



THE NEWSLETTER OF MONACO AMERICA

A Chapter of the Family Motor Coach Association
An international club for the owners of Esquire, Monarch, LaPalma,
Cayman, Knight and Diplomat Coaches

Website:

www.groups.yahoo.com/group/monaco-america

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Spring 2006 Rally to be held in Goshen, Indiana May 16, 17, 18, 2006

The Spring 2006 rally, Back Home in Monaco's Indiana, has been set for May 16-18 at the Elkhart County Fairgrounds in Goshen, Indiana.

Nestled in Northern Indiana, the roots of Goshen are tracked back to the Amish and Mennonite heritage that settled the area in 1834. While you can still see Amish with horses and buggies on the streets, Goshen, is a dynamic community offering visitors many entertaining options.

Goshen is in the center of Amish Country making it the perfect home base for many visitors. It is just minutes from Shipshewana with 90 one-of-a-kind stores and the Midwest's largest flea market. Other highlights include a visit to Essenhous Village in Middlebury with a 1,100-seat family-style dining room or a trip to the quaint Amish based community of Nappanee.

Arts and cultural heritage celebrated:

The local Amish heritage is celebrated at attractions and restaurants throughout the region. Additionally, Goshen is the home to a growing artisan community. Their work can be seen at many local guilds and The Old Bag Factory, a converted factory that is now home to many local artists, furniture makers and craftsmen. Goshen College also provides many cultural opportunities through their art and music programs.

Shopping includes antiquing, handcrafted furniture and a charming downtown shopping district:

Shopping in Goshen provides a variety of selections. Goshen's historic downtown, centered around a Greek Revival 19th Century courthouse, includes upscale clothing stores, gift shops, furniture stores, antique malls, coffee shops and even a chance to step back in time to an old-fashioned soda shop, the Olympia Candy Kitchen, that also offers a wide selection of their hand dipped chocolates.

There is a Farmer's Market open every Tuesday and Saturday to purchase the freshest produce from local farmers. The Old Bag Factory provides a wonderful collection of unique shops catering to more artistic interests, including fine handcrafted hardwood furniture. Antiquing is also popular with several stores located in the downtown and at Peddler's Village, a large antique mall. Also, there is a wide selection of dining from Applebee's to Chinese to Mexican and, of course, Amish.

Recreational trails and parks abound:

The Maple City Greenway, a network of bicycle/pedestrian paths and hiking trails, connects residential neighborhoods, schools, parks, the library and the downtown area. It is one of the most comprehensive systems of it type in the Midwest, spanning 10 miles.

Other attractions in the area:

There are many other attractions within a short driving distance of Goshen. These include Amish Acres/Round Barn Theatre; Bonneyville Mill; University of Notre Dame; Lake Wawasee; RV Museum; Studebaker National Museum; College Football Hall of Fame; and throughout Elkhart County—the RV Capital. In addition to the Monaco factories in the area many of the other coach manufacturers are located in this area.

Some activities planned for the rally are: An Amish bake sale. Place an order one day and it will be delivered the next. Planned for Wednesday of the rally is an Amish dinner served in local Amish homes.

An application for the Spring 2006 Monaco America Rally is on page 5 of this newsletter. Additionally, it is available in Lifestyle magazine, on the Monaco Coach Corporations website, and on the Monaco America website. Submit your application as early as possible and start making your plans to join with your fellow members of Monaco America at another great rally.





From the President's Coach

By Al Fetch
Monaco America
President

Greetings Fellow Monaco America Members,

Spring is finally here! I remember, when we lived "Up North", what a great feeling it was to finally break out of the icy grip of winter and start thinking about all the fun summer would bring. Now that Joy and I live in Florida, spring doesn't seem to hold the same fascination as before, but it still signals a change. It's time to get the motor home ready for our summer travels!

Our first stop this year will be Goshen, Indiana, to see many of you. Gary and Carole have put another first class rally together. If you haven't registered yet, do it today. If you've never been to a Monaco America rally, you don't know what you're missing. As proof, I invite you to go to www.Photobucket.com and type in "Monacoamerica" (all one word) in the "search" box. Then, click on "Bowling Green" and you'll have access to over 200 pictures that were taken at the Bowling Green, KY rally in October. We had a great time, and the Goshen rally will be even bigger and better! Check out Gary's column to see what he has planned for us.

We'll be electing officers for the new year at the Goshen rally. The nominating committee is finalizing a slate of candidates they'll be presenting to the club at the Annual Meeting. In addition, we're still looking for someone who's willing to take over the Newsletter Editor duties from Rick Stone. This is the final newsletter he's writing. Rick has really done a wonderful job and is willing to lend whatever training is necessary to accelerate his successor's learning curve. If you have any interest at all in this position, or know of someone we should be considering, PLEASE contact me so we can assure a smooth transition.

Joy and I are looking forward to seeing many of you in Goshen in May.

Travel safely.

Al & Joy Fetch
alfetch@earthlink.net
941-639-9364 (Home)
941-286-1034 (Cell)

Notes from the Wagon Master

Gary Granat
Monaco America
First Vice President



Monaco America's spring rally in Goshen, Indiana is coming together nicely. Already we have a good compliment of seminars and vendors lined up. We have tours planned for the Wakarusa assembly plant and Monaco's Roadmaster chassis plant. Signup will be available at the rally. We expect to have an actual chassis at the rally site and a seminar of some sort by a Roadmaster representative. Both Monaco plants offer tours every weekday. The tour information will be available at our Information Center for those who choose to take tours on their own time. Remember, we will be very close to Monaco's Service Center, just in case you would want to schedule service before or after our rally.

Included in this newsletter, on page 4, is information on the Amish Country Bake Sale and an order form for tickets to the Amish Acres Dinner Theater. For those who choose to arrive in Goshen by Friday, May 12th, the dinner/theater are a unique opportunity to further enjoy the area. Let's not forget that we are having dinner Wednesday evening in an Amish home. We are going to have a fun rally in Monaco's backyard.

Our fall rally will be held at the Voyager RV Resort in Tucson, Arizona. The rally period is Monday evening, October 9th through Thursday, October 12th, 2006. Their web site is: www.voyagerrv.com in case you would like to check the information listed for this fine resort. Mark your calendars for Tucson.....Much, much more to follow.

We hope to see you in Goshen and Tucson.

Gary & Carole 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

Decoration Help Needed for Goshen

The decorating theme for the rally facilities in Goshen will be concerned with the Amish influence of the area. The decorating committee has decided to use quilts as decorations in the main rally hall.

If you have a favorite quilt you would like to loan and have displayed during the rally please bring it with you. All quilts will be displayed with the owners name. If it is old, please share the quilt's history. The quilts will be returned at the end of the rally.

If you are able to provide a quilt for this purpose please contact Pat Helm (patcollie@att.net).

Monaco America Officer Nominations

Election of new officers will be held during the May 2005 rally in Goshen, Indiana.

The nomination committee will submit a list of nominations for the following offices:

President; 1st Vice President/Wagonmaster; 2nd Vice President/Security-Safety; 3rd Vice President/Membership; Secretary; Treasurer; National FMCA Director; and Alternate National FMCA Director.

Newly elected officers will serve a term beginning in May 2006 through the Spring 2007 rally. All positions are considered to be open for further nominations. Nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to the elections.

Additionally, a three member nominating committee will be elected. This committee will be responsible for submitting a slate of nominees for election at the Spring 2007 rally. They will also be responsible for filling any vacancies that may occur during the year.

For the Ladies Only

Don't forget your 10" soft teddy bear for the Ladies Tea in Goshen! We will donate the bears we collect to the Indiana State Troopers to keep in their cars to comfort the children they come in contact with.

Also, be sure to bring two dozen of your favorite cookies to share. We will provide the heavy appetizers and tea.

Hope to see you there.

Joy Fetch
Carole Granat
Nancy Stone

Monaco America Cookbook

After some procrastination I think I finally have the recipes for the cookbook under control. We are heavy in some categories and not in others, but this will reflect what the group has provided me.

I'm still working on having it completed by the May rally but can't guarantee the printing company's setting and printing times. We do have a little over two months so keep your fingers crossed.

See you in Goshen,

Joy Fetch

ATTENTION NEW COACH OWNERS

Q. Wondering why you are receiving this newsletter if you have never joined Monaco America?

A. Monaco Coach Corporation provides Monaco America with a list, each calendar quarter, of the people who purchased new motor coaches that qualify for membership in Monaco America. We then mail each of these new owners two issues of the Monaco America Newsletter, which is published quarterly, as an encouragement to join our club. (This benefit is available for people who purchase an Esquire, Monarch, LaPalma, Cayman or Knight.)

—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 free first years membership. If you return the application and become an official member you will continue to receive the Monaco America Newsletter in your mail.

—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. If you are not already a member of FMCA, Monaco Corporation will also pay your first years membership in this organization. Just complete the FMCA application that was also in your new owner package.

Monaco America's Spring 2006 Rally - Visit Amish Country!

We've got some fun activities planned for you - don't miss out, sign up today!

Amish Acres Thresher Dinner and Theatre Friday, May 12th at 6:30pm

A Nappanee landmark, Amish Acres is a "must see" during your stay. Start with the famous Thresher's Dinner served up in the century old barn restaurant. Enjoy overflowing bowls and platters of homemade noodles, mashed potatoes, meats and dessert! Then, a talented cast offers professional Broadway musicals in the restored Round Barn Theatre. Sing some of your favorite tunes along with the 50s harmony group of *Forever Plaid*.



Depart on your own at 6pm, dinner at 6:30pm, theatre at 8pm, maps provided

Amish Country Bake Sale Thursday, May 18th, 11am-2pm

Local Amish bakers bring their home-based shops to you! Fresh, homemade sweet rolls, cookies, pies, breads and cakes will be available at the rally site for pick-up and purchase. Advance orders recommended, but some items will be available for last minute decisions. **Find order forms in your goodie bag upon arrival or visit the Information Center. Return order form to the Information Center by Wednesday, May 17th at noon.**

AmishCountry

**Sign Up Today! Space is limited!
Deadline May 1, 2006**

Amish Acres Dinner and Theatre
Friday, May 12th - *Forever Plaid*

_____ @ \$40.00 per person = \$_____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

Make check payable to ECCVB and send to: Elkhart County Visitor Center, Attn: Sonya Harman, 219 Caravan Drive, Elkhart, IN 46514. For more information, call 800.262.8161 or e-mail Sonya@AmishCountry.org. No cancellations or refunds.

Memories of
Beech Bend



Fall Monaco America Rally to be in Tucson

Get your calendars out and start planning to attend the Fall 2006 Monaco America Rally. This rally will be held at the Voyager RV Resort in Tucson, AZ, October 9 through October 12.

Surrounded by the beauty of the Sonoran Desert, Voyager Resort lies on 150 spacious acres of prime living space available all year round. This gated resort offers 24 hour security and features well-lit and stylishly landscaped streets and walkways. The extensive activity program includes entertainment, lecture series, travel opportunities, new facilities and events, as well as many traditional activities and amenities. RV spaces include cement patios and include 100 pull thru spaces to accommodate larger units. Additionally, the adjacent Voyager Inn features 36 comfortable rooms and 14 suites.



**“Back Home in Monaco’s Indiana”
Monaco America Spring 2006
Rally Application Form**



WHERE: Elkhart County Fairgrounds, Goshen, Indiana
WHEN: May 16, 17, 18, 2006

Please circle all items that apply:

COST:	Coach and 2 persons	299.00
	Coach and 1 person	249.00
	Extra person in coach (age 12 & above)	100.00
	Extra person in coach (under age 12)	80.00
	Passport for 2 persons^	229.00
	Non-member fee**	25.00
	Other brand coach fee***	50.00

Make check payable to
Monaco America

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

Total _____

Registration deadline: April 15, 2006
Cancellations request must be received by April 16, 2006 for a full refund.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

A golf outing is planned for the Monday prior to the rally, with sign-up and payment upon arrival in Goshen..

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, 3 Breakfasts, 3 Evening meals, entertainment, vendors, seminars, social/cocktail hour and all the fun that is a Monaco America Rally. (A \$10.00 per night charge will be required of those arriving prior to Sunday, May 14, 2006, to cover those nights camping. Early arrivals will be parked in a holding area with dry camping until Sunday. Sunday arrivals and/or stays beyond Thursday will be charged \$20.00/30 Amp or \$22.00/50 Amp. These fees 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 other Monaco Coach model may attend by paying the \$25.00 non-member fee.

***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.

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

Personal note from the Newsletter Editor

As many of you are aware, this will be the last newsletter that I will be publishing for our club. It is with mixed emotions that I give up the job as Newsletter Editor. Although it takes a bit of time to put together it also has been great fun.

At the 2003 Spring Rally in Claremore, Oklahoma, one of the main concerns of our members was a lack of communication between the officers, Monaco Corporation and the membership. At that time it was decided that we needed some sort of newsletter. Having some experience in doing this with a much smaller club I volunteered to take on this task. We decided to do one each quarter to keep the membership up to date about the club and it's activities.

Since that first effort we have put out twelve newsletters, attended six rallies and served three club presidents. It has been a real joy to promote Monaco America and to watch the club grow. It has been an honor to serve you. Now it's time to pass these duties on to someone else. On June 30, Joanne and I will be retiring from full time employment and plan to spend a large part of our time visiting this great country in our coach. This is something we have looked forward to ever since we purchased our first coach in 1997.

We have thoroughly enjoyed serving our club in this manner and now have many friends throughout the country. We will stay actively involved in Monaco America activities and you will be seeing us at the rallies. We wish all the best to the next Newsletter Editor and will be available for any assistance they might desire. See you down the road.

Rick Stone
Monaco America Newsletter Editor



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c/o Rick Stone, Newsletter Editor
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