

Monaco America Gives Back to the Community

Monaco America members enjoy travelling in their motorhomes visiting new places, attending rallies, and meeting with our FMCA friends. Each year Monaco America holds two rallies and at each rally since 2006 our club has “given back” to every community where our rallies were held. The club gives back to the community by donated items and monetary gifts. Monaco America holds a Ladies’ Tea at each rally and this event is the primary means of collecting and donating to selected charities.

In 2006 the Indiana State Police was the chosen recipient. Our ladies contributed over 100 Teddy Bears to be carried in the Trooper’s squad cars to give to small children involved in very traumatic conditions to help with the child’s fear and perhaps a lack of understanding of what happened. In addition to the Teddy Bears, the attending Trooper was given dozens of home-made cookies for the children attending an annual banquet for fallen Trooper’s families. This was the start of an extremely rewarding process by our Monaco America Ladies’ Tea and for Monaco America in general.

Over the years significant money and needed items were contributed to food pantries, homeless shelters, Ronald McDonald Houses, children’s homes, children’s emergency shelters, a domestic violence center and other needy groups too numerous to list. Over 40 charitable organizations have benefitted from the generosity of our wonderful Monaco America members. All the charitable organizations were overwhelmed by Monaco America’s generosity. The following are specifics on two very unique involvements by our Ladies’ Tea and the entire Monaco America membership:

- At a rally in Columbus, IN, hundreds of Beanie Babies and a great number of Huggie Bears, flat & easy to carry Teddy Bears, were donated to an Indiana “Teenager of the Year”. This young lady sent the Huggie Bears

and Beanie Babies to our soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan who then gave them to local children trying to survive the terrors of war.

- In Rayne, LA, Monaco America held an auction of items our members donated that were representative of their home state. The auction raised more than \$5000 for a chosen charity. The charity representatives were flabbergasted at the amount the club donated. At the same rally our Ladies' Tea donated 70 back-packs for the children of Rayne, LA.

To say that we are proud to be members of FMCA and of Monaco America would be a gross understatement. This premier motor coach club is a generous and caring organization that gives back to the communities that host our rallies.

A big hug and very proud thanks go to all our Monaco America members.

Gary Granat
President, Monaco America