilding for the second time, got our Federal and State taxes filed, and got some yard work done. Now, if I can just get my back to stop hurting, I might tackle.....

Many cancellations and postponements have and are continuing to happen which have affected and disrupted our lives and the lives of many others. Other major challenges such as layoffs, closures, self or mandated quarantines, stay at home/shelter in place orders, declines in the stock market, shortages, "social distancing", etc. are putting additional burdens on everyone. History shows that Americans are strong and persevere in circumstances like this. In every crisis we have experienced as a Nation, we have endured. In these situations, we unite as one and help those that need help in whatever way we can. I ask that we each take a moment and ask for guidance and solace from whatever force you seek support from and ask for strength and help for everyone.

Be strong and be positive. We WILL get through this!

Larry and Shirley

PSA: every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.

Home-schooling is going well. 2 students suspended for fighting and 1 teacher fired for drinking on the job.

Hear ye! Hear ye!

Yes, there is another **IMPORTANT** election facing members this year! But, before we can vote, we need candidates! That means people willing to become active in the chapter. All positions are up for election. Many of our officers have served multiple terms! And I ask you... is this fair? After all, it is YOUR chapter as much as theirs.

YOU signed up to be a member. And membership has many facets including making sure this chapter continues with the input and guidance of people WE elect. Why not be one of those people?

These positions are:

- President The chapter president is the leader of the chapter and is responsible for seeing that all of the duties and responsibilities of all of the other chapter officers are performed in a timely manner in accordance with FMCA's requirements.
- Vice President assists the President in his or her duties and serves as presiding officer in the absence of the President.
- Secretary has the duty and responsibility to keep accurate and up-to-date records of the chapter's membership, the results of any election or change in status of chapter officers, and annual chapter certification and report same to the National Office. The Chapter Secretary is also expected to keep a formal record -- usually called minutes -- of the proceedings of all meetings of the chapter's membership.
- Treasurer receives, safeguards, and holds all chapter funds in the name of the chapter and is its trustee and fiscal agent.
- * National Director elected from each chapter serves on the Governing Board of FMCA.
- Alternate National Director serves whenever the national director is unable to attend meetings of the Governing Board or is otherwise unable to serve

This is a 2 year commitment and very rewarding!

So, are **you** looking for an opportunity to become more active in our Chapter?? If so, the Nominating Committee would like to hear from you! ALL Chapter Officer positions are up for election. Contact <u>Mark McGuire, Leigh Conner or Jeannette Harper</u> if you **a**.) want more information or **b**.) would like to nominate someone (including yourself). And, if you are an existing office wanting to continue in either your current position or another, contact us!

The website has more information about the officer positions as well as a nominating form!

Coronavirus and You!

by Jeannette Harper

Living in an RV full time is no different than living in your home. We have all seen the 'do's and don'ts' about keeping ourselves and loved ones safe, right?

How to Clean Your RV

Thoroughly cleaning your RV regularly is best practice always, but with easily spreadable viruses, you may want to take it up a notch. There is no way to over clean, after all! Using the CDC guidelines, we recommend the following cleaning and disinfecting tips:

Hard surfaces (countertops, sink, toilet, etc)

- Clean dirty surfaces with soap and water prior to disinfecting.
- To disinfect, you can use diluted bleach solutions, alcohol-based products with 70% alcohol, or other EPA approved household disinfectants for hard surfaces.

Porous surfaces (carpeting, furniture, rugs, drapes, etc)

- Vacuum visible debris or clean stains with what you use on these surfaces.
- If possible, launder these items and/or disinfect using EPA approved products for porous surfaces.

Laundered items (linens, clothing, etc)

- Do not shake dirty laundry; this minimizes the possibility of dispersing the virus through the air.
- Wash all items using the warmest water possible based on the care instructions.
- Remember to clean and disinfect hampers as well, using the tips above for hard/porous surfaces.

How often?

It's recommended to clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces **daily**. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks. Don't forget your RV's steering wheel, dash controls, and door handles, either!

If money doesn't grow on trees, why do banks have branches??

Ban pre-shredded cheese! Make America grate again!

Breaking News: Police toilet stolen... Cops have nothing to go on.

Upcoming Rallies:

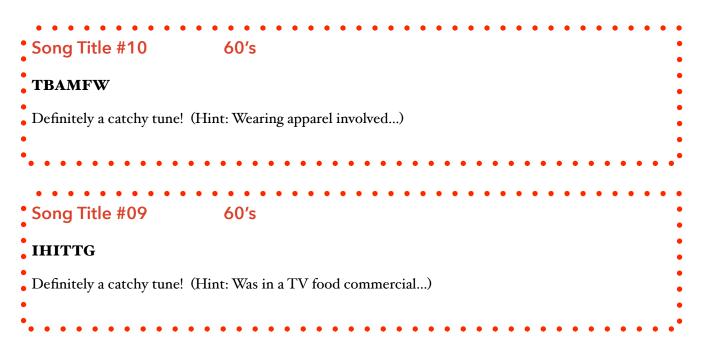
Until further notice, all rallies have been cancelled. Hopefully we will have good news once the quarantine and 'shelter in place' is lifted...

New Members:

- Dana Chapin, F505865, Culpeper, Virginia
- Timothy Unser, F499910, Albany, New York

I don't think anyone expected that when we changed the clocks we'd go from Standard Time to the Twilight Zone

This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog..... we laughed a lot.





LLITS Ah, swaying to the music! (Hint: Sung by a handsome crooner...)

Day 5 of Homeschooling: One of these little monsters called in a bomb threat.

I'm so excited --- it's time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?

Traveling in Uncertain Times

by Ray Zimmermann

As I write this in mid-April, I'm guessing that most of you are wisely remaining where you are, staying at home and avoiding non-essential travel. I, on the other hand, recently completed a trip that for various reasons could not be delayed. Perhaps my experience and observations may be of interest.

As COVID-19 advisories and restrictions were being issued daily, I was in the middle of a long-planned move from my home in Tempe, Arizona to a retirement community in St. Louis. Was there a way to delay this trip? Maybe, but after careful consideration I believed the risk in going ahead was manageable.

I lived locally in the Alfa while my household goods were packed and loaded by the moving company, which was still operating as usual. I then hit the road, traveling my usual 300 miles a day for five consecutive days. It felt a bit surreal out on the road. Unless you were going through a city or town, trucks outnumbered cars at least 5:1.

I believe I was as isolated as if I had been in my house. I refueled at truck stops, as I usually do - - plenty of social distance at the big truck islands. Paid at the pump, used disposable gloves for the pump handle and keypad, washed hands on returning to the rig. RV parks were doing check-in/payment over the phone and leaving your info on the office door, didn't need to get close to anyone there. Wore gloves again when hooking up to the site, which was basically just plugging in my power cord, since I didn't need to take on water or dump on that length of trip. Had plenty of food on board, so never left the park at any of the overnight stops.

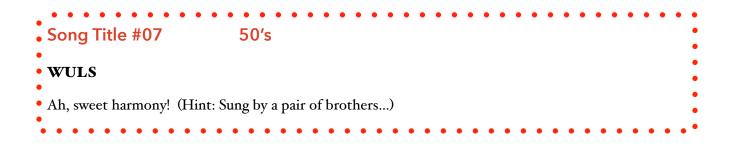
I was fortunate in that RV parks were allowed to remain open in the states where I overnighted (New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Missouri) and I had reservations in advance for all stops. It was interesting to see the differences in various places – some parks pretty full, others mostly empty. I am amazed that some states have shut down RV parks, causing much disruption to full-timers who have nowhere else to stay, and yet they leave the hotels and motels open. I know I feel much safer staying in my coach than I would in a hotel where you don't know who stayed in the room the night before, how well it was cleaned and by whom, and so on.

I am now at a park in St. Louis awaiting the arrival of my household goods in a few days. I am looking forward to getting into my new home in the retirement community, which is strictly enforcing all sorts of precautions and has been coronavirus free. I will be moving into a new building which they are opening; once I am there I will have to quarantine for 14 days and will not be allowed into any other part of the complex – food and mail will be delivered, etc.

One thing I did get to do for the first time on this trip was use the discount fuel card I had recently received from TSD Logistics, which Jim Harvey wrote about in the February issue of this newsletter. Discounts were 65 to 75 cents off the pump price, which of course was already lower than we have seen in a while. After TSD's fee, my net price per gallon ranged from \$1.53 to \$1.95, fueling at Petro and Love's truck stops. And of course a big advantage of using the card is that you can pay at the pump and do not need to go inside at all. So now we have cheap fuel and nowhere to go!

Edition: #61





Useful Internet Sites For Alfa Owners

Our Chapter Website - AlfaSeeYas.com www.alfaseeyas.com

You'll find lots of great information, including Rally info, Chapter documents, membership and dues information, past issues of the Newlsetter, Tips and Tricks, a photo album and much more.

Family Motor Coach Association: www.fmca.com

Groups.io https://groups.io/g/alfaseeya This is an internet forum where Alfa owners ask questions and exchange information about our coaches. To read the messages, and post your own, you will need to "join" the group (click the blue button that says "Join This Group").

Facebook Groups:

Alfa Owners: https://www.facebook.com/groups/alfaowners/

Alfa Motorcoach Owners: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1816601868643360/

Alfa Motorcoach Tech Site: https://www.facebook.com/groups/Alfatechsite/

RVillage:

FMCA: https://www.rvillage.com/group/830/family-motor-coach-association

Alfa Repair Facilities

Leisure Coachworks (formerly Alfateers), Fontana, CA (909) 428-6775 Website: www.leisurecw.com (Follow Leisure Coachworks on Twitter & like Us on Facebook) Blue Sky Mobile RV Repair (RVDA Certified Master Technician) Tucson, AZ (502) 668-4038 Website: http://blueskyrvservice.com/ Email: blueskyrv@gmail.com **Bob's Diesel Service**, 340 W 32nd St., PMB #150, Yuma, AZ (928) 941-6462 Bretz RV, Missoula, MT (406) 541-4800 Website: www.bretzrv.com California RV Specialists, 110 S Cherokee Lane Ste B, Lodi, CA (209) 263-7040 Website: www.calrvspecialists.com Charlie's Service, Sunset, UT (801) 773-1193 Website: http://www.charliesservice.com New Debut, Wakarusa, IN (574) 862-4893 Website: www.new-debut.com MCIRV (PJ Miller), Nappanee, IN (574) 252-9158 Website: https://www.mcirv.com/ Mike Ewing, Summerdale, AL (251) 989-2593 email: ewingrvrepair@gmail.com Ronnie Wolfe/Dick Albritton, Choudrandt, LA (318) 372-8225 / (318) 278-1677 Emails: ronniewolfe78@gmail.com dickalbritton@gmail.com

Song Title #06	60's			
IWAVGY				
A retrospect. (Hint: Sung by a handsome crooner)				
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A yummy recipe

Jeannette Harper

Three-Ingredient Lemon Loaf

Ingredients:

- I box Betty Crocker™ SuperMoist white cake mix
- 1 container (5.3 oz) Yoplait® Greek 2 % lemon meringue yogurt

I cup water

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1 tablespoon course sugar (if desired)
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Directions:

- 1. Heat oven to 350°F. Spray 9x5-inch loaf pan with cooking spray. Line bottom of pan with cooking parchment paper for easier removal, if desired.
- 2. In large bowl, beat cake mix, yogurt and water with electric mixer on low speed for 1 minute, then on medium speed 2 minutes, scraping side of bowl as necessary. Pour batter into pan.
- 3. Bake 40 50 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pan on cooling rack for 10 minutes; run knife around edge of loaf to loosen. Remove from pan to cool completely, about 1 hour.
- 4. Sprinkle with the course sugar (if desired)

HOUSEKEEPING

DUES:

• If sending dues via U.S. Mail:

AlfaSeeYas Chapter c/o Ray Zimmermann 12570 Village Circle Dr #4405 Sunset Hills, MO 63127

You can find your dues expiration date on the e-mail that forwarded this newsletter or snail mail label. *(Checks payable to AlfaSeeYas)*

Membership is \$10 per year. Multiple year renewals are encouraged at \$10 per year.

• If you use an on-line bill payer, make sure your bank has the correct address.

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There's more!

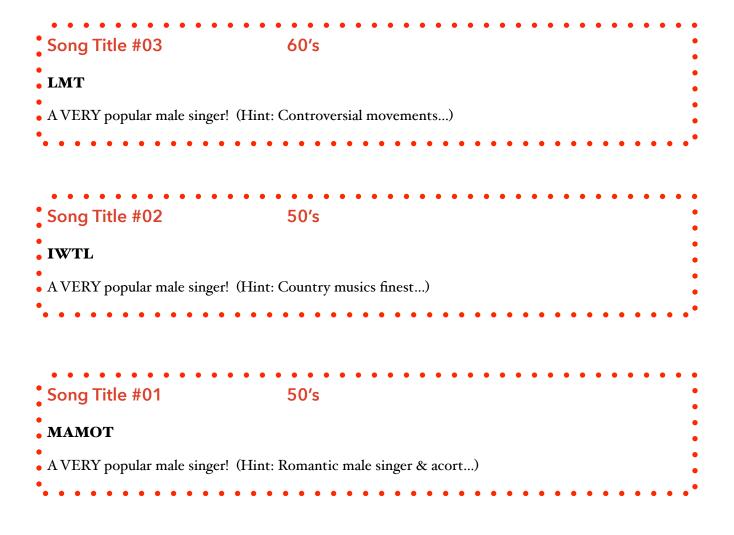
Song Title #04	60's	• • • • • • • • • • •		
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A popular group! (Hint: Debuted on Ed Sullivan.)				
•		•••••		
A yummy recipe				

Jeannette Harper

Salmon Casserole

- 1 cup rice * ٠
- I cup grated cheddar cheese ٠
- 1/4 cup butter ٠
- I tsp. Worcestershire sauce ٠
- I cup mayonnaise ٠
- I cup chopped green peppers ٠
- I cup chopped celery ٠
- 1/2 cup chopped onion ٠
- I can cream of mushroom soup ٠
- 1 cup salmon ** •
- salt & pepper to taste ٠
- Preheat oven to 350° I.
- 2. Grease a large casserole and cover the bottom with the rice *. Place the grated cheese on top of the rice.
- 3. Melt the butter in a medium pan. Saute the onions, green peppers and celery until softened/ al dente. (Firm but not mushy.) Add the other ingredients and mix gently.
- 4. Pour over the rice/cheese.
- 5. Bake for 45 minutes. Enjoy!
- * Cook the rice for 30 minutes before putting in the casserole dish.
- ** You can substitute tuna, shrimp or crab in place of salmon.

Hint: we used I large and I small can of salmon which equaled just over the I cup.



Okay - this is the end of the 'mystery' songs!! Send me an email message with your list of answers and I will post the winner in the next newsletter! Jeannette Classified Ad: Single man with toilet paper seeks woman with hand sanitizer for good clean fun.

Day 6 of Homeschooling: My child just said "I hope I don't have the same teacher next year!" I'm offended.

AlfaSeeYas Store

Are you aware we have a couple neat items with our logo on it?? No? Go to: <u>http://www.alfaseeyas.com/pdf/orderformRev.pdf</u> to see images of the baseball style hat as well as jacket. There is a link to the order form so stop on by!



The caps are 'baseball style' and one-size for all with a Velcro adjustable strap for the black and a plastic strap with holes for the blue. **Price: \$10 ea**

The jacket is 100% polyester shell with a jersey lining. Mesh inserts at gussets have been added for breathability and articulated elbows for greater mobility. The cuffs are half-elastic and half-self fabric for comfort. There are side pockets and a drawcord hem with a toggle. Both have the *AlfaSeeYas* script over the left chest and the member name on the right chest in yellow/gold.

Available sizes are XS - 6XL. Colors: Royal Blue or Black Price: XL - 2XL - \$35 3XL - 6XL - \$40

Check with Randy Scott for the shipping cost which will be added to the order. He can be reached at: (661) 256-3507 or via email at: <u>rscott@antelecom.net</u>



And that's another issue that's come to an end... Do YOU have something to add? Contact the newsletter editor or one of the officers. Come on! You KNOW you want to do it :-)