

October 16-19 Campout at Belle Isle State Park

Attendees: Joanne, Marsha G, Marsha M, Ralph, Bob, Heather, Sherry

Thursday evening folks brought their meals to sit and eat around a great campfire. On Friday Joanne, Sherry, the Marsha's and Bob went to the Mary Ball Washington Museum which includes several historic buildings in Lancaster, VA. After lunch out they went to the Reedville Fisherman's Museum. We had our usual potluck dinner and another wonderful campfire – the weather was perfect for sitting around a campfire. On Saturday the group went to the Taste of Middlesex Festival/Car Show at Deltaville Maritime Museum and Holly Point Nature Park. Saturday dinner was at The Oaks restaurant in Lively, VA - the food was delicious. Another great campfire topped off the evening.

October 16-19 Business Meeting

Attendees: Joanne, Marsha G, Marsha M, Ralph, Bob, Heather, Sherry

The meeting was called to order at 5:56 PM on Fri 10/17 .

The reading of the August minutes was waived since Heather hadn't typed them up yet.

Old Business –

Sherry passed around copies of the proposed Wagonmaster Duties/Operating Procedures document that everyone was sent to review. This document lays out how we will operate as an independent RV group. After some discussion the document was adopted by unanimous vote. The document will be posted to our webpage.

Heather raised the issue of our camping season and whether we can support 7 campouts. She suggested that we eliminate the April campout to bring our campout season down to 6 (May thru Oct). After discussion a vote was taken and we eliminated April from our schedule.

There was discussion emphasizing the need to get our schedule completed for next year. Currently the schedule is:

May – Location Needed – Wagonmaster Marsha M

June – Westmoreland State Park – Wagonmaster Sherry

July – Location Needed – Wagonmaster – Barb Foley

Aug – Location Needed – Wagonmaster Needed

Sep – Location Needed – Wagonmaster Martsha G

Oct – Sherando Nat'l Recreation Area – Wagonmaster Heather

The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 pm

Trap Pond, DE August 14-17, 2025

Activities included DE Botanical Gardens at Pepper Creek, Nanticoke Indian Museum, the Cypress Swamp Boat Trip.

VA LoWs meeting - Sherry & Marsha G - 917p-919p on Saturday, 9/16/25. Old business - Sherry will retype Operating Procedures and Wagonmaster Duties, then email to all active members, for approval by members at the 10/25 camp out. *All comments regarding changes/approval MUST be received no later than 9/10/25.* Sherry will resend revised document back to members by 10/01/25, for final approval by all members present at the 10/25 camp out. No new business. -- Ralph, Sherry and Marsha were present at the Trap Pond SP camp out.

Newport News Park 17-20 July 2025

Attendees: Sherry, Marsha G, Ralph, Barb, Marsha M

General: Newport News City Park is one of the largest municipal parks (7,711 acres) east of the Mississippi River. It offers hiking, 5.3-mile biking loop, boating, fishing, a disc-golf course, boats and bikes can be rented on site, and year-round camping. The park also features picnic sites, floral gardens, a Discovery Center and a Japanese Tea House.

Agenda: We arrived at various times leading up to the start of the campout. Greetings included "Smiles and Hugs". After settling into our respective sites, we gathered at the wagon master site to talk and plan our activities for the campout. During the very hot/humid days, we explored the Virginia Living Museum (living exhibits depicting Virginia's natural heritage) and Ft. Monroe National Monument (the largest stone fort built in the US). With fans and a pop-up, we enjoyed being together at the wagon master site in the afternoons and evenings. The campout officially ended Sunday at noon but in reality, with hugs and goodnights as folks headed to their rigs on Saturday night.

July 2025 Business Minutes (Newport News Park)

Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm

Old Business:

Wagon master summarized the June business minutes. No changes were made.

New Business:

Club: With all the discussions, it was decided to poll the active club members as to if they want the club to continue as an organization. Heather and Sherry will come up with a simple ballot to be emailed to the membership. General discussion among attendees is to continue as a club but there was not a quorum present for a formal vote at the business meeting. The possibility of shortening our season by one month (eliminating April) was discussed.

Wagon master Duties: Everyone present was handed current document which needs a serious updating to reflect how our club actually works now versus when the duties were last updated. Heather, Sherry and Marsha G will draft an update and it will be sent to members for comments. Once all the comments are incorporated, the duties will be sent to everyone for approval. Target for this is before the start of the next camping season.

2026 Wagon master volunteers:

16-19 April

14-17 May – Marsha M., location TBD

18-21 June – Sherry, Westmoreland SP, VA – site b7 (campground B just renovated, use official website map)

16-19 July – Barb, location TBD

13-16 August

17-20 September – Marsha G, TBD (Assateague Island State Park – maybe)

15-18 October – Heather, Sherando Lake, VA

Wagon masters are still needed for April and August, if interested, please let Heather know for the website. Members attending a campout, please let the wagon master know for planning purposes.

Treasury: A discussion about using part of the treasury to offset activity fees for attendees in addition to firewood purchases followed. General thoughts were a \$ limit would be set for use by wagon master and approval by campout attendees would be required with a minimum kept in the reserves at all times. This proposal would have to be put to the membership with specifics before being implemented.

The meeting adjourned at 6:38pm.

Kiptopeke State Park 15-18 May 2025

Attendees: Joanne, Sherry, Marsha M, Marsha G, Heather, Ralph

General: Kiptopeke means “big water” in Algonquian. The park is located on the beautiful Eastern Shore in Virginia. It was established in 1992 and now encompasses 562 acres. Part of the park was originally the ferry landing to and from the Eastern shore before the opening of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel. The Concrete Fleet of ships (some of the cargo ships in the Pacific during WWII) located off the water front of the park, were purchased in 1948 to create a breakwater for the ferry pier and now provide some of the best fishing in the area. The park has a fishing pier, swimming beaches, boat ramp, 5.1 miles of trails, camping and picnic area options.

Agenda: We arrived at various times leading up to the start of the campout. Greetings included “Smiles and Hugs”. After settling into our respective sites, we gathered at the wagon master site to talk and plan our activities for the campout. During the days, we explored the Cape Charles History Museum, the Erle gardens, the Barrier Island Museum and various restaurants and Blue Crow Antiques. Nancy C, former member, joined us for lunch on Friday and dinner on Saturday to catch up with what was happening with old friends. The campout officially ended Sunday at noon but in reality, with hugs and goodnights as folks departed for their rigs on Sunday night for early Monday morning departures.

May 2025 Business Minutes (Kiptopeke State Park)

Meeting called to order at 7:09pm

Old Business:
None

New Business:

Financial – Dues are \$5 since we have a robust treasury for the purchase of firewood. Heather was reimbursed for website expenses.

Club President – Joanne resigned as President effective end of this campout. After discussion among the members present, it was decided that we will continue with our years long manner of rotating the “blue bag” between wagonmasters and do away with formal designation of a president.

Holiday Luncheon – a proposal to move the holiday luncheon from the 2nd Saturday in December to the 1st Saturday was made and approved. This will hopefully allow more members to attend.

Website: Heather has graciously agreed to continue as our Webmaster

The meeting adjourned at 7:16

Lake Anna State Park 12-15 June 2025

Attendees: Sherry, Marsha M, Marsha G, Heather, Bob, Wanda, Ralph

General: Lake Anna State Park was established in 1983 on the Lake Anna reservoir created by Dominion Power for cooling its nearby nuclear power plant. The park now encompasses 3,127 acres and has 10 miles of shoreline. The park contains the remnants of the Goodwin Gold Mine which opened in 1792 and was operated until 1881 by the James Goodwin family. The park also was the setting for the Glenora Plantation but time, vandals and weather made it too dangerous to restore and was subsequently demolished in 1998. A smokehouse is all that remains and can be seen from the Glenora Trail. The park has a swimming beach, boat ramp, kayak/canoe launch, 15 miles of trails, camping and picnic area options.

Agenda: We arrived at various times leading up to the start of the campout. Greetings included "Smiles and Hugs". After settling into our respective sites, we gathered at the wagon master site to talk and plan our activities for the campout. As a result, during the days, we explored the Exchange Hotel in Gordonsville, the James Madison Museum in Orange, the Chancellorsville Battlefield and many of the country roads thru rural Virginia. The campout officially ended Sunday at noon but in reality, with hugs and goodnights as folks departed on Saturday night.

June 2025 Business Minutes (Lake Anna State Park)

Meeting called to order at 6:45 pm

Old Business:

Wagon master summarized the May business minutes. No changes were made.

New Business:

LoWs banner & holder – after much discussion, it was decided to not display it at the wagon master site since no one could remember getting any new members from it on display and it's an additional object to transport. It will be stored at Sherry's.

Bylaws – Rewriting bylaws was deferred until such time as LoWs directs clubs to cease using the name.

Treasury – Decision was made to continue splitting the treasury between 2 people. Heather will hold the reserves and will include a letter with the funds that it belongs to the club and will include a list of the wagon masters who can draw from it. The operating funds will be passed among the wagon masters as in the past with all additions/deductions noted in the notebook by date. The wagon master can request funds from the reserves when needed. Dues for this year are \$5 and we currently have \$476 and 8 paid members.

The meeting adjourned at 7:16

