



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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Monaco America fall rally and pre-rally for Orlando Come Home Rally is scheduled for Bowling Green, Kentucky

The fall 2005 Monaco America rally will be October 17 to 20 at Beech Bend Park in Bowling Green, Kentucky. "Your chance to cavort with Corvettes and Caves."

Located on 368 acres, these beautiful rolling hills are covered with beech trees and are bounded by the Barren River . . . thus the name "Beech Bend." As a one of a kind facility, Beech Bend has a lot to offer. The park has been providing family entertainment since 1898. Major parts of Beech Bend Park are the large amusement park with world class rides and the adjacent race tracks.

The campground, where the rally will be located, features over 500 sites in a beautiful wooded setting. All roadways are paved and all sites (except those along the Barren River) are "pull through" sites. Over 250 of the sites have full hookups and many have telephone/modem hookups available. The facilities include new bath houses and a laundry facility. Within a short walking distance is the Barren River (fishing permitted) and the Beech Bend Amusement Park and Racetracks. Campfires are permitted and are just another way to enjoy the campgrounds. Pets are permitted with the only restriction being that they are leashed.

In addition to being the home of Camping World, the Bowling Green area has: National Corvette Museum, a 68,000 square foot showcase to America's sports car; Lost River Cave and Valley where boat tours float through a lost river cave on the shortest, deepest river in the world; Mammoth Cave National Park; Shaker Museum at South Union, a historic Shaker village; Holley Performance Products World Headquarters, a 100 year old company that makes every carburetor found on NASCAR vehicles.

An application for this rally is available on page five of this newsletter.

For additional information about Beech Bend Park go on-line to www.beechbend.com. For information about the Bowling Green area go to www.visitbgky.com

Pre-rally to the Come Home Rally

Although Monaco America does not normally hold pre-rallies we encourage you to make an exception this year.

The Monaco Come Home Rally will be held in Orlando, FL, on October 25-27, 2005. It is only a couple of days drive from Bowling Green to Orlando. Consider the Monaco America rally as a pre-rally for the Come Home Rally. Come to Bowling Green and then join many of the Monaco America members as they travel on down to Orlando for the Come Home Rally.





From the President's Coach

By Al Fetch
Monaco America
President

Greetings Fellow Monaco-Americans,

Joy and I are making our way back to the "Lower 48" after an incredible summer trip to Alaska. We left our home in Punta Gorda, FL on May 8th, and officially began the trip with our first stop being the Spring Monaco America rally in Kerville. We'll, appropriately, end it by attending the Fall rally in Bowling Green, KY, where we look forward to seeing many of you. Bowling Green looks to be our largest rally ever. If you haven't signed up yet, be sure to do so soon. Gary Granat, our Wagon Master, assures me the fun, food, entertainment, fellowship and education, the hallmarks of a Monaco America rally, will be bigger and better than ever. There's an application enclosed with this newsletter.

We're also in the process of putting a new membership directory together. Past President Bill Stone and Rick Stone, our newsletter editor, are hoping to have it printed and ready for distribution at the Fall rally. It will be mailed to those who can't be in Bowling Green, after the rally.

As we've traveled this summer we've made a couple of observations, the most obvious being how fortunate we are to be able to enjoy this wonderful lifestyle. Our trek of over 15,000 miles has introduced us to some really wonderful people from all over the world. We've seen some of the most unbelievable scenery on the Earth, and have enjoyed nature at its finest. But, we've also seen some pretty frightening things, like recreational vehicle drivers who get so wrapped up in their surroundings that they forget how to drive. It should be pretty obvious, but it bears repeating, drive safely, courteously and defensively. Remember that the coaches we're barreling down the road in weigh anywhere from 15,000 to over 30,000 pounds, and don't stop on a dime. I can't tell you how many times we witnessed RV drivers stopped in an active lane of traffic so they could get a picture of scenery or wildlife in Alaska and Canada during our trip. In one instance an 18-wheeler came over a hill and had to slam on his brakes, smoking them all the way down the hill, to avoid rear-ending a coach stopped to take pictures. Luckily, no one was injured, but it could have been disastrous. Please drive carefully.

One final note encouraging you to invite owners of Esquires, Monarchs, LaPalmas, Caymans, Knights or Diplomats to join our club. As you travel

(Continued on page 4)

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 free 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

Gary Granat
Monaco America
First Vice President



Fall 2005

Our plans are shaping up extremely well for Monaco America's Fall 2005 Rally. Some of the activities planned are; the Monaco Ladies' Tea, a golf outing being develop by Ed Stebbins, and a tour of the Corvette assembly plant, for those interested. Ron & Kay Rivoli will provide the entertainment on Tuesday. If you haven't seen this couple, you're in for a treat. With the number of registrants already received, we fully expect to have at least 150 coaches at Bowling Green.

Spring 2006

Now note your calendars for our Spring 2006 Rally. This will held at the Elkhart County Fairgrounds in Goshen, Indiana, May 16, 17, 18, 2006. This location puts us about 30 minutes away form Monaco's Elkhart Service Center, the Roadmaster plant and their Wakarusa coach plant, an excellent opportunity to visit any or all of these facilities. We'll, also, be about the same distance from Indiana's Amish communities of Shepshewana and Napanee.

We hope to see you all at both of these rallies.
Gary and Carole

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 Monaca 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

Monaco America cookbook in the making

The ladies of Monaco America are putting together a cook book of easy traveling recipes. Things that can be done on the road without a lot of trouble.

All of our members are encouraged to contribute their favorite recipes. Desserts, hot dishes, salads, fun things to share.

Any entries you would like to have included in this project, please bring them to the rally in Bowling Green, KY, or send them to Joy Fetch either by e-mail:

Joyfetch@earthlink.net

or by regular mail:

3324 Trinidad Court
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Memories of Kerrville



Nancy & John Landrum and Juanita & Ray Jordan enjoy the Texas Fiesta night at the Spring 2005 rally in Kerrville, Texas.

That's a Good Question!

- Who was the first person to look at a cow and say, "I think I'll squeeze these dangly things here and drink whatever comes out"?
- If Jimmy cracks corn and no one cares, why is there a song about him?
- Can a hearse carrying a corpse drive in the car-pool lane?
- If the professor on Gilligan's Island can make a radio out of a coconut, why can't he fix a hole in a boat?
- Why does Goofy stand erect while Pluto remains on all fours? They're both dogs!
- Why is a person that handles your money called a "Broker"?
- If a man is talking in the forest, and no woman is there to hear him, is he still wrong?
- Why is it that when someone tells you that there are over a billion stars in the universe, you believe them, but if they tell you there is wet paint somewhere, you have to touch it to make sure?
- Is Disney World the only people-trap operated by a mouse?
- Why do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?
- Do illiterate people get the full effect of Alphabet Soup?

Borrowed from *The International Traveler*, the quarterly newsletter of the International Area of FMCA.



FMCA Corner

Ever wonder what all is involved in being a member of the Family Motor Coach Association. Well, in addition to being eligible for membership in Monaco America, you have many benefits available to you. Here are just a few of the benefits you have by being a member of FMCA:

Family Motor Coaching Magazine — Every member of FMCA receives a subscription to the association's official monthly publication.

Educational Programs — Members have the opportunity to participate in important RV-related education programs at the international conventions and some area rallies.

Web Site — Members receive full access to the association's web site—www.fmca.com.

Stoppin' Spot Fellowship — A section of the annual Membership Directory that lists members who have volunteered their home facilities to fellow members for a 24 hour emergency stop.

Emergency Driver Availability — Members who, due to an emergency, cannot continue to drive their coach while away from home may be assisted by a member volunteer "pinch-hit driver" who will transport the coach to the desired destination, at the owners expense.

Free Accidental Death Insurance Coverage

International Conventions — Two per year

Area Rallies — Put on by the ten geographical area organizations. (Monaco America falls under the International Area.)

Membership Identification Emblems for mounting on your coach — Two per coach.

Great & Lasting Friendships — Meet people from all over who share in the common interest of motorhome travel.

From the President's Coach continued:

from campground to campground, when you see one of the above listed coaches, check to see if they have a Monaco America plaque. If not, hand them a membership form, or talk to them about joining our club. Our members are our best goodwill ambassadors and our own word of mouth advertising is our most powerful recruiting tool. If you don't have extra membership forms you can pick them up at a rally, or print them off of our website.

We hope you've all had a wonderful summer. We'll be attending the FMCA rally in Minot, ND on our way home and then, after a couple of weeks of spoiling the Grandkids, the Monaco America Fall rally in Bowling Green, KY. See you there.

Travel safely.

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

Bowling Green Golf Tournament

The golf tournament will be held Wednesday, October 19, at Crosswinds Golf Course in Bowling Green, KY. Tee times begin at 8:00 AM and will be a Florida Scramble format. Due to not having enough golfers it will not be a shotgun start. Cost will be \$45 per golfer which includes cart fee and two mulligans each on the front and back nine. Tentative plans are for a "lunch box" for the golfers following the tournament. Between 24 and 32 golfers are expected. It is important to know in advance who is planning to participate. If you are planning to play please notify the Golf Chairman, Ed Stebbins, at 817-429-2552 or 817-437-7980 or by e-mail at pdged@flash.net as soon as possible. Information concerning the tournament and drawing for teams will be at the Registration/Information Table starting Tuesday morning, October 18.

Monaco America Hatters Tea

From the suggestions received for future Hatters Tea, the idea of a salad theme has been selected for the Bowling Green Rally. So be prepared to make your favorite on the road salad and bring the recipe. The recipes are to be included in our recipe book along with other recipes you bring. We look forward to seeing you in Bowling Green and enjoying the Monaco Hatters Tea.

Memories of Kerrville



Bartending Team



Celebrating Al's Birthday



The Pet Parade



Entertainment



Dinner
Texas Fiesta Night



Local Residents



**Your Chance to Cavort
with Corvettes and Caves
Monaco America Fall 2005
Rally Application Form**



WHERE: Beech Bend Park, Bowling Green, KY
WHEN: October 18-19-20, 2005

Please circle all items that apply:

COST:	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

Make check payable to
Monaco America

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

Total _____

Registration deadline: 10/1/05

Cancellations request must be received
by 10/1/05 for a full refund.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

A golf outing is being sched-
uled for Wednesday of the
rally, with sign-up and pay-
ment upon arrival at Beech
Bend.

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 \$20.00 per night charge will be required of those arriving prior to Monday, 17 October 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 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.

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

Tech Topics by Larry Leadbetter and J. P. McVicker

Tire Care

Have you ever seen rubber gators on the road? The reason for these tire failures should concern us because when a tire blows it can cause accidents, injuries and also severe damage to the body work on the coach. Monaco has done a great job discussing tire care concerns in their Owners Manual. This is a must to read. Tires are generally good for 5-7 years. The factors that can affect tire life are air pressure, wheel balance, alignment, direct sun, parking on concrete for prolonged times and using tire dressing products.

Weighing the vehicle on four corners is required to determine the correct tire air pressure. This will insure you are not under or over on air pressure. If there is a difference in weight side to side on an axle, the pressure should be set for the pressure required for the weight on the heaviest wheel of the axle on all tires of the axle. If under inflated the tire will wear faster and generate more heat and cause damage to sidewalls. If over inflated it may cause rapid uneven tire wear, reduced traction and result in a harsh ride. Tire pressure should be checked daily when traveling and twice a month when off the road. Wheel covers can minimize damage due to direct sunlight. Using a plastic sheet under the tires when parked on concrete eliminate tire degradation. Don't use tire-cleaners that contain petroleum products or alcohol that will cause deterioration or cracking.

Questions or ideas for a Tech Topic? Please contact:

Larry Leadbetter (ldleadbetter@yahoo.com)
785-826-5081

J. P. McVicker (jpmcvicker@alltel.net)
706-782-2344



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