

# FEDERATION OF MANUFACTURED HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION (FMO)

## FALL NEWS LETTER FOR PINE LAKES COUNTY CLUB RESIDENTS



### To Contact: Pine Lakes FMO Representative Ron Thoreson

Visit His Home at: 19521  
Ravines Ct., 35D

Call Him at: (919) 306 1700

E-Mail Him at:

[Ron@RonThoreson.com](mailto:Ron@RonThoreson.com)

### Why should YOU become a member?

- FMO needs your support to continue to do what it does so you can enjoy the lifestyle you have chosen. FMO gets its political strength from the number of members it has. You and your fellow Manufactured Home Owners can never match the park owner's (like ELS) dollars in their coffers. Legislators get their strength from the number of people who vote. FMO is the only organization in the state of Florida that watches and fights for your rights. Remember this: ***The squeaky wheel gets the grease!***
- Without your support, there wouldn't be an FMO. That means that there wouldn't be a Chapter 723, nor would there be HOAs.
- Dues are only \$25.00 annually - a mere \$.07 cents a day. Or make it for 3 years for \$65.00, or a mere \$.06 cents per day! For your membership, you have a lobbyist in Tallahassee, thousands of fellow mobile/manufactured home owners who watch out for each other,

people who will train, advise, and supply your HOA with the many forms and information it needs to operate your park.

- For your membership, you get the *FMO News*, the official member magazine of the FMO. Inside you find out about what is going on across the state that may affect you.
- For your membership, you have people who watch for changes in legislation that can hurt or help you.
- In short, for your membership, you have a whole organization of people who work behind the scenes to preserve your lifestyle. If the dues were \$50 or even \$75 a year, the FMO would still be a bargain. Please consider joining the FMO so it can continue the great work it's doing for you!

### Join Today!

- Join On-Line! Go to [www.FMO.org](http://www.FMO.org), then click on "Apply to be a Member"
- You can download an application, print it out and drop it off at Ron's home.
- Don't have computer access? Contact Ron and you can pick one up from him or He will drop one off at your home!

Go to [www.FMO.org](http://www.FMO.org) for more information!

FMO Works for YOU, the Manufactured Home Owner!

Thank You for YOUR Interest in FMO!

### What is FMO?

1962 the FMO is the Florida nonprofit consumer advocacy organization dedicated to protecting the rights and interests of hundreds of thousands of mobile/manufactured home owners in the state of Florida who own their homes that are placed on leased land in parks.

In 1962 the St. Petersburg City Council planned to enact an ordinance mandating that mobile homeowners install tie-downs, a very expensive proposition at that time. Homeowners lacked the means to manage that cost. Peggy Johnstone, upset by the impending mandate, contacted fellow mobile homeowners and, on March 26, 1962, 77 communities came together to defeat the ordinance. The FMO was founded that day with a clear vision in place: Protect the interests of Manufactured/Mobile Home Owners in Florida.

Today FMO's Mission remains the same and is expanded. FMO offers required training for new board members. The organization has other webinars to help residents of FS723 parks and was instrumental in getting that law passed. Needed changes to that law are always on the FMO agenda.

FMO represents all homeowners in a FS723 park even though not all residents join as dues paying members. However, legislators check the number of paid members. FMO Reps need to make that reality clear to residents as they encourage residents to join FMO.

## More Background on FMO

FMO is divided into districts. Districts may cover one county while others may cover several counties. Each organized district is led by a District President and other officers. A method exists for either election or appointment. Each Park within that district has an appointed FMO Representative who acts as the key contact between the district president and their park HOA board and residents. FMO is a model for inclusivity under member driven and created bylaws. FMO needs members.

## Current FMO Board Members & District Presidents

President: Ron Grove; [ron\\_grove@hotmail.com](mailto:ron_grove@hotmail.com);

Vice President: Dave Carr; [dwcarr@rogers.com](mailto:dwcarr@rogers.com)

Treasurer: Meredith "Lew" C. Wood; [lewwd@yahoo.com](mailto:lewwd@yahoo.com)

Director at Large: Richard Twort; [richardtwort@yahoo.com](mailto:richardtwort@yahoo.com)

Director at Large: Rick Hollenbach, [rick.hollenbach@att.net](mailto:rick.hollenbach@att.net)

Section I Leader: Bonnie Darling, [bonbondarling@gmail.com](mailto:bonbondarling@gmail.com)

District 2 President: Bob Anderson, [bob1957@hotmail.com](mailto:bob1957@hotmail.com)

Section II Leader: Fred Sullivan; [fjsulii@aol.com](mailto:fjsulii@aol.com)

District 5 President: Joan Bartlett, [jembstar@yahoo.com](mailto:jembstar@yahoo.com)

District 7 President: John Bowman, [bowmanfmo@gmail.com](mailto:bowmanfmo@gmail.com)

District 8 President: Norm Kauffman, [norcake@maplenet.net](mailto:norcake@maplenet.net)

Section III Leader: Vacant

District 14 President, vacant

District 16 President, Chris Ball, [cball103@aol.com](mailto:cball103@aol.com)

Section IV Leader: Vacant

Districts 12 & 12 A (Vacant)

Section V Leader: vacant due to David Carr accepting FMO Vice President position

District 1 President: Howard Korn, [howard.korn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:howard.korn@sbcglobal.net)

District 6 President Norma Woodall, [ngwoodall@gmail.com](mailto:ngwoodall@gmail.com)

Section VI Leader James Mull, [jimcorinne@aol.com](mailto:jimcorinne@aol.com)

District 3 President John Petrella, [jdp44emporium@aol.com](mailto:jdp44emporium@aol.com)

District 13 Vice President Jo-Anne Fieschel, [jojoerv@aol.com](mailto:jojoerv@aol.com)

Section VII Leader: Vacant

District 4: Vacant

District 9: President Larry Berthiaume, [doland319@yahoo.com](mailto:doland319@yahoo.com)

Section IX Leader: Jesse James, [jessejamesfmao@hotmail.com](mailto:jessejamesfmao@hotmail.com)

District 11: Vacant

District 17: President Susan Slater; [suslater@gmail.com](mailto:suslater@gmail.com)

## Here's some good news

The change over to a new membership system has caused us many headaches, especially in joining or renewing online through our web site. Finally, members can join or renew via the website.

This allows FMO Reps to gain new members and ease the renewal process.

The problem was that the website would not take credit card payments forcing renewals to mail their payment or to phone the office and do it by phone.

New members had to go the slow route. Complete an application, write a check, or send credit card info through the mail. What should be a simple process was time consuming and not user friendly.

Drum roll: Let's emphasize New members can join FMO via the website, [fmo.org](http://fmo.org). The application is online. You can print and mail it with a payment or go the easy way. Complete the online application and pay via credit card. And members who need to renew as their dues are due can do the same.

Work on improving our website continues and we will keep you updated.

Join FMO; renew your membership. Be a part of FMO, the non-profit that advocates for manufactured homeowners in Florida and provides education opportunities. We have legal counsel and legislative counsel. Our volunteer team stands ready to work with you and our staff of three in the office will provide information and services as needed.

### **Legislative information**

The FMO is pushing to renew the tie down law that ends next June. FMO succeeded in getting a one-year extension of this important 20 year program Now they are back seeking more years to avoid losing this vital program.

FMO has another bill which would increase the DBPR fines. More details on this will be provided in November and December. The bill is being written now.