



# **THE NEWSLETTER OF MONACO AMERICA**

a Chapter of Family Motor Coach Association

The Club for Owners of Monaco  
Esquire, Monarch, LaPalma, Cayman,  
Knight and Diplomat Motor Coaches  
Website:  
[www.groups.yahoo.com/group/monaco-america](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/monaco-america)

Vol. 3, No. 1

January 1, 2005

## **Monaco America Board**

**President**  
Bill Stone  
[Brstone6@aol.com](mailto:Brstone6@aol.com)

**1st Vice President/  
Wagon Master**  
Gary Granat  
[Granat@world.att.net](mailto:Granat@world.att.net)

**2nd Vice President/  
Security**  
Marvin Norton  
[olemwn442@aol.com](mailto:olemwn442@aol.com)

**3rd Vice President/  
Membership**  
Bill Henestofel  
[billhenes@copper.net](mailto:billhenes@copper.net)

**Secretary**  
Ed Stebbins  
[pdged@flash.net](mailto:pdged@flash.net)

**Treasurer**  
Diane Baker  
[cookiebaker3@aol.com](mailto:cookiebaker3@aol.com)

**Nat FMCA Dir**  
Joy Fetch  
[joyfetch@earthlink.com](mailto:joyfetch@earthlink.com)

**Alt FMCA Dir**  
Nancy Cormier  
[davecormier@msn.com](mailto:davecormier@msn.com)

**Immed Past Pres.**  
Dick Lennox  
[dlennox@wyoming.com](mailto:dlennox@wyoming.com)  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Newsletter Editor**  
Rick Stone  
5941 Seminole Rd  
Warr Acres, OK 73132  
[oldchief1@aol.com](mailto:oldchief1@aol.com)  
405-720-7355

Affiliated with



## **Rally in Nevada a Big Success**

The Monaco America Fall Rally in Laughlin, Nevada, proved to be a great success. Great meals, fantastic entertainment and a golf tournament. What more could a person ask for.

Members started arriving up to a week early in anticipation of fun. The parking committee was in place and ready when the bulk of our members arrived on Sunday. To get things started a pot luck dinner was held in the RV Park Pavilion on Sunday evening. The food was plentiful and outstanding. The Avi Resort, Casino and RV Park was all prepared for our arrival. The information booth was set up in the RV Park office, making this very accessible to the members.

On Monday evening Monaco Coach Corporation provided a welcome get together. This was well received and gave everyone a chance to meet some old friends and make some new ones. First time attendees consisted of 61 of the 121 coaches in attendance at the rally.

The meals were provided by the Avi Resort catering staff. Breakfast each morning of the rally was at the Resort Buffet. The evening meals were served in the main rally hall. The evening entertainment was provided each night by Ron and Kay Rivoli, who had previously performed at the Monaco America rally this past May in Indiana. They put on a spirited revue that is geared around the RV lifestyle. On Wednesday they hosted a karaoke night that brought many of our members to the stage to show off their singing talents. The evening ended with our President, Bill Stone, doing his rendition of the old favorite "How Great Thou Art". On Thursday night we had a luau with everyone bringing out their best Hawaiian attire. (The luau had to be moved indoors due to the inclement weather.)

As is becoming typical at Monaco America rallies, the weather gave us a variety to choose from. At the beginning we had sun with a little wind, much as you would expect this time of year in the desert. Tuesday evening the clouds came in and it rained until sometime late Thursday afternoon. The local people loved the rain since they had not seen a drop in the past six months. As Monaco America members usually do, we did not let the rain dampen our spirits and we forged on with our activities.

In addition to the normal seminars, our own Peggy Morris held craft classes in making roses out of knee high ladies hosiery. Also, our ladies held their first Hatters Tea hosted by Carol Granat, Linda Cotterall and Nancy Stone. Additionally, a fine demonstration of convection oven cooking was held. A seminar for ladies on coach maintenance was conducted by Ruth Parker and Judy Cote.

Friday morning came entirely too soon as our members started heading out for other destinations. By then the rain had cleared and we had beautiful sunny desert skies as we moved on down the road.



## From the President's Coach

By Bill Stone  
Monaco America  
President

Friends and Monaco America members, We hope everyone had a good holiday season. I suppose all were as busy as we were. We always look forward to the days after the holidays, for a chance to wind down.

I have had a request to check into a tour of Copper Canyon in Mexico, for our club members. The cost would be in the \$3000.00 range for each coach. We would need 20 coaches to be able to do this. If enough members show an interest, we will look into it. Anyone interested please let me know.

I must comment on our Avi rally. I think a good time was had by all. I won't go into detail as the rally was highlighted on the front page. I want to thank all of the volunteers, Without you we could not do what is needed to hold our rallies.

Gary has been working hard on the Spring Kerrville rally. We are looking forward to it. Our rallies just get better with each one. Gary is a true blessing for Monaco America. I hope everyone appreciates his and Carole's hard work. I don't know how I could do my job without him.

One note on our vote to include Diplomat owners as members. We now have over 40 that have joined Monaco America in the past six months. We want to welcome all of these new members. We look forward to seeing you at our rallies and joining in on the fun.

Nancy and I will be in Kansas City, KS until April 15. We will still be available to everyone, both on line and by phone. Anyone wanting to reach us need just dial our home or cell number.

Hope everyone has a good winter and we will envy the members who are able to go south, instead of north.

Bill  
1207 Ewing  
Purcell, OK 73080  
(405) 527-1677  
bnstone6@aol.com

## Ladies Hatter's Tea

To all the ladies that attended our first Monaco America Hatter's Tea, I hope you enjoyed it. I especially was happy to see all the great hats you wore. A special thanks to my rally mates that helped us have a pleasant afternoon: Nancy Stone, Linda Cotterall, and Joanne Stone and to everyone who brought their teapots. We hope to do something similar in Kerrville, so don't forget your hats. Carole Granat

## ATTENTION NEW COACH OWNERS

When you purchased your new coach you were mailed a new owners package by Monaco Coach Corporation. In this package was an application for membership in Monaco America. Monaco Coach Corporation will pay your first years membership when you return the application. It is very important that you return your application to Monaco to get your first years membership.

Additionally, Monaco America is chartered by the Family Motor Coach Association. Due to this you must first be a member of FMCA before your membership in Monaco America can be accepted. Please include your FMCA membership number on your application for membership to Monaco America.

## Notes from the Wagon Master

How about the desert for a nice dry place to hold a Monaco America rally? Well Avi was a nice place, but a long way from being dry. We hope everyone enjoyed themselves, in spite of the rain and more rain. We certainly had an excellent turn-out, and the feed-back I received was for the most part positive. Everyone seemed to have a good time. Now May will soon be upon us and we'll saddle for the Texas Hill Country in Kerrville, Texas. The Buckhorn Lake Resort is a beautiful place to hold a rally, we're really looking forward to being there, they say it doesn't rain in Kerrville during May, wanna bet? If you are expecting to attend this rally, please get your application in soon. It helps our planning process when we have an idea of the number of attendees.

Thanks to all the many volunteers that made the Avi rally a success. As stated many times, it's the volunteers that make the rally. And a special thanks to our Avi Rally Masters, Rich & Linda Cotterall.

The Fall 2005 Rally site has not been contracted for as yet. Several facilities are under consideration in: Bowling Green, Kentucky; Lexington, Kentucky; and York, Pennsylvania. The dates for the Fall Rally have been locked in with Monaco Coach Corporation for the period of October 17<sup>th</sup> thru October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

My thanks to all Monaco America members -  
Gary Granat

### Questions about Monaco America

Questions concerning club membership should be addressed to:

Bill Henestofel  
759 Windward Way  
Gahanna, OH 43230  
(614) 939-3282  
billhenes@copper.net

Questions concerning rallies should be addressed to:

Gary Granat  
463 E Greening Rd  
Chesterton, IN 46304  
(219) 926-4910 (Home)  
(219) 921-6694 (Cell)  
granat@worldnet.att.net

### Monaco America Newsletter

The Newsletter is published by Monaco America Motorhome Owners' Club. The views expressed are strictly those of the individual contributors and do not reflect the views of Monaco Corporation or Family Motor Coach Association.

If you have information you would like placed in the newsletter please send it to the editor, Rick Stone, either by e-mail to:

oldchief1@aol.com

or by ordinary mail to:

5941 Seminole Rd  
Warr Acres, OK 73132-5707

**Please identify any e-mail with the subject line of Monaco America.**

Previous editions of the newsletter are archived at:  
www.groups.yahoo.com/group/monaco-america

## Memories from Avi



Nancy Stone & Sara Spicer  
at the Ladies Hatter's Tea



Monaco America President Bill  
Stone on his scooter



Ladies attending the Monaco America  
Hatter's Tea



Monaco America Newsletter Edi-  
tor Rick Stone welcomes Gary  
Georgeson to the rally



Monaco Corporation  
representatives Page  
Robertson and Sara  
Spicer at the Monday  
opening get together

## Family Motor Coach Association



Monaco America is a club for owners of certain models of Monaco Brand Motor Coaches. Although Monaco Coach Corporation sponsors the club and assist with many of the activities the club is actually chartered through the Family Motor Coach Association, or FMCA. FMCA is a large organization that is open to membership to owners of factory built motor homes. Because of the charter situation an individual must be a member of FMCA to be a member of Monaco America.

Why the arrangement with FMCA? FMCA, being a very much larger organization is able to provide more benefits for the motor coach owner than a smaller club. Insurance is a major part of these benefits but not just insurance programs for the individual member. FMCA also provides the necessary liability coverage that Monaco America must have to be able to stage the semi-annual rallies. These rallies are planned and operated with all volunteer help. Without this liability coverage the membership and the volunteer organizers would be left liable for any problems or accidents that may occur. Additionally, the rally parks that are utilized require this liability coverage before a rally can be held in their park.

In addition to the benefits provided directly to the FMCA membership the organization also holds it's own rallies. In addition to two FMCA International Rallies each year they have many regional rallies. The organization is divided in several regions throughout the United States. The individual clubs are then assigned to those regions based on the type club or area they cover. Monaco America is assigned to the FMCA International Area. A member of FMCA is welcome to attend any of the FMCA International or Area rallies. These are all publicized in the monthly magazine that is sent to all members.

So remember, each time you send in an application for a Monaco America rally or to renew your membership, not only do you need to provide your Monaco coach number you must also provide your FMCA membership number.



# It's time to Saddle Up for the Texas Hill Country

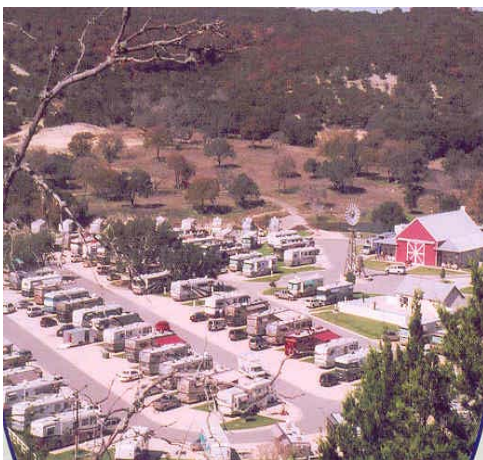
## Spring Monaco America Rally scheduled for May 17, 18 and 19, 2005 in Kerrville, Texas

The time has come to start your planning to attend the Spring Monaco America Rally. This rally will be May 17-19, 2005, at the Buckhorn Lake Resort, Kerrville, Texas.

Kerrville is truly a Hill Country paradise. The scenery is majestic and the people are friendly. Kerrville is located in the heart of the Texas Hill Country, where sparkling spring-fed creeks meander through the rugged terrain and rolling hills of the Guadalupe River Valley. Relatively close by are San Antonio and Fredericksburg. The Guadalupe River, along with a mild climate, provides the opportunity to enjoy many outdoor pursuits.

Kerrville offers many attractions to see. Included in these: National Center for American Western Art; The Hill Country Museum; Kerr Arts & Cultural Center; The Point Outdoor Theatre on the Guadalupe; Louise Hays Park.; Lost Maples State Natural Area; Ingram Lake and Dam. Several festivals are held in Kerrville throughout the year. Two such festivals being held in May, just following our rally, is the Kerrville Folk Festival and the Texas State Arts & Crafts Fair.

The Buckhorn Lake Resort is perfectly located in the heart of Texas Hill Country. It has everything a person would expect from a premiere RV Resort. Every site features complete landscaping, full hookups, and concrete pads. Designed with large rigs and rallies in mind, all guest will appreciate the wide paved roads and ease of access. It features a 8,000 square foot, fully air conditioned Event Center with full catering kitchen. This center, which seats 300 guest, has a separate 35 seat big screen theatre, huge walk-in fireplace, restroom facilities and an outdoor covered patio. Within the resort you can fish in one of the lakes, walk the beautiful nature trails, play tennis or simply relax by the pool and spa.



The Buckhorn Lake Resort, Kerrville, Texas

At the present time the Monaco America Wagon Master is putting together the schedule of events for the rally. In addition to informative seminars, fun activities and great meals you will be able to look over, and purchase, some new Monaco coaches. Also, several vendors will be in attendance to offer you the chance to purchase those special items that you must have for your coach.

On the facing page is your application for the Spring Rally. If you have not already done so, please complete the application and get it in the mail as quickly as possible. Many applications have already been received and this is shaping up to be a very good rally.



**Saddle Up For  
The Texas Hill Country  
Monaco America Spring 2005  
Rally Application Form**



**WHERE:** Buckhorn Lake Resort, Kerrville, Texas  
**WHEN:** May 17, 18, 19, 2005

Please circle all items that apply:

<b>COST:</b>	Coach and 2 persons	\$279.00
	Coach and 1 person	229.00
	Extra person in coach (age 12 & above)	100.00
	Extra person in coach (under age 12)	80.00
	Passport for 2 persons^	209.00
	Non-member fee**	25.00
	Other brand coach fee***	50.00
	Golf Package (Per Person) # ___	35.00

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to  
Monaco America

Mail to:  
Diane Baker  
2061 Palomino Rd  
Dover, PA 17315  
(717) 292-5196

Registration deadline: 5/1/05

Cancellations request must be received  
by 5/1/05 for a full refund.

Questions about the rally  
should be addressed to  
the Wagon Master:  
Gary Granat  
(219) 926-4910 (Home)  
(219) 921-6694 (Cell)  
granat@worldnet.att.net

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Coach Number: \_\_\_\_\_

FMCA Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Handicapped?\* Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ First Timer? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Rally price includes 4 nights (Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu) camping with full hookups, including cable TV, 3 Breakfasts, 3 Evening meals, entertainment, vendors, seminars, social/cocktail hour and all the fun that is a Monaco America Rally. (A \$24.00 per night charge will be required of those arriving prior to Monday, 16 May 2005, to cover those nights camping. This fee will be collected at the gate.)

\*Must have a state issued handicapped placard displayed on your coach.  
\*\*Persons owning a Monaco Esquire, Monarch, LaPalma, Cayman, Knight or Diplomat coach who are not members of Monaco America will be charged \$25.00 for first years membership dues.  
\*\*\*Persons owning any brand of motor coach, other than Monaco, may attend as the guest of a member but will be charged an additional \$50.00.  
^Passport attendees are eligible for all meals, entertainment, seminars and exhibits. No camping is included in this package.

Rally is open to owners of Esquire, Monarch, LaPalma, Cayman, Knight & Diplomat Motor Coaches.

## **Tech Topics by J. P. McVicker and Larry Leadbetter**

Battery maintenance is a very important part of coach upkeep. Monaco covers this topic in great detail in The Owners Manual, Maintenance Manual, and also in the Dry Camping Guide.

The main point to a long living battery is tender loving care. The batteries water level should be checked a least monthly. If the water level goes below the battery plates the battery will be ruined. Always use Distilled water because contaminants in tap water will degrade the battery also. Don't over fill. The level should be about 3/8 inch below the top. An inexpensive battery filler will fill to the proper level every time and can be found at most auto stores. The battery connections should be free of corrosion and tight. If the vehicle is in storage when temps are below freezing a discharged battery will freeze. When cleaning the terminals and cable connections be sure to avoid contact with corrosion and battery acid. Wear protective glasses and gloves to be safe. A little time spent reading about this topic in the owner's manual will pay dividends in the future.

### **Questions or ideas for a Tech Topic? Please contact:**

Larry Leadbetter (lleadbetter@yahoo.com)  
150 Rainbow Lane, #5060  
Livingston, TX 77399  
(254) 366-0698

J. P. McVicker (jpmcvicker@direcway.com)  
(706) 782-2344



**MONACO AMERICA**  
c/o Rick Stone, Newsletter Editor  
5941 Seminole Rd  
Warr Acres, OK 73132-5707