



Today

Recreation Vehicle Industry Newsletter

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President Bush Speaks to FMCA Convention in Virginia; Proposes Increased Funding for Recreational Land

Family Motor Coach Association (FMCA) members assembled for their first annual spring international convention at the Virginia State Fairgrounds in Richmond were thrilled by a visit and speech from the President of the United States, George Bush, on June 21.

The President and Mrs. Bush's 20-minute visit to the rally resulted from the efforts and coordination of the American Recreation Coalition and its president, Derrick Crandall.

In addressing the group, the President told of his admiration for their strong family values, and for the American ideals of freedom, love of nature and self reliance that RVers hold dear. He told them of his proposal to increase funding by \$200 million for recreational land acquisitions in 27 states. Under the President's proposal, the land would be purchased by the National Park Service (NPS), Fish and Wildlife Service (F&WS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Forest Service (USFS). The President expressed his desire to preserve and identify America's scenic byways and told of the efforts of the BLM and the USFS to bring about this achievement with the roads over their lands.

President Bush took the opportunity to praise both groups and individuals within FMCA ranks for their support of many voluntary programs including two in particular that fight homelessness and illiteracy, the Better Homes Foundation and the Literacy Volunteers of America.

In his speech, the President also referred to the delightful camping tours of Grand Teton and Glacier National Parks that Crandall had coordinated for the Bushes and their guests in 1983 and 1987 in which they had traveled in motorhomes provided by RVIA members.

At the conclusion of the President's remarks, FMCA President Richard Hammann presented an honorary FMCA membership and a commemorative award to President and Mrs. Bush.

The coinciding of the event with RVIA's Committee Week in Washington, DC made it possible for several members attending committee meetings to remain for an extra day and go to Richmond. RVIA arranged for industry leaders and ARC representatives to travel in member-provided motorhomes from Washington, D. C. to Richmond to hear the speech.

A videotape (VHS) of the President's speech can be purchased by calling FMCA at (800) 543-3622 (all states except Ohio) or in Ohio at (513) 474-3622.



President Bush addresses members of the Family Motor Coach Association June 21 at their Richmond, VA., international spring rally.

Recreation Vehicle Industry Association

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