



A VIEW FROM THE SUMMIT

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 4

OCTOBER, 2004

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BEND, OREGON PRE-RALLY AT THOUSAND TRAILS

Ed & Diane Doern



Beautiful sunny hot weather welcomed us to the rally site at the Thousand Trails south of Bend; approximately 61 coaches attended. The first event was the heavy hors d'oeuvre party Tuesday evening. It was time to catch up on recent travels, reestablished old friendships, and make new ones.

Wednesday morning following the welcome breakfast Burk Morgan of WRV greeted all of us. Free time during the day allowed ACA members to explore Bend and the local region. Local attractions included the Newberry Volcanic National Monument, the Cascade Lakes Scenic Drive, boating and fishing activities along the Deschutes River. The evening social hour was sponsored by WRV and dinner followed, sponsored by Holiday Motorhomes, Inc.

The Nicholson's organized a golf tournament, with 17 participants. Some were recognized for their golfing abilities, including longest drive, closest to pin, and lowest score. Special recognition went to Andy for hitting 3 golf carts.

Guaranty RV Centers hosted Thursday's evening dinner on the Crooked River Dinner Train. The theme of the murder mystery evening was 'The Lost Treasure of Jesse James'. Shortly before the train departed, we all witnessed the murder of the brakeman outside the train windows, and as the train traveled through the farm and ranch country to Prineville, we were to solve the mystery, "Who was the killer". The wait staff serving our drinks and dinner played roles as notorious characters, many closely related to known criminals, but did their secrets lead to murder? The characters slowly revealed their motives and secrets as we traveled through the countryside. We were treated to a wonderful

dinner. Any passengers that were loud or out of place were swiftly dealt with by trigger happy Clint Younger, son of a notorious member of the James Gang. The murderer was revealed at the end of the fun-filled evening.

Friday was Gear Head Day; the morning session began with a question and answer period with Joan Grundeman, interior designer for the Alpine Coaches. Pat Glen from Flexsteel also answered questions regarding their products. The afternoon session included Mike Young with Cummins and Brian Resseker with Detroit Diesel-Allison. Following the social hour, Detroit Diesel-Allison sponsored that nights "Burgers & Brats" dinner.

Saddleback RV sponsored Saturday's lunch during our visit to the High Desert Museum. This museum includes historical displays of the local area and the native inhabitants as well as an outside display of some local animals. A live demonstration of an early 1900's steam powered saw mill, which had been used in the local area, was also operating.



Guaranty RV sponsored the wine and cheese social hour at the coach display before dinner. At the steak dinner Saturday evening we were entertained by the David Finch Trio, with a bass, piano, and singer making up the trio.



Of course, Max Zackula of WRV and his technicians were in attendance with their new service trailer, making minor repairs to coaches as time allowed. Eight new 2005 coaches were set up for viewing and enticed some ACA members to move up to a new coach. The

newest introduction was the 36-foot front door triple slide, with 2 slides in the living area. Drawings were held to pass out door prizes to those in attendance. The toilet paper toss was a big hit (lights) again; only 2 remain stuck in the ceiling fixtures.

On Sunday morning we waved to the 29 coaches that caravanned on to join the events of the FMCA Rally in Redmond.

The most important part of the rally is the time to get together and share with old friends, and equally important, welcome and get to know the new members also; they are a part of our growing family. We give a special thanks to the dealers who make big contributions to our rallies.

Rally News

From the...

Fun and Games Department

Gale Johnson



The 2004 Rally Season is wrapping up with a *bang* as this newsletter is being put to bed. 125+ ACA member coaches will be gathered at America's

Best Campground in Branson, MO for the 2004 Homecoming Rally from October 3-8. This Rally, like all the rallies in 2004, will be a "record-setter" in both attendance and activities.

This level of support from our members provides a great incentive to make the 2005 schedule even more fun and more successful. Next year's schedule begins with our traditional gathering in Quartzsite, AZ. **The Fourth Annual "Desert Rat Rally" (DRR IV) is scheduled for January 21-26** on BLM land north of Quartzsite. As always, bring firewood and an appetite and be prepared to have a relaxing, unscheduled stay in the desert. This is also an SOB (some other brand) Rally...so; invite your motorhome-dwelling friends to join us.

Spring will take the ACA to **Adel, GA** for the **March 15-20 Pre-Rally** which will set the stage for the Perry, GA FMCA International Convention.

August 9-14 we'll travel to Lewis and Clark country for the **Minot, ND Pre-Rally**...once again leading into the FMCA International Convention. Stay tuned for a possible "Pre-Pre-Rally"

announcement that will make this an once-in-a-lifetime event.

And, we'll conclude the Rally year with a traditional "**Homecoming Rally**" in **Toppenish, WA**. Save the **October 4-9** dates for this fun and information-filled event.

We hope you'll plan your 2005 travel schedule to include as many of these events as possible. We'll see you "down the road"...Safe travels.

November "Beach Party" Rally-Postponed...

The ACA "**Beach Party**" Rally at California's Newport Dunes Resort (Nov. 8-12) has been postponed.

There were several scheduling concerns that created a need for this action. After consultation with Saddleback RV and members of the ACA board it was determined that this Rally should be postponed until we find a time that better fits the overall ACA Rally schedule.

IMPORTANT NOTE: This postponement **does not** affect the November Rally previously scheduled by the ACA So Cal Chapter.

BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

- Mac Diller
- Claudia Gayhart
- Gale Johnson
- Kathy Nichols en

Board positions will be decided in October at the board meeting to be held at the Branson Homecoming!

NEWSLETTER WEB ACCESS

Please note that in order to access the newsletter from the Western RV's web site you will need a new access code to view it. This access code should not be shared with non-ACA members.

The new current access code is: aca0405.

TRAVEL TIPS



A Room With A View

By Cathy Broussard

A room with a view is often difficult to find,
It can be pricey in a restaurant along with the wine,

The house on the hill that looks calmly out to sea,
Boast a magnificent panorama that fits some folks to a
"T".

Maybe the mountains with their peaks and their valleys,
Would entice one to visit or even to dally.

The coast to our East from Miami to Maine,
Is littered with people who need a view to stay sane.

Then to our West the Pacific beaches sprawl wide,
With waves crashing against haystacks and cliffs to the
side.

South of the border down Mexico way,
Blue waters and margaritas beckon us to stay.

Far to the North and stretching from East to the West,
The pristine forest of Canada tempt us to rest.

The wilderness of Alaska is a challenge to some,
The bear and the moose bid us to come.

The central United States hold their own special appeal,
The charm of each state is displayed on its seal.

With so many to see, it's so hard to say,
Which view is the best and where we want to stay.

Having no limitations is a gift to be treasured,
In our Alpine Coach the views are always a pleasure.



BOARD MESSAGES

A MESSAGE FROM THE MOBILE OFFICE

Claudia Gayhart



This year has gone by very quickly. Our club has enjoyed 3 terrific rallies so far and we are looking forward to Homecoming in Branson this month. Our recent Board of Directors election has produced 2 new directors along with 2 incumbents returning to

serve the membership for another 2 years. Congratulations and thank you for taking an active part in your club. Many of our members have volunteered their assistance at the rallies by organizing events, lending a hand with parking, registration and set-up and clean-up. I want to extend my personal thanks to all of you who have volunteered for the various tasks. I invite everyone to get involved – it's a great way to get to know people and I can attest to the fact that I have made some wonderful friends this way.

I am so pleased to see that our membership numbers are remaining steady. We have maintained nearly 400 families for the past 2 ½ years and we are so happy to have all of you with us. If you haven't attended a rally yet, you need to schedule one into your 2005 calendar. We have 2 rallies each year which are pre-rallies for the FMCA Conventions; one in the East and one in the West. Our Homecoming Event in October and Desert Rat/Quartzite in January each year are the settings for our 2 annual business meetings. Please make every effort to attend at least one of these to remain current on club business. I guarantee that you will have a great time and meet some terrific people.

WRV has added some new and interesting coaches to their line and the new Union Gap Service Facility is on schedule to open early 2005.

I want to thank my past Board of Directors for their hard work this past year. This is fast becoming a very large organization and it takes the concentrated effort of everyone to make it all come together. The team you elected in '02 and '03 has made it possible for us to live up to our Mission Statement. I'm looking forward to working with the new Board during the next 2 year period.

I wish all of you a healthy and happy holiday season. Danny & I look forward to seeing all of you in Quartzite, AZ

RAMBLINGS

Don Dittus



I'm sitting at home, just two weeks before "Homecoming" in Branson. I know I must soon be getting the Alpine Coach ready to travel, but I don't want to accept that it's the end of summer. I drove downtown this morning and the lake was deep gray and restless in the wind.

Homecoming will mark the end of my term on the ACA Board; it has been an interesting and rewarding experience. Our association needs members willing to take their turn and give us all the benefit of their skills and experience. I want to express my appreciation to the board and the membership for giving the opportunity.

Sue and I need to get busy; the coach has been parked since last May and needs some major cleaning. We look forward to getting back on the road and seeing our old and new friends.

SPECIAL PROJECT'S UPDATE

Chet McIntosh



It's time for me to say thank you to the members of ACA for the privilege of serving on your Board of Directors. Your Board has worked to serve the membership and improve the quality of ACA rally's and associated activities while keeping the cost to members low. The cost control recommendation assigned to me for implementation was to solicit advertisers in order to help offset the cost of printing the quarterly newsletter. We currently dedicate approximately 10% of our newsletter to our advertisers.

Please thank and support the following advertisers for supporting the Alpine Coach Association and our newsletter (check out their ads and web site addresses in this issue):

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www.slimslider.com, www.wrv.com

Thanks to everyone, members and advertisers, for making my small contribution a fun and rewarding experience.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Carol Reimer



It is hard to believe that summer is coming to an end but we welcome cool weather. We just returned from our annual fishing trip at the Rogue River on the Oregon coast. We were

in our Alpine Coach for a month and never get tired of it. It performs so well for us and we love traveling in it. We're looking forward to heading out again later this month and heading for Branson. Hope to see a lot of friends and meet some new ones. Homecoming is always such a treat and we plan to be there.

I guess our club has been having a good year because I have not heard from any of you about needs or losses. Please remember to keep me or any of the officers updated on health issues etc. We care and need to know. Wishing all of you safe travels and hope to see you all in Branson in October.

MEMBERSHIP MEMOS

Kay Watts



Hope you had a GREAT summer, meeting new friends, visiting old friends, and seeing this beautiful Country. Thank you for your response to our dues notices. Handling renewals consumes a great deal of my time during the summer months but because of your timely remittances I was also able to get out and do the very things I hope you did.

Your updates for our roster enable your Board to distribute ACA information to you through our rally notices, election notices, and newsletters. Your timely update to contact data (addresses, email, and phone) is greatly appreciated at any time. Information on how to contact me is provided on the back page of your newsletter.

Our Association is continuing to grow and we welcome all new members receiving their first newsletter. Come to our rallies and join us for the FUN. Ask anyone who has attended one and they will tell you they had a wonderful time. Twenty-seven new members joined since July 1, WOW. Unfortunately we also had some members who did not renew. Of those, I know of ten who have sold their coaches due to illness or death in their family, one whose coach was totaled in a fire and not replaced, and several more whose coaches are for sale. As of this writing ACA has a membership of 390 coaches. Should you encounter another Alpine owner in your travels who is not a member of the Alpine Coach Association, please encourage them to join us. Information on the Alpine Coach Association can be linked to from the Western RV Website, www.wrv.com

TREASURER'S CHEST

Dawnell Greene

As my last report as acting treasurer I would like to report that the financial status of the organization is in very good condition. In the ACA account we have already exceeded what we planned our income to be for 2004. Our expenses have been within our planned budget and some even below. The board has been very good about keeping our expenditures within reason and we should be in good financial condition until the next membership drive.

I would encourage all of you to consider serving a term on the board or at least volunteering to help with various activities. With the knowledge and experience that we have all had in our lives and careers we can contribute in a very positive way to the club. Only with these contributions will the club continue to grow.

CHAPTER TALK

Ron Dodge



Southern California

Pam Johnson

The Southern California chapter went north for our summer rally to enjoy the spectacular scenery of Mammoth Lakes. By the time all sixteen rigs were parked, we looked like a little Alpine city and continued to congratulate wagon masters Jim and Vivian Westheimer on getting so many of us to travel this far!

Jim's American flag was flying high above his coach as we shared a moment of silence at our morning meeting on September 11. Vivian made sure that everyone got a raffle prize and displayed beautiful flowers on the table of fresh bakery delights, juice selections and a box of low carb breakfast bars. Astute Atkins and South Beach awareness. We welcomed five guest couples who all joined as new members.

Saturday was scatter day as some went fishing

(five trout caught), others explored shops and restaurants in town, and the very lucky ones went to Double Eagle Lodge in June Lake for a massage at the world-class rated spa. This area is a geologic wonderland and deserves more time and exploration than most of us could give it, but we did our best. The June Lake Loop drive is a must, especially "Oh Ridge," where you couldn't help but say, "Oh," while cresting the ridge. Spectacular scenery!

Saturday's night potluck rivaled the Chart House dinner of our first night, and may have been the last we'll see of Paloma, Dave and Donna's guide-dog in training. We've watched her grow up and will miss her if she passes her test.

Plans for Branson and Newport Beach are next on the agenda.

Southwest

Mac and Sandy Diller are forming a southwest chapter. If you are interested in joining please contact them.

Contact list for existing or planned chapters:

So. Cal	Bob Turner RLTSYT@msn.com 760-771-3350
Northwest	Open Position
No. Cal	Open Position
Full Timers	Open Position
Eastern	Jesse & Shirley Rumberger jrumberger@aol.com 941-792-1218
Southwest	Mac & Sandy Diller sdiller630@aol.com 623-584-7617
Midwest	Ted & Kay Watts themowatts@aol.com 636-926-0024
Somewhere in Texas	Louis & Linda Burch labsr@aol.com 940-240-3251

For information sharing on the Web go to:

www.IRV2.com

and click on Alpine Coach Owners Forum.

TECH TIPS

Lowell Potvin

WINTERIZING YOUR COACH

You will start off with 5 gallons of RV antifreeze, (pink). Camping World sells a winterizing kit, which you will need, part #6279, pump converter-winterizing kit.

Locate all faucets and valves. Drain all the water out. Start with the fresh water tank. Then open the two valves just below the shower hose in the sewer service bay. Also open both faucets on that particular showerhead. Next go inside, open all faucets at the sinks and shower. Water should run out of the first two valves you opened.

Next, install you winterizing kit according to package directions.

Next, turn off all the faucets and turn the bypass valves on water heater to by pass the heater.

I dump 4 gallons of RV antifreeze into a clean 4-5 gallon plastic bucket, so I can drop the pick up hose into the bucket from the winterizing kit and not suck air when transferring to a full bottle. (Make sure you have the valve open the right way on the winterizing kit.)

Next, go inside and turn on the pump, starting at the bathroom sink hot water. Turn on until you see pink. Then turn off. Next, the cold water until you see pink. Then the shower, (drop hose down to drain), follow with the hot side then cold. Then do the kitchen faucet the same way. Flush the toilet until you see pink. Go out to the service bay area and turn on both hot and cold valves on showerhead until you see pink solution.

Then if you have a washer/dryer, turn water temperature knob to cold/cold. Turn on washer. When you see pink, turn temperature selection now to hot/cold for a short time. By doing this you should get RV antifreeze through lines and hoses. Then set washing machine cycle selector one notch beyond wash cycle. This should pump antifreeze out of washer and into drain, winterizing drain trap and water pump in the washing machine.

Now from the 5th bottle of antifreeze, pour about a cup full down bathroom sink drain, then kitchen drain, then shower drain.

This takes about an hour to do. If you have any questions I will be at Homecoming in Branson or

call me at 906-246-3350 or e-Mail me at campittlecreek@aol.com

WRV NEWS

"Ground has broken on the new Service Center; the estimated completion date is 1/15/05!"



New 36 foot Triple Slide Introduced

Dawnell Greene/Burk Morgan

In keeping with WRV's tradition of first-class quality, comfort and convenience a new floor plan for 2005 was introduced in Oregon at the FMCA show. Included in the line up of Alpine Coach Limited models is a new 36-foot front door triple slide (36 FDTs) floor plan, adding to the floor space with out increasing the length of the coach.

This new 36-foot floor plan includes the third slide in the front room curbside with the same expansive window that was included in the new 40 foot front door quad slide. This oversized window goes from the lounge area past the dining area opening up the view even more then the traditional big windows currently offered in the other Alpine Coach models, while providing additional spacious living area. Increasing the livability in the bedroom and bath area, the bedroom slide was re-engineered to include a wardrobe with two rows of drawers below. The bedroom slide also includes the bathroom vanity which opens up the bath and bedroom area while providing additional floor space and ease in moving around. The bedroom area is also much brighter with the vanity in the slide.

Adding to the gourmet style galley of all Alpine Coach models a new factory option was also introduced, the Fisher & Paykel DishDrawer®. The DishDrawer® fits in the same space as the gas oven and has the capacity to hold 7 complete place settings of dishes. The great feature about the DishDrawer® is it heats the hot water to the appropriate washing temperature, uses very little water, and is so quiet it is hard to know if it is running.

Positive feedback on the new 36 FDTs floor plan was heard from various current Alpine Coach owners as they previewed it at the FMCA Pre-Rally in Bend. It looks like this will be a popular model in the line up of Alpine Coach Limited's!

The floor plan layout and specifications for this new model is included in the recently released 2005 Alpine Coach Limited brochure. If you haven't received your copy yet, please contact Western RV on their Toll Free Product Line at (800) 777-4133 and they will be glad to mail you a copy.

**For Western RV Customer Support
Please call 1-866-567-4133
Monday – Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm PST**

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

December 20th

is the deadline for ads and articles in the January quarterly issue.

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. My e-mail address is 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 thought 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

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 Chet McIntosh at mcme@groundcontrol.us regarding running an ad.

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Rally Calendar

DATES	LOCATION	HOST CHAPTER	CONTACT
2004			
September 29 – Oct 3	MO Springfield “ Eastern Chapter Pre-Rally to Homecoming” Location TBD	Eastern	Jesse & Shirley Rumberger jsrumberger@aol.com or 941-792-1218
October 3-8	MO “2004 Homecoming” America’s Best Campground (ACA MEMBERS ONLY)	National	ACA Rallies alpinerallies@aol.com or P.O. Box 53486 Bellevue, WA 98015-3486
November 5-7	CA Newport “So Cal Chapter Rally” Newport Dunes RV Resort	So Cal	Jack & Linda Giddens crazysingerlkg@yahoo.com or 760-789-7820
November 8-12 POSTPONED	CA Newport, “ACA Beach Party” Newport Dunes RV Resort	National	ACA Rallies alpinerallies@aol.com or P.O. Box 53486 Bellevue, WA 98015-3486
2005			
January 21-26	AZ Quartzsite “2004 Desert Rat Rally” DRR IV Location TBD	National	ACA Rallies alpinerallies@aol.com or P.O. Box 53486 Bellevue, WA 98015-3486
January 28-30	NV Pahrump “So Cal Chapter Rally”	So Cal	John & Gail Stacy fraulyn@aol.com or 702-360-8407 or Mac & Anne McDougal, mcdanne@cox.net or 619-469-8725,
April TBD	CA Banning “So Cal Chapter Rally” Silent Valley	So Cal	Bud & Pam Johnson Pamelashere@CS.com or 949-768-1008
March 15-20	GA Adel “FMCA Perry Pre-Rally” Reed Bingham State Park	National	ACA Rallies alpinerallies@aol.com or P.O. Box 53486 Bellevue, WA 98015-3486
August 9-14	ND “FMCA Minot Pre-Rally” Location TBD	National	ACA Rallies alpinerallies@aol.com or P.O. Box 53486 Bellevue, WA 98015-3486
October 4-9	WA “Homecoming” Toppenish, WA	National	ACA Rallies alpinerallies@aol.com or P.O. Box 53486 Bellevue, WA 98015-3486

Change-of-Address

Please complete and mail to:

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Yakima, WA 98908

Or E-Mail:
ACAMemberDir@aol.com

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kcreimer@hotmail.com

Rally Director – Gale Johnson

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Membership Director – Kay Watts

Home: 636-926-0024
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Director – Don Dittus

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dittusd@pocketmail.com

Director Special Projects – Chet McIntosh

Cell: 510-220-0515
mcmc@groundcontrol.us

Chapter Director – Ron Dodge

Cell: 509-994-3080
katdodge@aol.com

MESSAGE LINE: 509-457-0729 EXTENSION 399

PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW WE CAN ASSIST YOU.

The ACA Quarterly Newsletter is the official publication of the Alpine Coach Association. The publication is issued the first week of every quarter beginning January, April, July, and October.

This publication is designed to provide information that is of interest to our club members. The information published herein does not constitute professional advice. This publication and the persons associated with its release are not liable for the content.

Inquires may be directed to any one of the ACA board of directors or the publisher/editor, Dawnell Greene.
Phone: 512-633-7254 or
E-Mail: dkgreene@gte.net

The Alpine Coach Association is a chapter of the Family Motor Coach Association (FMCA).