

FMCA-EA Website report for EAMA Annual Meeting

The website was launched in October 2021 and is hosted at FMCA. Our site can be reached at fmca-ea.com. The home page includes a welcome message from our president, Gary Lyons and our officers photos and titles. The information hosted there includes a list and description of Chapters in our area that is maintained at FMCA, but can be viewed thru a portal on our site.

Updates to the information are posted as they occur and include GEAR announcements, Chapter newsletters and Rallies (via a similar FMCA portal) and Area newsletters. There is also a section for documents. You will find Bylaws and other governing documents here.

There have been 144 posts to the website since its launch. 76 of those have been Chapter newsletters. Most of the others are spilt amongst Area news and GEAR updates. There are 31 Chapters in our area, but only 15 have ever submitted a newsletter. Of those 76 newsletters, 64 of them have come from just 6 chapters.

I recently created an Area Officers Page with more detail than the IT folks could provide through their portal. I felt it was useful to have a single page that would show the officers, their regions of responsibility and the chapters that are located with those regions.

This past year FMCA IT has taken the following actions on the Eastern Area website.

1. A major update was made to the Eastern Area Chapter Search tool making the page load multiple times faster than what was previously in place (<https://www.fmca-ea.com/our-chapters/>).
2. An update was made to your website's contact form to combat SPAM and prevent unwanted messages from appearing in your feed.
3. FMCA preformed a major server upgrade earlier in the year on the web server used to host fmca-ea.com which significantly boosted performance.

Our [fmca-ea](http://fmca-ea.com) website is very similar in structure to the Great Lakes, North East and INTO Areas, also hosted by FMCA. Here are links to all of the other FMCA Area websites that FMCA Headquarters in responsible for hosting:

<https://greatlakesarea.com/>

<https://fmca-nea.com/>

<https://www.fmcainto.com/>

FMCA IT goal with hosting these Area websites is to provide a consistent theme and suite of functionality for all area websites. The EA website runs the same theme and offers the same functionality as the other websites mentioned above.

In the coming year, we should expect the same level of support we have been receiving from IT, as well as the potential for new features and upgrades. One thing worth mentioning is that they have been working with FMCA Chapters to create a WordPress plugin to simplify the process of collecting online payments for generic product purchases. If this is something our Area is interested in, please let me know and I can work with IT on implementing this for our site.

Finally -if there are any chapters interested in have their own website hosted by FMCA, IT would be interested in discussing your options.\

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Keppler, Webmaster