



# A VIEW FROM THE SUMMIT

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 3

JULY, 2005

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## SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY IN HILTON HEAD

By Joyce Putney



The weather wasn't always the greatest, but it certainly did not put a damper on the activities on Hilton Head Island, March 15<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup>. Gale and Joan Johnson outdid themselves once again.

The friendship, love and concern for each other was definitely in the air. The Southern Hospitality Pre-Rally was sponsored by LaMesa RV Centers and Western RV.



Registration opened at 9AM on Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. We were welcomed by the smiling faces of Joan Johnson, Kay Watts, and Sandy Potvin of course there were others

standing around to give hugs. The welcome hors d'oeuvres party started at 4:30PM in the clubhouse. This was as usual a feast.

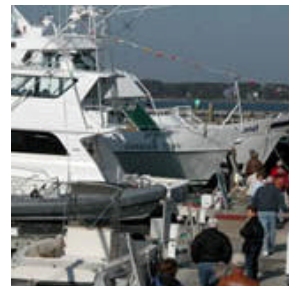
Breakfast was served at 9AM on Wednesday. A real southern meal with eggs, bacon, sausage, GRITS, biscuits and all the trimmings. After we all over ate again we were greeted by Burk Morgan, VP Marketing at WRV. Burk announced that anyone buying a coach at this rally would receive a \$5,000 discount compliments of WRV and LaMesa RV. Max Zackula, Service Manager gave his plans for factory techs to offer limited service at this rally as well as at Perry. La Mesa RV representatives announced that they would have eleven coaches on display throughout the Rally.

Western RV hosted a reception on Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup>. We all enjoyed appetizers and wine. The socializing lasted for several hours

La Mesa RV had their coaches on display 9 to 5 on Thursday and 9 to noon on Friday. They sold 2 coaches to individuals staying in the resort. Three members upgraded their coaches as well.

On Thursday, the ladies met at Scott's Fish Market for a very tasty lunch. Scott's is located at Shelter Cove Harbor, where we found lots of fun shops on the waterfront. Back at the campground 5PM was social hour again. We are now celebrating St. Patrick's Day, corn beef and cabbage and of course GREEN BEER was flowing. Another great MEAL!

Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup> was Gearhead Session; our panel was made up of Mike Young from Cummins Northwest, Brian Kessler from Allison and Mike Swenson from Xantrex Inverter System. These very knowledgeable men answered many questions and hopefully solved problems. At 4PM we met at Prescott's Restaurant for social hour with dinner being served at 5PM. This was a super seafood buffet. We all had more than our share of delicious food.



We are looking forward to our cruise to Savannah, on Saturday. We car-pooled to Harbor Town Marina where we boarded Spirit of Harbor Town at 9AM. Snacks were available if anyone

so desired. We disembarked in Savannah around 11AM. We had trolleys waiting to take us on a historic tour of the area. Lunch was on our own. Then the cruise vessel left at 3PM to return us to Harbor Town on Sea Pine Plantation.



John Tripp was also celebrating his birthday on Saturday. So, back at the clubhouse we shared birthday cake and ice cream. We were also briefed for Sunday's caravan to Perry. We had 25 of the 52 pre-rally coaches traveling to the FMCA

convention. We were divided into 5 groups, with each group departing in 15-minute intervals. Louis Birch led our group and he was a great leader as well as a good neighbor.

To summarize...the rally was VERY VERY SUCCESSFUL, GREAT PLANNING, BARRELS OF FUN, and LOTS OF GOOD FOOD. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT ONE.

## Rally News!

*From the...*

*Fun and Games Department*

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Gale Johnson



The **Big One's** coming. **Homecoming 2005** is just around the corner and the Rally Registration materials should be in the mail in the next few weeks.

We'll be back at the popular Yakama Nation RV Resort this year; so save the dates...October 4-9<sup>th</sup>. We're looking forward to filling the campground.

The scheduled Homecoming events include...the always-popular Alpine Coach Drag Racing competition; tours of the Coach factory and the new WRV Service Center; an expanded "Gearhead Session;" new Alpine Coach displays; limited WRV service; several catered meals; an ACA General Membership meeting; introduction of new officers; a special 50s dinner dance and show with special catering by Miz Dee's Barbecue...*staged in the new Customer Service Facility*; and a whole lot of fun and sharing with a bunch of great people.

Also, plan to begin the New Year by attending the 2006 Desert Rat Rally (DRR V) at Quartzsite, AZ. We've planned good food, music, and some surprises for this annual event. The dates are January 18-23, 2006. The 2005 event drew 136 coaches (including SOB's) and we weren't even close to running out of desert. Put this popular Rally on your schedule and plan to bring your motorhome friends.

As always...thanks to all of you for your support of the ACA Rally Program...and, we'll see you down the road. Safe travels!



## TRAVEL TIPS

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### Alabama Campground worth Visiting

Sandy Potvin

About 6 miles north of the Florida State line and 15 miles south of Andalusia on Hwy. 137, in the Conecuh National Forest is a beautiful and peaceful campground called Open Pond. This spring we spent 4 beautiful and peaceful days there. It is a national campground, so those of you who are golden passport holders will be able to take advantage of the daily rate at a reduced price. The campground sites in Lot C are large and can accommodate the 40 ft. coaches. Water and electric are provided at each site and a dump station is also provided close by. Most of the roads are paved.

### How to Survive a Heart Attack Alone

Joan Johnson

#### ***Tell a friend this. It could save their life!***

Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack, without help, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness.

However these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously. A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest.

A breathe and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let-up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again. Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to a hospital.

## REMINDER

**ACA MEMBERSHIP DUES WERE  
PAST DUE JUNE 30TH**



## BOARD MESSAGES

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE MOBILE OFFICE

Claudia Gayhart



Its summer time again and time for many of us "part-timers" to fuel up the coach and head for parts unknown. Danny & I will be leaving our winter home in Arizona

to visit family and friends and catch a few ACA Rallies along the way. If you are not signed up for Cheyenne and Minot in July/August, you'll be missing out on a lot of fun and friendship. Then of course, Homecoming is in Toppenish, WA during the height of apple season. That is always an adventure and good time.

The Board of Director elections take place in August, too. We have 5 (five) dedicated members running for 3 positions on the Board. Ballots will go out during the first week in August, so please be sure to check your mail and return them by September 15 so that your vote counts. Also, please make sure that you have renewed your membership by June 30 and have updated our Membership Director with any mail/phone changes so that your ballot and other club news will reach the correct address.

Your Board of Directors volunteers their time and energy to make this the wonderful organization that it is today. Please support them and this election and you will be supporting your club. Also, I would like "YOU" to think about becoming more involved with the ACA. There are many ways in which to participate:

- Join a local chapter in your area (see information in this newsletter)
- Volunteer for the Nomination committee (See President)
- Volunteer for a position on the Board (See Nomination Committee)
- Take part in the implementation of new events for our rallies (See Rally Director)
- Contribute articles and/or pictures to our Newsletter Editor and/or Historian
- Volunteer your help during a rally, i.e. food setup, parking, registration...(See Rally Director or President)

New ideas are always welcome and we make every effort to put your ideas in motion. This is your club and we want to do all we can to continue the fun and friendships we've begun here. Please do your part. We'll see you in Minot – Why Not?!

### SPECIAL PROJECT'S UPDATE

Mac Diller



Since my last newsletter article was published, we have been to South Carolina and Georgia in March and spent most of May touring in the 4 corners area. We saw a

lot of National Parks and Monuments. Our next planned trip in the Alpine is to the Cheyenne rally. Hope to see many of you there.

In between having fun I try to get some ads sold as well as renew the ones we have. I encourage all of you to make use of our advertisers.

### FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Carol Reimer



Hi from Secretary Carol Reimer at Cayucos, CA. I am sitting here looking at the beautiful Pacific Ocean and enjoying another 70 degree day. This is a beautiful spot on the

central coast and if you have never been here you have missed a quiet, lovely place to park and enjoy God's beauty. We have a mobile home here but there is usually room for RV'ers in the park. From our space we see breaking water for miles. We are located between Morro Bay and Cambria, (Hearst Castle). You must take this route sometime when you visit California. We are in the heart of a booming wine country area.

It has been quiet as far as my duties as Secretary since the last newsletter other than sending a few cards to members who have lost loved ones or have been quite ill. We need to know of your needs and appreciate you sending me the information. Enjoy your summer travels and I look forward to seeing all of you at Toppenish, in October.

## MEMBERSHIP MEMOS

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Kay Watts



With dues renewal in full swing as I write this it is a very busy time of the year. Hearing from you is a pleasure and I particularly appreciate the occasional notes that accompany your renewals and the updates to our data file information. This is the information that allows ACA to keep in touch, WRV to give you discounts at the factory, and to maintain the FMCA ACA roster. It is also helpful if updates only are listed or if you have none and return your notice that you say no changes. All the information written on that form is verified with that in our database.

It is also a sad time as some of our members are finding new homes and giving up the life style that we so enjoy. They will be missed. For us this is a new opportunity as their coaches are sold, we should be on the look out for bringing those new owners into our association. Be an ambassador as you travel and see other Alpines. Introduce yourself. That person may not be a member and you could make a very good lasting friendship. We have and it works.

Many thanks to all who have included their ACA # on their check as this speeds up processing and reduces the renewal effort. Your number goes on the deposit sheet that I provide to our Treasurer and links this payment to a particular member. If you don't know what your number is, it can be found on your badge. Misplaced badges can be replaced by sending a note with a check to the Membership Director. New badges are \$6.00 each. You will receive a postcard allowing you to verify the information to be placed on the badge(s) and your mailing address that you will then mail to our badge vendor. That vendor will ship the badge(s) directly to you. All must be prepaid through ACA.

As this is written two to three weeks before publication we have half our members that have not responded. There will be two more renewal notifications before the June 30 deadline and if the volume remains consistent with others received we should maintain our membership numbers. If you have not sent in your dues it is not too late. Don't join the ranks of those who will be sadly missed, send them in. It is only \$35.00.

## Reinstatement of Members

If you know of an ACA member that has dropped their club membership but would like to reinstate it, all they have to do is pay the current year fees and possibly the \$12.00 to have new signs and badges made.

## Journeys End

ACA wishes to extend its sincere condolences to the families and friends of the following members whose passing has been reported to us:

Jeannine Smull Chula Vista, California

## TREASURER'S CHEST

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Kathy Nichol森



The second quarter has been relatively quiet for the Treasurer's Office. Another busy rally season is almost ready to start and I hope members will take every opportunity to participate and meet other Alpiners. We have such a great association; it is always wonderful to renew friendships made. Safe travels and I will see you at Homecoming in Toppenish.

## CHAPTER TALK

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Ron Dodge



### Southern California

Pam Johnson

### Northern California/Nevada

Northern California/Nevada chapter formation rally is scheduled for September 16, 17 & 18 at the Montague Balloon (Hot Air) Fair 2005.

Montague is located about 7 miles from Yreka off I-5. Harold and Carroll Borland have reserved 20 sites at the festival RV Park--dry camping with potable water, trash bins and dump station available. Charge is \$30 for 1-3 days.

Related activities for the weekend include a Friday night mesquite BBQ chicken dinner and Olde Tyme Melodrama, a Saturday night BBQ and morning breakfasts at the balloon site.

For more information go to <http://www.district5110.org/shastavalley/balloonfair/>

Carroll is reserving 20 seats for the Friday night Melodrama/BBQ. Cost is \$22 advance and \$25 at the door. The Sat night BBQ tickets can be purchased at the campground gate. Other activities in the area include a walking tour of Yreka and a parade in Montague.

Formation meetings will be scheduled during the weekend. All Alpine owners **and non-Alpine friends** are welcome to attend this rally although the formation meetings will be for potential NorCal/Nev members. Thank you to SoCal chapter for your help and goodwill.

For information and reservations contact Stan and Pat Abernathy at [paabern@aol.com](mailto:paabern@aol.com)

### **Southwest**

The Southwest Chapter is up and going. If you are interested in joining the chapter contact Mac or Sandy Diller.

### **Eastern Chapter (ACE)**

Sandy Munsil

Six coaches met at Oak Plantation Campground in Charleston, SC on April 28<sup>th</sup>. After a brief meeting to discuss the rally events, we went to Gilligan's Restaurant for some great seafood. Friday started early. We carpoled into Charleston's Visitor Center for a combination bus tour of the city and a boat tour of the harbor returning to the Visitor Center around noon. We had lunch at a local restaurant after which we were on our own. Most of us shopped at the open air market downtown gathering again later in the evening for dinner.

Saturday morning was spent touring Magnolia Plantation and Gardens including a box lunch. After the guided tour we were on our own to shop in the gift shop and walk around the grounds. We gathered for diner later in the evening.

Sunday morning we met at the Rumberger coach for a business meeting, and then we were off to Patriots Point. The group was treated to

lunch in the officer's mess, and then we were given guided tours of the aircraft carrier the Yorktown and the submarine that are docked there. Monday morning everyone packed up their coaches and headed out.

We would like to thank Chris and Richard Morgan for organizing this great rally. Join us October 12 – 15 in Hiawassee, GA for our next rally. The plans are being made now and we will be sending information to members later. January's rally will be at the Super Show in Tampa, FL. Don't forget to visit our web site at [www.ace-rv.com](http://www.ace-rv.com).

### **Full-Timers Chapter**

Mary Whitfield

We have a Yahoo Group for chapter communication established, had a terrific turn-out of coaches (24) at the DRR IV in Quartzsite, and will elect our first officers (president and secretary) at the Toppenish Homecoming this Oct. If you are interested in becoming a chapter officer, please email me at [alpine36fddswhit@starband.net](mailto:alpine36fddswhit@starband.net). If you travel or live in your coach for 6 months or more a year we encourage you to join the Full-Timers Chapter! Our members are currently spread far and wide as we approach the summer months, but we can always look forward to mini get-togethers by using the Yahoo Group or regular email to keep each other posted on our travel plans.

### **Northwest**

Kathy Nichol森

We are meeting September 8-9-10-11 at Fairview RV Park in Troutdale, OR. The park is at Exit 14 on I-84. It is an informal gathering to decide if we wish to push forward into formation of a chapter. People should contact me to register and I will communicate with Fairview RV. I need to know date of arrival, member names, RV year and length and a phone number. Contact me at [knichol森@comcast.net](mailto:knichol森@comcast.net) or home phone 541-741-2878 or cell phone 541-913-2533.

### **Contact list for existing or planned chapters:**

So. Cal	David & Donna Fernandez <a href="mailto:D2dfernand@verizon.net">D2dfernand@verizon.net</a> 909-923-2400
Northwest	Karl & Kathy Nichol森 <a href="mailto:knichol森@comcast.net">knichol森@comcast.net</a> 541-741-2878
No. Cal	Stan & Pat Abernathy <a href="mailto:PAAbern@aol.com">PAAbern@aol.com</a> 510-701-7026

Full Timers	Neal & Mary Whitfield <a href="mailto:alpine36fddswhit@starband.net">alpine36fddswhit@starband.net</a>
Eastern	Jesse & Shirley Rumberger <a href="mailto:jsrumberger@aol.com">jsrumberger@aol.com</a> 941-792-1218
Southwest	Mac & Sandy Diller <a href="mailto:sdiller630@aol.com">sdiller630@aol.com</a> 623-584-7617
Midwest	Ted & Kay Watts <a href="mailto:themowatts@aol.com">themowatts@aol.com</a> 636-926-0024
Somewhere in Texas	Louis & Linda Burch <a href="mailto:labsr@aol.com">labsr@aol.com</a> 940-240-3251

While visiting Yakima in early May I had the opportunity to tour the new WRV Customer Service Center that is located next to the coach factory. Wow what an improvement from the Washington Avenue facility! Burk Morgan, VP-Marketing, met me and toured me around the whole facility. We started in the new Parts and Accessory store that has everything from toilet chemicals to awnings to tow hitches all nicely organized and displayed. Remember, ACA members of 6 months or more receive a 10% discount on all accessories, parts and labor purchased at the new facility. Next to the Parts and Accessory store was a dedicated customer walk-through bay with climate control for those that are so lucky to pick up their new coach at the factory. It was well lit and big windows to the outside.

## TECH TIPS

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Lowell Potvin

### Transfer Switch

The transfer switch is located on the ceiling of the basement in the rearward basement compartment. It is a black or gray square box about 8" x 8" or so. When checking, if you find that the box is plastic, you could have a future problem with the transfer switch wires burning up and melting the plastic box. I was lucky I did not have a fire, but it might happen in other cases. There has been two others with this problem that I know of. It might be a good thing to check yours.

We then went to the shop area with its 22 service bays. These were great, nice and big with lots of room around the coach even with the slides out and the coaches could be driven in without fear of hitting roof equipment. There was an environmental booth, used for checking for leaks, which could replicate a nice spring shower to a torrential downpour and next to it an enclosed paint booth. In the service area they have gone to a team concept so that a team works on your coach, in fact while I was walking through they were having their team meeting getting ready to start the day. Right outside the service area is the scheduling team that schedules your service appointments.

We then went upstairs and saw where Max Zackula, Service Shop Manager, sits up above the service area and has a big window looking over the service bays, now we will know what the service guys will mean when they say 'Big Brother is Watching Us!' By the way Mike Glazier, VP Customer Service sits right next to Max and also can look out over the service area. Located upstairs is also the phone support group and service support staff.

## WRV NEWS

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### WRV's New Service and Accessory Center

Dawnell Greene



The best was the nice big overnight sites with lighted posts offering both 30 and 50 amp electric power. A separate owner's lodge is planned for the future, but in the interim there is a separate waiting room inside for everyone to congregate.

I was on site during one of the first few weeks the service center was opened which was impressive in itself that they were operating smoothly. I might also add that WRV has implemented a Service Experience Survey that uses a questionnaire to rank the service team's performance, as well as whether or not you enjoyed the facilities. They use the questionnaire to not only learn about your experience and expectations, but also to take suggestions on anything that you think will help

improve the process. Part of your Service Team's compensation is based on the score your team receives off all the questionnaires received that month. I believe this will be a great help in improving your service visit.

**I hope that all of you appreciate the new facility as much as I did.**

For information sharing on the Web go to:

[www.IRV2.com](http://www.IRV2.com)

and click on Alpine Coach Owners Forum.

## ALPINE COACH MART

Ads are \$10.00 for a 2.5 inch by 3 inch ad (business card size). Additional space is \$10.00 for another 2.5 inches by 3 inches. Ads may be for Alpine Coaches, and related furniture or equipment. To run place ad contact Dawnell Greene at [dkgreene@gte.net](mailto:dkgreene@gte.net) or 512-633-7254.

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## NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

Did you know that there are three options on how you may receive your newsletter each quarter?

You may have it sent using the US postal service to the address of record on your membership.

You may have it sent to you in Email as an attachment. This requires that you have Adobe's Acrobat Reader which is free from the Adobe web site or may be downloaded from WRV's web site. In this case the newsletter attachment is fairly large, over 2.0 MB.

Or you may have the link sent to you in an E-mail that will access WRV's web site that has the newsletter on it. If you travel a lot and do not have access to fast phone lines this is a great option, you can read the newsletter when you know you have a fast connection. This option requires you to have Adobe's Acrobat Reader.

If you would like the newsletter delivered to you by one of the two E-mail options just let me know which option you would like. E-mail me at [dkgreene@gte.net](mailto:dkgreene@gte.net)

## READERSHIP INPUT

I would like to encourage all of you to provide input to the ACA Newsletter. There are various services; products or campgrounds that we all experience that are worth sharing with our fellow Alpine Coach owners. Anytime you find something that you would like to share with the membership, send the article on to me and I will try to use as much of the material that is sent to me as possible. I can be contacted by e-mail at: [dkgreene@gte.net](mailto:dkgreene@gte.net) or phone 512-633-7254.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please mail the following form for any address changes to:

**ACA Memberships**  
**5808A Summitview, #337**  
**Yakima, WA 98908**

Or E-Mail the changes to:

**[ACAMemberDir@aol.com](mailto:ACAMemberDir@aol.com)**

### Change-of-Address Form

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New Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
New E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
FMCA # \_\_\_\_\_

## ACA MARKETPLACE

Ads may be Business Card Size and there is a charge for running the ad. One ad is \$40.00, two ads are \$70.00 and four ads are \$120.00, payable in advance of placing the ads. Please contact Mac Diller at [sdiller630@aol.com](mailto:sdiller630@aol.com) regarding running an ad.

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## Rally Calendar

DATES	LOCATION	HOST CHAPTER	CONTACT
<b>2005</b>			
<b>July 28 – August 1</b>	<b>WY</b> “Cheyenne Frontier Days” Terry Bison Ranch	National	ACA Rallies <a href="mailto:alpinerallies@aol.com">alpinerallies@aol.com</a> or P.O. Box 53486 Bellevue, WA 98015-3486
<b>August 9-14</b>	<b>ND</b> “FMCA Minot Pre-Rally” Ft Stevenson State Park	National	ACA Rallies <a href="mailto:alpinerallies@aol.com">alpinerallies@aol.com</a> or P.O. Box 53486 Bellevue, WA 98015-3486
<b>September 8-11</b>	<b>OR</b> Troutdale “Northwest Chapter” Fairview RV Park	Northwest	Kathy & Carl NicholSEN <a href="mailto:knicholSEN@comcast.net">knicholSEN@comcast.net</a> Home 541-741-2878 or Cell 541-913-2533
<b>September 16-18</b>	<b>CA</b> Buellton “So Cal Chapter Rally Solvang Days” Flying Flags	So Cal	Dave & Donna Fernandez <a href="mailto:D2dfernand@verizon.net">D2dfernand@verizon.net</a> or 909-923-2400
<b>September 16-18</b>	<b>CA</b> Montague “Nor Cal/Nev Chapter Rally Balloon Festival” Balloon Festival RV Park	Nor Cal/Nev	Stan & Pat Abernathy <a href="mailto:paabern@aol.com">paabern@aol.com</a>
<b>October 4-9</b>	<b>WA</b> Toppenish “Homecoming” Yakama Nation RV Resort	National	ACA Rallies <a href="mailto:alpinerallies@aol.com">alpinerallies@aol.com</a> or P.O. Box 53486 Bellevue, WA 98015-3486
<b>October 12-15</b>	<b>GA</b> Hiawassee “ACE Fall Rally”	Eastern	Jesse & Shirley Rumberger <a href="mailto:jsrumberger@aol.com">jsrumberger@aol.com</a> or 941-792-1218
<b>2006</b>			
<b>January 18-23</b>	<b>AZ</b> Quartzsite “Desert Rat Rally V” Location To Be Determined	National	ACA Rallies <a href="mailto:alpinerallies@aol.com">alpinerallies@aol.com</a> or P.O. Box 53486 Bellevue, WA 98015-3486
<b>January</b>	<b>FL</b> Tampa “ACE Tampa Super Show Rally”	Eastern	Jesse & Shirley Rumberger <a href="mailto:jsrumberger@aol.com">jsrumberger@aol.com</a> or 941-792-1218
<b>March 14-19</b>	<b>CA</b> Aguanga “FMCA Pomona Pre- Rally” Outdoor Resorts-Rancho California	National	ACA Rallies <a href="mailto:alpinerallies@aol.com">alpinerallies@aol.com</a> or P.O. Box 53486 Bellevue, WA 98015-3486
<b>August 8-13</b>	<b>NC</b> Mocksville/Lexington “Charlotte FMCA Pre-Rally” Forest Lake Thousand Trails	National	ACA Rallies <a href="mailto:alpinerallies@aol.com">alpinerallies@aol.com</a> or P.O. Box 53486 Bellevue, WA 98015-3486
<b>October 3-8</b>	<b>TN</b> Nashville “Homecoming-2006” Nashville KOA	National	ACA Rallies <a href="mailto:alpinerallies@aol.com">alpinerallies@aol.com</a> or P.O. Box 53486 Bellevue, WA 98015-3486



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PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW WE CAN ASSIST YOU.

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