



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – West Springfield, MA

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**Springfield RV Camping and Outdoor Show Commemorates
60th Anniversary and Hosts Record-Breaking Show
*Volunteerism a Cornerstone of Show's Success***

Organizers of the Springfield RV, Camping and Outdoor Show 2022 hosted a record-breaking event with 45,490 in attendance at the 60th anniversary show. The show is the longest continuous-running show at Eastern States Exposition. At the group's annual -- commemorative recognition dinner -- they recognized ESE in grateful appreciation of 60 years of cooperation and support.

The first show took place in 1962 and is the largest RV show held in New England, encompassing 270,000 sq. ft. in three exhibit buildings. The Pioneer Valley Chapter 8, NAFCA (North American Family Campers Association), the volunteer group responsible for the event, was organized in September, 1960 and was formed to further family camping in the Springfield, Massachusetts, area.

"We have enjoyed over 60 years of camping, fun and good friendships. Our camping organization mainly focuses on family values and activities," said Phil Nadeau, chairman of the event. "I'd like to thank all the vendors and attendees for a great, successful show this year."

Eugene J. Cassidy, president and CEO of Eastern States Exposition, said, "It is our great honor to have a dedicated partner who has supported our mission to provide year-round opportunities for the development of family entertainment, and do so continuously for 60 years."

ESE Director of Sales Tim Garstka congratulated members of the NAFCA on this significant anniversary and thanked the group for its many years producing a quality and cornerstone event at the Exposition.

Rob Gottsche, ESE event relations manager, and Tammy Yacovone, ESE Operations team lead - administrative, have been meeting the needs of the show serving as event coordinator and houseman for 26 and 25 years, respectively.

The event was a one stop shopping experience allowing prospective buyers a chance to explore new campgrounds, the newest RVs and camping equipment and plan an outdoor adventure.

Each year, the show is dedicated to a couple who have gone above and beyond for the show and the club. The 2022 event honored Robert and Carole Barclay, longtime volunteers and club members.

The show committee is comprised of 36 volunteers and at show time, swells to 150 club members. All have given anywhere from two to 33 years of their time to ensure the show's success.

The 2023 show will take place Feb. 17-20.

Photo: Pictured at the presentation (left to right) are: Phil and Candace Nadeau; Rob Gottsche, ESE event relations manager; Tammy Yacovone, ESE Operations team lead – administrative; and Tim Garstka, ESE director of Sales.

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