

**HOSTING**

**THE**

**UNITED STATES CANOE ASSOCIATION**

- **National Stock Aluminum Canoe Marathon Championships**

*Race Management information specifically for the USCA  
National Race Sponsor identifying responsibilities, requirements  
and interpretation of the USCA rules governing the USCA  
Nationals. Further information contact: G. Tave Lamperez, Nationals  
Coordinator, 24 Roosevelt Street, St. Charles, IL 06070;*

*Homephone 630-584-6931; Work Phone 630-979-5234*

E-mail: [lamperez@netscape.net](mailto:lamperez@netscape.net) or lamperez@lucent.com

*USCA Website:*

*<<http://uscanoe.com>>*

**BID APPLICATION TO HOST THE 2008/2009/2010/2011/2012/20\_\_ (circle one)  
USCA NATIONAL STOCK ALUMINUM CANOE MARATHON  
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Date of application: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of the U.S.C.A. National Stock Aluminum Canoe Marathon Championships: \_\_\_\_\_

Race Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

River: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated fees to be charged: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please indicate any special reduced youth fees if any) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Subject to approval of the USCA Delegates)

1. We (Race Sponsor) have conducted USCA sanctioned races for \_\_\_\_\_ years.
2. The race course purposed will meet the following site selection criteria for a USCA Marathon race.
  - a. The waterway will accommodate \_\_\_\_\_ canoes in a mass start.
  - b. There will be \_\_\_\_\_ necessary portages of \_\_\_\_\_ feet in length.
  - c. The length of the race will be \_\_\_\_\_ miles total with \_\_\_\_\_ miles upstream and \_\_\_\_\_ miles downstream. Approximate winning time is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. There are \_\_\_\_\_ campsites and \_\_\_\_\_ motel/hotel rooms within \_\_\_\_\_ miles or minutes of the race start/finish line.
  - e. There will be \_\_\_\_\_ port-o-lets or other toilet facilities at the race start; \_\_\_\_\_ at the race finish, if different from start.
  - f. There will be \_\_\_\_\_ parking spaces available at the race start: \_\_\_\_\_ at the race finish.
3. By submitting this bid, the race sponsor agrees to the following USCA requirements.
  - a. Hold the USCA approved schedule for USCA National Stock Aluminum Canoe Marathon Championship event(s) as a one day Championship using the current rules of USCA (USCA Competition Rules). Additional classes, e.g., mixed, jr, novice may be added at the discretion of the host. These classes are supported by the USCA, though not championship classes at this time. Special recognition could be added also.
  - b. Award the USCA Championship medals as directed by the USCA National Race Committee. Purchase shall be from the USCA approved vendor.
  - c. Provide race packet of information.

Race Sponsor Agrees to the Following Requirements (Con't).

- d. Rebate to the USCA (check payable to USCA); send check to the Nationals Coordinator for verification, \$5.00 per adult entrant (\$1.00 for youth 15-17 years old) for the **MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS ONLY. Demo or other races are not included in the rebate** Rebate due as soon as possible after the last day's events.
  - e. Send complete race information to the USCA Nationals Coordinator for publication in USCA **CANOE NEWS magazine** at least three months prior to event.
  - f. Send race flyer and entry forms (approved by the USCA Nationals Coordinator) to all current and previous years USCA prior race participants members at least 45 days prior to race date. . The USCA Membership Chairman will provide gummed label at no charge.
  - g. Provide the following arrangements for First Aid and communications along the racecourse, plus safety and sweep boats. Explain:\_\_\_\_\_.
  - j. Provide an impoundment area at the race finish for the winning boats.
  - l. Send complete race results to the USCA CANOE NEWS EDITOR and Website Coordinator within 1 day after the race.
  - m. Submit a complete financial report to the USCA Nationals Coordinator within 4 weeks of the race.
5. It is recognized that all television rights of the race are solely those of the USCA® **NO PERSON OR ORGANIZATION MAY USE THE NAME OR EMBLEM OF THE ASSOCIATION IN ADVERTISING, SOLICITING GOODS OR SERVICES, OR PROMOTING WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE USCA DELEGATES** according to the USCA BY-LAWS, REGISTRATION, TRADEMARKS, AND COPYRIGHT LAWS. For further information contact John Edwards, Executive Director.
6. In addition to the specified "Per-competitor" rebate amount, the amount of additional funding that the race sponsoring organization is prepared to donate to the USCA is \_\_\_\_\_\*\*.
7. If your state requires canoe/kayak registration, will there be a waiver, exemption or reciprocity for out-of-state canoes? Identify your state requirements and the waiver that will be available. (Necessary to have waiver for five days prior to sprints through the last day of Marathon championships.) \_\_\_\_\_.

\*\*NOTE: An additional contribution is NOT a requirement for hosting the National Championships. The National race can be, however, a profitable event for both the hosting community and the hosting race sponsor. In the event of similar bids, an additional pledged contribution could be a factor in the USCA's deliberations. Contributions, if pledged, can take the form of a specific dollar amount or a percentage of the profits.

## RACE COURSE DESCRIPTION AND AGREEMENT

On separate sheet(s) of paper, please give a brief description of the racecourse. Include the following information:

1. Provide a topographic map of the race course showing the:
  - a. Start and Finish lines.
  - b. Portages, if any.
  - c. Rapids, if any.
  - d. List any possible hazards or unusual condition on the course.
  - e. Mileage of the course.
  - f. Spectator viewing site.
  - g. Arrows showing race course on topo map.
  - h. Provide info on water depth, anticipated at race date, and info in regard to current.
2. Indicate what the primary and back-up timing arrangements will be: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Include the number and location of campsites, hotels, and motels.
4. Include directions from nearby major highways to the Start and Finish lines.
5. A map is requested of the course/area (topographic map).

RACE SPONSOR: Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

RACE CHAIRMAN: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED RACE SPONSOR: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature signifies that all USCA requirements and guidelines will be fulfilled.)

**IMPORTANT: Please send the original copy of this application to the USCA Nationals Coordinator, along with a copy of the Petition (Page 4). Also, send copies of each to the USCA Executive Director, Site Selection Chair, USCA President, USCA Competition Chairman, USCA Nationals Coordinator.. Keep a copy for your records.**

**USCA Executive Director**

John Edwards  
1929 Arrowhead Drive  
St. Petersburg, FL 33703  
Phone 727 522-3348  
[canoechamp@aol.com](mailto:canoechamp@aol.com)

**USCA President**

Larry Liquori  
79 Locust Dr.  
Kings Park NY 11754  
631-361-9548  
[liquori@jacka-liquori.com](mailto:liquori@jacka-liquori.com)

**Core Group Site Selection Comm.**

Priscilla Reinertsen  
582 East Penacook Rd.  
Contoocook, NH 03229  
603-746-6491  
[prtsten1@comcast.net](mailto:prtsten1@comcast.net)

**Nationals Coordinator**

G. Tave Lamperez  
24 Roosevelt Street  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
630-584-6931  
[lamperez@lucent.com](mailto:lamperez@lucent.com)

**Competition Committee Chair**

Norm Ludwig  
2006 West Side Rd.  
Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
570-753-513  
[ncludwig@cub.kcnet.org](mailto:ncludwig@cub.kcnet.org)



**PETITION TO SELECT A SITE FOR THE USCA NATIONAL STOCK ALUMINUM CANOE MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS OF YEAR \_\_\_\_\_.**

WE, the undersign USCA members, have either raced on, or are familiar with \_\_\_\_\_  
(river or lake)

between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
(start) (finish) (state)

and believe it meets the criteria of the USCA for holding the \_\_\_\_\_ year National Stock Aluminum Canoe Marathon Championship Canoe races.

**SIGNATURES:** Include address and telephone numbers.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** This signed petition must accompany the host application when it is submitted to the USCA Executive Director, Nationals Coordinator, President, Site Selection Chair, and Competition Chair.

**USCA. REQUIREMENTS TO HOST THE NATIONAL STOCK ALUMINUM CANOE  
MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- A. Application instructions for submitting a bid to host the USCA. National Championships.**
- 1. Applications may be obtained from the USCA Nationals Coordinator or Executive Director.**
  - 2. Race Sponsor or Club Affiliate must have sponsored USCA races at least two years prior to the bid date. Exceptions to this requirement will be made by the recommendations of the USCA Competition Committee.**
  - 3. Applications to host the National Championships must be sent to the Executive Director, Nationals Coordinator, President, Competition Committee Chair, and Core Group Site Selection Chair by July 1or sooner. Exception to the date would be no bids received for the Semiannual meeting. The Core Group Site Selection Committee will evaluate the race site and report its findings to the USCA Delegates at the USCA Semiannual or Annual Meeting. Normally the site of the race is awarded one and one-half (1-1/2) years prior to the race date. However, since the Stock Aluminum Nationals have been separated from the major marathon schedule, the process has been altered.**
  - 4. A signed petition of ten (10) current USCA members who are familiar with the river and the area must accompany the application.**
  - 5. USCA Stock Aluminum Canoe Marathon Championship races may be held at any date When water conditions are favorable at the site selected. The USCA Delegates must approve the date and location.**
  - 6. The fee for the championship event will be subject to approval by the USCA Delegates at the time the bid is submitted at the USCA Semiannual or Annual Meeting. After the delegates award the bid the proposed entry fee will be binding.**
  - 7. Site Selection Requirements**
    - A. The racecourse should be interesting, varied, scenic and safe.**
    - B. There must be dependable water conditions at the time of the race and for at least five days of practice time just prior to the race.**
    - C. The waterway should be wide enough so that the starting line can accommodate 25-50 canoes in a line abreast. Recommendation: There shall be at least a minimum width of 100 feet having a minimum depth of three feet.**
    - D. There shall be no river constrictions or portages one-half miles of the starting line.**
    - E. There shall be no upstream starts against any detectable flow or current when possible and feasible to have the start downstream. Current at the start line should flow straight downstream (not angling across the start line).**
    - F. After the start, there must be approximately one mile (minimum) of paddling before any turn around.**
    - G. The course will not contain rapids great than Class II by the International Scale of River Difficulty.**
    - H. There must be one mile (minimum) of paddling to the finish that is not upstream against a detectable flow of current when possible or feasible to do otherwise.**
    - I. The host should inform the delegates at the bid presentation whether there is a possibility of portages due to seasonal low water. Small portages are acceptable, but only if the course demands. No artificial portages shall be designed. Paddlers must have a clear and safe path back to the water.**
    - J. Good spectator and media viewing points should exist along the race course.**

8. The length of the race should fall within the following time limits – Men, Women, Mixed and/or Adult/Junior – 2 to 2-1/2 hours. The Adult/Youth and Junior events – 1 to 1-1/2 hours if held. Time is used rather than distance due to variable racecourse conditions and river flow.
9. There should be at least 25-30 campsites and over 25-50 motel/hotel rooms available to competitors and their families within 30 minutes of the racecourse.
10. There should be adequate toilet facilities available at the race start and finish.
11. Adequate parking for competitors and spectators should be available at the race start and finish line for at least 75-100 vehicles. Safe unloading areas should be provided if parking is limited at the race start.
12. The race sponsor is required to use the USCA Competition Rules and Canoe and Kayak specifications, the USCA Schedule of Events approved by the USCA Delegates. Abbreviations for events must be as they appear in the USCA Competition Rules Book. Any changes in the schedule of event made by the USCA Delegates become effective immediately.

Events to be offered are listed below. They could be change at the USCA Annual Meeting or Semiannual meeting and approval by the USCA Delegates become effective immediately.

- A. C-2 Stock Aluminum Men – (C-2 M Stk Al )
- B. C-2 Stock Aluminum Masters – (C-2 Ma Stk Al)
- C. C-2 Stock Aluminum Women – (C-2 W Stk Al)
- D. Special Age Group Recognition – An age group within a Championship event, for a specified age group. These groups are identified in year of race. (None)

13. USCA Championship medals shall be awarded in all USCA Championship events. Marathon shall be awarded to top 6 places. Medals are 1<sup>st</sup> – Gold, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Silver, 3<sup>rd</sup> (all 2.5” size medals). From 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> places shall receive Bronze (all 2-1/2” size medals). A National Championship Shirt shall be awarded to all 1<sup>st</sup> place winners. If Trial events are offered awards are presented 1<sup>st</sup> – Gold, 2<sup>nd</sup> Silver, 3<sup>rd</sup> Bronze (all 2-1/2” size medals). All medals shall be ordered and purchased through the USCA approved vendor.
14. Race sponsor shall rebate to the USCA \$5.00 per adult participant and \$1.00 per junior (15-17) participant in the USCA Marathon Championships . (Rebates are per championship – Marathon is per person, not the number of times an individual competes.). If no fee is charged for youth 5-14, there will be no rebate required. Total rebate amount is payable to the USCA and presented to the USCA Nationals Coordinator no later than four weeks after the races.
15. Information for race registration forms and schedule of events must be submitted to USCA Nationals Coordinator by January 15 of year of USCA Nationals or earlier – check date with Nationals Coordinator. All other information must be submitted to the USCA Nationals Coordinator for approval February 15 or earlier (check with Nationals Coordinator) in the year of the Nationals. Only approved copy will be submitted to the USCA Canoe News Magazine editor with a copy deadline of. The Nationals Coordinator must also approve the race brochure information and layout prior to publication. Deadline to submit draft of brochure is February 15 or earlier (check with Nationals Coordinator). *All race registration forms will be prepared for you by USCA. A request for information will be sent out prior to the annual meeting.*

**16. The race sponsor shall:**

- A. Provide a competitor's participation award, such as a singlet, patch, hat, etc., or a comparable item for each competitor.**
- B. Mail entry forms to current and non-renewed USCA members from the year prior. Free labels will be provided from USCA Membership Chair upon request. Race Brochure should be mailed out by June 1 depending upon approved race date.**
- C. Provide First Aid with radio communication on the course. Provide patrol craft/sweep boat and spotters for safety purposes. All personnel shall have an orientation as to their responsibilities. Spotters will require special orientation. The USCA Safety Chair shall be available for advice prior to and during the Nationals race.**
- D. Provide an area for the USCA Technical Inspection Committee to measure canoes before race day, usually near race headquarters. Helpers should be available for this committee to assist in measuring (jigging) boats both before and after the races.**
- E. Provide a secure area near the finish line for an "impoundment area" for winning canoes can be set up and controlled from unauthorized persons.**
- F. Provide complete race results for the championship events. Include the state/foreign country of the teams/individuals as well as complete times. Send to results to USCA Canoe News magazine editor and website coordinator. USCA Nationals Coordinator will be able to provide this information.**
- G. Provide a full financial disclosure to the USCA Nationals Coordinator within four weeks Following the Nationals. The disclosure shall include an itemized list of expenses and Income related to hosting of the Nationals. This will assist future race sponsors and the USCA in preparing for and securing financial support for the Nationals.**
- H. Provide the timing for the USCA Nationals. The USCA Timing Committee will serve as a consulting service for the race host. The host shall post all results, subject to protests, immediately following the competition.**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The race sponsor shall recognize that the USCA National Stock Aluminum Canoe Marathon Championships, "USCA® logo:" and "USCA®" and "United States Canoe Association®" are the sole property of the United States Canoe Association, Inc. Also, that the USCA is a principal to any contracts for endorsements, television contracts, etc. awarded in conjunction with said Championships. No person or organization may use the name or emblem of the Association in advertising, soliciting goods or services, or promoting without the consent of the USCA Delegates. Contact person for this information is the Executive Director.

If canoe and kayak registration is required in Host State, a waiver, an exemption or reciprocity for out-of-state canoes and kayaks shall be obtained for USCA members during the entire Nationals from five days prior to the sprints through the last marathon event.

The USCA Nationals Coordinator and Executive Director serve as the liaison between the Association and the National Race Sponsor. They are responsible for overseeing the on-site management of the Nationals. Anything related to USCA relations is under their authority.

Since USCA prepares the standardized forms for the Schedule of Events, and data information for the timing, the race sponsor shall provide the necessary information to USCA in a timely manner. This information relates to race start/finish lines, headquarters site, check in areas, and times of registration and other pertinent information necessary to develop the race registration forms and the Schedule of Events.

**The following overview of the USCA requirements must be observed.**

1. The event to be offered is approved by the USCA Delegates at the Annual meeting. The Championship events are C-2 Stock Aluminum and C-2 Masters (40+) Stock Aluminum. Designations for this events are “C-2 Stk Al” and “C-2 Ma Stk Al”. The registration form should use full name and abbreviations.
2. Supply information for the USCA Race Application that will be prepared for you. Include fee, site of registration, race start/finish areas, times for registration, times for race start, applications to be sent to whom and by when, and to whom the checks are to be made out. Additional information will be the organizations or groups to be included in the waiver form.
3. Check on insurance for the event. USCA insurance coverage is available. Contact USCA Insurance Coordinator.
4. USCA membership is required for all Championship and Trial Events. (USCA Membership form is enclosed). Do not print a back-to-back membership with the race application forms.
5. The Membership Chair prior to the on-site registration must verify pre-registration.
6. On-site registration will process through membership first for membership application/verification.
7. The Nationals Coordinator, prior to publication must approve the Race flyer.
8. The Race flyer with the USCA Race Application and USCA Membership Application should be sent out to all the non-renewed members and all the current members at least one month before the race.
9. The Nationals Coordinator will assist course development.
10. Registration – All entrants’ ages should be noted in the master’s event to make certain that both paddlers meet the age requirement – 40 years old or older as of race day.
11. Registration – make note of any foreigners who may enter race. Foreigners may not win the traveling trophy, but do win medal of position and the first U.S.A. Team will win the traveling trophy and be designated as the Champions.
12. Boat numbers should be on both sides of canoe with designation for each event. Number series are easier to identify. Example: (100, 101, 102, etc. for C-2 StkAl; and 200, 201, 202 for C-2 MaStkAl).
13. Timing – results of each event are to be posted after the race. Top 5 are reported to jiggling crew. Primary and back-up timing required.
14. Jiggling – top 5 canoes in the Championship event must be checked.
15. After verification of boat jiggling, official times are posted.
16. Awards – USCA Championship medals for the top ten finishers in Championship event and top three in trial event. The back of the medals will state year, event, position, and site. The first place team is awarded Championships shirts and a traveling trophy.
17. After the race – times are to be provided for Canoe News magazine, USCA Website, and the Historian.
18. USCA insurance requirements: return all signed waivers to the Insurance Coordinator as soon as possible.
19. A rebate to USCA is \$5.00 per person, paid to the USCA no later than one month after the race.
20. USCA required that the race sponsoring organization submit a full financial disclosure to the USCA Nationals Coordinator within 6 weeks following the Nationals. The disclosure shall include an itemized list of expenses and income related to hosting the Nationals.

USCA NATIONAL STOCK ALUMINUM CANOE MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS

Check In and On-Site Registration: Starting at 9: a.m. race day at \_\_\_\_\_

ALL COMPETITORS Must check in by 11:00 a.m. on race day. Race will start at Noon. Pre-registration is appreciated.

START LINE: \_\_\_\_\_

FINISH LINE: \_\_\_\_\_

AWARDS: Championship: Top ten teams will be awarded the USCA Marathon medals. A traveling Trophy to 1st place winners and USCA National Championship Shirts. The top three teams will be awarded the USCA Trial event medals.

CURRENT U.S.C.A. MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED in USCA Championship and Trial events. (Send USCA Membership Chair dues or pay on site)

Attendance at a pre-race meeting is mandatory. A USCG approved PFD must be in possession of each entrant and one whistle per boat or a time penalty will be assessed to course time.

ENTRY FEE: \_\_\_\_\_ PER PERSON. PRE-REGISTER BY: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND COMPLETED RACE APPLICATION TO: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

EVENTS

\_\_\_\_\_ C-2 Stock Aluminum men \_\_\_\_\_ C-2 Masters (40+) Stock Aluminum men

\_\_\_\_\_ C-2 Stock Aluminum women \_\_\_\_\_ C-2 Masters (40+) Stock Aluminum women

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ (Other than U.S.A.)

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ U.S.A. Citizen? \_\_\_\_\_ 2 year RESIDENT? \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

PARTNER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT PAID: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ALSO ENTERED: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

The undersign waives any and all right to claims against the officers, committee members and individual members of the \_\_\_\_\_ and ALL event sponsors and support personnel, United States Canoe Association, Inc. and any land owner's on the marathon course, both individually and severally, and acknowledges that the above organizations are assuming no responsibility to the undersigned. The undersigned hereby acknowledges the inherent danger in all water sports and attests to his/her understanding of and agreement to abide by the safety rules and regulations of the sponsoring organizations and the U.S.C.A. (Entrants under 18 years of age must have Parent or Guardian Signature.)

Signature of Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**UNITED STATES CANOE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

(Please Print Clearly)

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
*List name and address of individual to receive the membership and USCA mail*

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Country (If not USA) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

New \_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_

Type of Membership		*Family Members – other than above member		
( ) Governing, 18+	\$20.00	NAME	BIRTH DATE	<u>OFFICIAL USE ONLY</u>
( ) Family*	\$25.00	_____	_____	CK# _____
( ) Junior, 5-17	\$7.50	_____	_____	CASH _____
( ) Race Sponsor	\$30.00	_____	_____	Other _____
( ) Club Affiliate	\$30.00	_____	_____	_____
( ) Business Affiliate	\$30.00	Recruited by _____		
( ) Foreign – remit above dues in USA Funds. Canada & Mexico add \$5.00, all others add \$10.00				

Make check for the amount due payable to the USCA and send with application to the USCA Membership Chair Paula Thiel, 53 Ross Road, Preston, CT 06365

**All participants in the USCA National Stock Aluminum Canoe Marathon Championships and Trial Events must be current USCA members.**

**Reminding paddlers to renew their members status early will avoid delays at the registration areas. For those paddlers who send dues late and do not receive a membership card verification prior to leaving for the Nationals they must have proof (copy of check) that they have mailed their current dues. If they cannot provide proof then they must pay dues again and when original check is received the backup check will be returned. ALSO, Governing members may upgrade to a FAMILY membership with an additional \$5.00 payment to permit a spouse and/or children, under 19 as of January 1, (year of this event), living at home, to become USCA Family member.**