

A View from the Summit

Volume 8, Issue #1

January 2007



ALPINE COACH
ASSOCIATION

Near-term goal of new Western RV ownership is to improve overall operational effectiveness.

A Message from Monomoy Capital Partners

On behalf of Monomoy Capital Partners we are excited to be part of the tradition and heritage of Western RV. For 36 years, Western RV has had a rich reputation as a builder of premium recreational vehicles. Going forward, it is our plan to continue to build upon this tradition. Monomoy completed its acquisition of Western RV on December 15, 2006. As with any transaction there are always a number of questions. We want to take this opportunity to share with you some of our thoughts and what to expect going forward in 2007 and beyond.

Western RV's reputation has been created by its focus on products servicing the truck camper, 5th wheel and motorhome segments of the marketplace. We believe this is something that we can further build upon in the future. As a consequence, our plans are to not only build in each of these segments, but to invest in both new products and product upgrades. We are only as good as the products we build, the services we deliver and the value we create for each of our customers. Our focus going forward is to ensure that the actions we take and the things we do reinforce this basic tenet. Our goal is not to be the biggest – our goal is simply to be the best at what we do in the respective niches we serve. We believe our organization can do this by continuing to focus on product innovations and in delivering better services to our customers (both consumers and dealers).

Western RV has been faced with a number of operating challenges over the past 24 months. A slowing economy and the building fire were both contributors to a challenging 2005/2006. Moving forward, the acquisition by Monomoy helps secure Western RV and puts the company in a better long-term position to invest in its future.



WRV Acquisition Details

continued from front page

From a day-to-day perspective there is not a lot of change within the company. The names and faces you have known in the past remain. In the near future we will be adding more personnel to help the organization in key areas of customer service, manufacturing, sales and support. Our near-term goal is to improve overall operational effectiveness. We believe that by doing so we will be able to deliver products that not only meet, but exceed your expectations.

Ron Doyle, President of WRV, said it well, "The Monomoy acquisition is a very positive step for the WRV organization, its business partners and customers. Monomoy will provide substantial capital and management expertise for Western RV and help us successfully launch our 2007 product line. This is great news for our current and prospective customers and dealer partners."

New to Western RV is Bob Lee a 40-year industry executive and founder of the premium motorhome manufacturer Country Coach, Inc. He will be involved in strategic issues and serve as Chairman of the Board. According to Bob, "Western RV is a quality company, and I look forward to working alongside my longtime friend and colleague, Ron Doyle, to realize the company's full potential as a highline manufacturer of truck campers, 5th wheels and motorhomes."

We are excited to have the opportunity to enter the RV industry with a well-established brand and a strong management team. It is our philosophy to invest in fundamentally sound businesses. We believe that our long-term view will be a win-win in creating value for our customers.

We encourage you to stay tuned to the new and exciting things involving Western RV and its products over the next year and thank you for your support of our company. It is our goal to continue to earn your loyalty and trust by providing the best products and service in the markets we serve.

Regards,

Richard Fish

Monomoy Capital Partners



Board Messages



From the President Kathy Nichol森, President

It is the winter season again and I hope this finds all of you healthy. Many of us begin our winter travels after the holiday season and I'll remind you to drive safely.

I met with Bob Lee today and I am very excited at his passion for the motorhome industry and more specifically, Alpine Coaches. It has only been two weeks since the sale of Western RV; however, it appears many changes are planned. I expect to see some dramatic changes in the area of service and I know this is of utmost importance to all owners.

At the Desert Rat VI rally we intend to have revised Bylaws, a newly created Policy and Procedure Manual, a membership roster, financial statements and a projected 2007 budget. The Board of Directors have been very busy since Nashville compiling all this information to present to you. All members will receive a copy of these materials at the rally. If you do not attend, they will be mailed to you shortly after the rally.

If you are not attending the Desert Rat VI rally, please check our rally schedule and try to include at least one in your 2007 travels. We have such great fun and most of us have made several long-term friendships. With the new changes planned at Western RV, I'm sure several of those changes will impact the owners' association.

Stay tuned and hang on for a great ride with Alpine Coach Association!





Membership Memos

Earlene Bloomquist, Membership Director

I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season. We are still in Florida and have had a wonderful tour here and in North Carolina and Alabama. We will spend February in Louisiana and then return to South Carolina and finish seeing the rest of the state and hope to see many of you at Hilton Head for our pre-rally before the FMCA Rally in Perry, Georgia. We will be returning to the West in April.

Please note: I have had a lot of bad emails this year and have had to make a list of people who I will accept emails from. The first time you email me you **must** include “ACA” in the subject line. After you have done it the first time, you no longer need to do it (your email address will be listed as acceptable).

This is your first reminder of the year – your dues will be due by June 30, 2007.

I hope you have a wonderful Desert Rat Rally. We won't be there in body, but we will there in spirit.

We want to share with you a “must see” in Florida – the wonderful city of Ybor – east of Tampa. Ybor is a historic community designated as the “Cigar Capital of the World.” If you're in the area it is definitely worth the visit. Don't miss the Columbia Restaurant with Spanish/Cuban cuisine – boy, was it awesome!

Jerry and I want to also thank Jim and Jodi Girouard for the wonderful week we spent in Zephyrhills during the holidays. We wish you all a very happy healthy, and safe New Year.

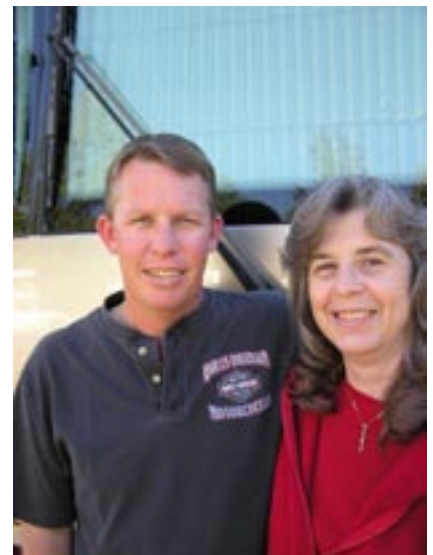
Special Projects

Andy Lewis, Director

I hope everyone had a nice Christmas and safe travels.
Best wishes for a prosperous 2007!

I've got several irons in the fire (pun intended). The revised bylaws are complete and ready to distribute at Desert Rat VI. Anyone not attending the rally will be mailed a copy. I hope to have the policies and procedures ready for distribution in Quartzsite as well.

Information on a common CB channel for ACA members will be discussed at the Desert Rat Rally membership meeting and reported on in the next newsletter.



From the Secretary's Desk **Kay Watts, Secretary**



Can you believe that another year is history? 2006 has been a great year of fun, lots of miles, many events and also some sad occasions. We are sad because we have lost ACA members and friends, several due to sickness or death and many to non-renewal of their membership. Members do not always share with us why they leave, but we miss them and wonder how we could have better met their expectations.

ACA members have a lot to be thankful for, good friends, shared experiences, fun opportunities, an excellent supporting network of dealers, and the staff of WRV that participate in our rallies. Let us all resolve this year to continually let these folks know how special they are in our lives and the value we place on their friendships.

Come join us at our rallies and say hello if you see us in a campground.



Treasurer's Chest **Gail Stacy, Treasurer**

Another year has ended, and the holidays are behind us. John and I hope all of your holidays were wonderful, and that the new year will bring more opportunities for fun travels, whether to visit family and friends, to see new beautiful places, to visit old favorite places or to learn new things. More importantly, we wish you all good health to enjoy your travels.

I have just completed my first quarter as Treasurer of ACA, and have certainly learned a great deal about the procedures that have been developed to control the finances of ACA. The first order of business was to form a committee to audit the books when I accepted the position in October in Nashville.

The audit was completed there at the Nashville Rally with the outgoing Treasurer, Kathy Nichol森, ACA members Dale Sullivan and Dale Wilson, and myself. The findings confirmed that Kathy had done a great job of documenting all of the club's income and expenses and keeping everything orderly.

As the year came to a close, my duties were to gather all information for final income and expenses for the year, close the books for 2006, produce 2006 financials for Board review, complete required tax filings, and prepare the proposed 2007 budget for review by the Board. By the time we all see each other at Quartzsite, I will have completed all of those items and prepared reports for our 2006 financials and our 2007 budget for presentation to all members at the semi-annual membership meeting in Quartzsite.

In closing, I would like to thank all of you for voting for me in the September election. I am so pleased to be a part of this Board and this great organization, and will give you my all to serve in whatever way I can. May you have a very safe trip to Quartzsite, or wherever you may be traveling, and I will see many of you there.

Rally Calendar

Remember, all ACA members are welcome to attend ALL rallies.

January 17-21 2007	Tampa, Florida Tampa Supershow	ACE	www.ace-rv.com
January 18-23 2007	Quartzsite, Arizona "Desert Rat Rally VI"	National	alpinerallies@aol.com or P.O. Box 53486, Bellevue WA 98015
February 16-18 2007	Las Vegas, Nevada Outdoor Resorts	SoCal	Jim & Stephanie Archer jwarcher@cox.net
March 13-18 2007	Hilton Head, S. Carolina FMCA Pre-Rally (Perry)	National	alpinerallies@aol.com or P.O. Box 53486, Bellevue WA 98015
April 27-30 2007	Hemet, California 5th Anniversary Rally	SoCal	Jim & Polly Klinko jpklinko@aol.com
June 2-9 2007	Sacramento Delta California Rio Vista Area	SoCal	Jim & Vivian Weinheimer jimw@bpdonline.net Frank & Marcia Morrell marciamorrell@earthlink.net
August 7-12 2007	Newport, Oregon FMCA Pre-Rally (Redmond)	National	alpinerallies@aol.com or P.O. Box 53486, Bellevue WA 98015
October 9-14 2007	Albuquerque, New Mexico Heritage Rally	National	alpinerallies@aol.com or P.O. Box 53486, Bellevue WA 98015
November 9-11 2007	Chula Vista, California Chula Vista RV Resort & Marina	SoCal	Paul & Dale Sullivan sobersullie@hotmail.com Bill & Patti Figge figgebp@mac.com
2008			
February 2008	Aguanga, California	National	alpinerallies@aol.com or P.O. Box 53486, Bellevue WA 98015
July 8-13 2008	Hinckley, Minnesota FMCA Pre-Rally	National	alpinerallies@aol.com or P.O. Box 53486, Bellevue WA 98015
November 2008	Branson, Missouri Heritage Rally	National	alpinerallies@aol.com or P.O. Box 53486, Bellevue WA 98015

**Regions, please send your rally plans to Region Director, Dave Fernandez,
AlpineDriver@msn.com for inclusion in the ACA Newsletter.
Photos taken at the rallies are welcomed...please include captions.**

Rally News

from the Fun & Games Department

a.k.a. Gale Johnson, ACA Rally Director



As I write this, the New Year is just a couple of days away, and Joan and I are gearing up for one of the most ambitious Rally years to date.

DRR VI is a couple of weeks away, followed by the Hilton Head, South Carolina Pre-Rally in March. We'll be at the Hilton Head Outdoor Resorts from March 13-18. I hope you will make plans to attend the Pre-Rally and then caravan with the group to the FMCA Convention in Perry, Georgia. Including the FMCA event in your plans adds to the experience and provides an opportunity for more time with your ACA friends as well as some great "toy" shopping in the vendor displays.

The second FMCA Pre-Rally of the year is scheduled for August 7-12 at the Pacific Shores Outdoor Resorts in Newport, Oregon...with the FMCA Convention following at Redmond, Oregon. Again, you're encouraged to "complete" the Rally experience by caravanning to Redmond. The Redmond and Perry Rally sites are arguably the best locations for an FMCA National Convention and should not be missed.

We "wrap" the year with a major undertaking...the 2007 Heritage Rally at the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta – October 9-14 – at the Balloon Fiesta Grounds in Albuquerque, New Mexico. We will be erecting a tent for meals, meetings, and entertainment within our camping area...the balloon launch area is only about a hundred yards away!

The major administrative challenge for this Rally is the Fiesta's requirement for large advance deposits for camping and event tickets. We've reserved nearly 150 sites which represents a considerable amount of money. Therefore, you will be receiving a request for an **early registration commitment and payment** in the next few weeks. The requested amount will include the camping fees and daily event tickets. As our dealer sponsorship fees are negotiated and other expenses are factored into the Rally budget, you will receive an additional request for a "balance due" payment that will help offset the cost of meals, equipment rental, and entertainment. These mailings will include a cancellation/refund policy to give you protection if events require you to alter your earlier plans.

For many of us, this will be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Please act quickly to get your early registration fees back to us so we can take advantage of all the reserved space and opportunities that are available for a large group.

Many of you have expressed interest in a short pre-rally to allow us to fill/empty our tanks and provide for an orderly arrival at the Fiesta parking area. We are currently working on this, but finding it difficult to locate a convenient full-service campground with enough capacity to handle our group...more on this later.

Safe Alpine Coach Travels!



Region Talk

Dave Fernandez, Region Direc-

The Heritage Rally in Nashville has come and gone, and winter weather is here in Southern California and from what I have seen on the news it is everywhere. The Christmas Holidays have also come and gone, the New Year is now upon us.

A lot of things have been going on since the Heritage Rally. New Board members are in place and we have been very busy going through the By-Laws and Policies and Procedures. The ACA Chapters are now being called Regions to follow FMCA guidelines. By the time you read this the revised by-laws should have gone to print.

I hope many of you who are able will consider joining one of our Regions and participate in the camaraderie and fun we all have at our rallies. It's a chance to get to know your fellow ACA members even better in a smaller venue with more frequent gatherings. Feel free to attend a rally in your region some time as a guest – I know you will have a wonderful time and probably decide to join. Of course, all ACA members are welcome at any of these Region rallies if you are traveling in the area at the time of a rally. If you would like more information, please contact one of the regions listed below.

My wife, Donna, and I would like to wish all of you health, happiness and safe travels.

Contact list for existing or planned Regions:

ACE	Tom & Peggy Bacome • 731-935-2303 pjbacome@aol.com
Fulltimers	Maureen Dahl • 425-466-1445 wandern.two@verizon.net
Midwest	Ted & Kay Watts • 636-926-0024 themowatts@aol.com
NorCal	Stan & Pat Abernathy • 510-701-7026 paabern@aol.com
NoWACA	Larry & Barbara Smith • 360-437-2913 typsmith@olypen.com
SoCal	David & Donna Fernandez • 909-214-0000 AlpineDriver@msn.com
TEXANS	Louis & Linda Burch • 940-240-3251 labsr@aol.com

ACE (Eastern)

Please visit our web site at www.ace-rv.com for information about ACE.

TEXANS

If you are interested in joining the fun with the TEXANS, please contact Louis and Linda Burch at labsr@aol.com.

NorCal (Northern California)

Northern California is in the process of forming and is looking for members who would like to attend a Rally.

Fulltimers

Maureen & Niel Dahl

Happy New Year from the Wandering Region (a.k.a. the Fulltimers).

As reported in the Fulltimers Yahoo chatroom, we have been keeping very busy. The “busy award” goes to the Fivian’s for logging 35,000 miles this year culminating at the Rose Bowl Parade watching their grandson march in the parade for the first time. Congratulations to the Fivian family. The Sullivan’s are hanging in south Florida and the Keys, then will head west to south Texas prior to their much anticipated Copper Canyon tour. Can’t wait to hear about their trip.

We have 3 new members, the Belous’, the Koistinen’s and the Girouard’s. Welcome to you all. They have been holding true to the Fulltiming lifestyle by putting some miles on their odometers and experiences under their belts, as are the rest of us who reported in. We have been taking advantage of our freedom by visiting friends and family around the country, exploring new sites and revisiting old favorites. The other characteristic most of us seem to have in common is working to remain “heatseeking Rvers”. Good job gang!

One bit of information I would like to pass along concerns the FMCA Fulltimers Chapter. Their chapter gets together twice a year (before the International Conventions), then caravans to the convention. While there, they have a potluck breakfast one morning and also serve ice cream at the RV Alliance ice cream social. They also publish a newsletter four times a year. Their membership year is 1/1-12/31 and the dues are \$15 a year. If interested, go to the FMCA website, then Chapters, Links and Fulltimers Chapter. They sound like a fun group (just like ours) and it never hurts to meet up with more fellow Fulltimers.

Some of us will be making it to DRR. So we hope to see a lot of you there. Until then, safe and happy travels to you all.

NowACA (Northwest)

Fred Royce

Eleven rigs (9 Alpines & 2 guest coaches) met in November in Cannon Beach, Oregon. The rally was co-hosted by Fred and Carol Royce and Jay and Linda Emory. The cold wind blew and the rain came down part of the time, but the fun and fellowship provided lots of warmth.

Highlights of the rally were an “Italian” wine tasting followed by an Italian potluck, a tour of the Air Museum and Cheese Factory in Tillamook, and the theatre production of “Fiddler on the Roof”.

NowACA membership is open to ACA members living in the Northwest (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana).

SoCal (southern California)

David Fernandez

Alpine SoCal is getting ready for its first Rally of 2007 February 16-17, 2007, in Las Vegas. The Rally will be held at Outdoor Resorts Las Vegas. Some things to do besides visiting the casinos are golfing, shopping at the many malls and stores, and visiting the natural vistas and areas which include the Valley of Fire (walk in red sand and view colorful rock formations), Red Rock Canyon, Mt. Charleston and Hoover Dam. Check out the Alpine SoCal web site for more information www.alpinesocal.com. The Wagonmasters for the Las Vegas Rally are Stephanie and Jim Archer, 949-874-1081 (Stephanie) saarcher@cox.net. The Assistant Wagonmasters are Gail and John Stacy, 702-858-0400 (Gail) gjstacy@cox.net.

If you are looking for a new or used Alpine, Lindsay Hargett and Rich Ellis from Guaranty RV in Junction City will be at the Quartzsite, Las Vegas and Hemet rallies. We want to thank them for their participation and support at all ACA and Alpine SoCal rallies.

Alpine SoCal will hold its Fifth Anniversary Rally April 27-30. More information will be available in the near future – look for it posted on the Alpine SoCal web site. The Wagonmasters for the Rally are Jim & Polly Klinko, jpklinko@aol.com.

SoCal currently has 59 member coaches, and we always have a lot of fun when we get together. All ACA members who live full or part time in Southern California or Southern Nevada are welcome to join our Region, and any ACA member is welcome to attend our rallies if you are in the area. For Region and Rally information, please visit our website www.alpinesocal.com, or contact the president, Dave Fernandez, at AlpineDriver@msn.com for information.

What a Great Place!

Renee Perrault

Have you ever stayed at a spectacular RV park and want to share it with others? Let us know what your favorite spots are and why. Sometimes, it's just that the people and location are so darn nice you want to make sure they get lots of business. Here are a few Canadian places we discovered on our trip to Alaska last summer that deserve mention.

Roberts Roost

<http://www.robertsroostcampsite.ca>

Beautiful lake, well-kept RV park with manicured lawns on the shores of Dragon Lake, near Quesnel, British Columbia. Owners are very friendly and accommodating.

Liard Hot Springs

<http://www.britishcolumbia.com/hotsprings/?id=18>

Located in the Liard River Valley, at kilometer 765 of the Alaska Highway 97, approximately 38 miles (60 km) and 3 hours north of Fort Nelson. The hot springs are beautiful and relaxing, one way to help get the kinks out after a long stretch of driving. It's a Provincial Park so there are no hookups but well worth a night of dry camping.

Bell II Lodge

<http://www.bell2lodge.com/>


Located 95 km north from Meziadin Junction on Hwy 37. You would think you're in the Swiss Alps with the beautiful lodge and chalets. The RV park is right next door and the best part of staying there is that anything available to the lodge guests is also available to the RV Guests. Hottub, exercise room and a great restaurant!

If you have a great RV Park that you'd like to share with other ACA members, send it to reneegary@msn.com, and we'll include it in the next newsletter.



	 GUARANTY RV CENTERS	
Rick Ellis 541 954 9823	Your Alpine Specialist!	Lindsey Hargett 541 915 2768
<i>Please remember to ask for us! 800 825 2333</i>		
Guaranty RV Luxury Showcase 20 Hwy 99 South Junction City, Oregon 97448		

For answers to questions and advice from other Alpine Coach owners visit www.IRV2.com and click Alpine Coach Owners Forum.

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Why Didn't I Think of That???

Renee Perrault

Has anyone given you a great hint for RV life that made you go "Why didn't I think of that?" There are so many great ideas out there that make life in a Coach just a little bit easier...so, let's share them.

For now, here's one I just discovered while we were winterizing the motor coach. I emptied the refrigerator, and once it was empty, I noticed marks on the white walls from all the cans and bottles bouncing down the road. My friend Jean Bartlett (ACA member) had given me a "Mr. Clean Eraser" pad at one of the ACA events. It's about the size of a small sponge but very dense. With just some light rubbing, every single mark came off! The refrigerator looks good as new.

If you have a great idea, send it to reneegary@msn.com. Let's share some of these great hints so we can have more time for fun and socializing at our ACA events!

Alpine Coach Mart

2006 40' ALPINE COACH LIMITED MDTs. List price \$343,500, sale price \$290,000 firm. Exterior/interior colors brandywine, natural cherry cabinets and floor, all major options. Mileage 6,000, garaged, non-smoker/ no pets. John Heitzenroder 610-216-1135 or email: jheitzenro@aol.com.



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Advertising Information

Alpine Coach Mart – Ad price is \$10 for a 3.5 x 2 inch ad (business card size). Advertising is limited to Alpine Coaches and related furniture or equipment. To place advertising, contact Barbara Smith at aca_newsletter@yahoo.com.

ACA Marketplace – Business card size display advertising price is \$40 for one ad; \$70 for two; or \$120 for four. Please contact Barbara Smith for more information at aca_newsletter@yahoo.com

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must be
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standing of
the FMCA.**

(Note that by being a member of FMCA in good standing we are in compliance with their insurance liability.)