



A Chapter of Family Motor Coach Association

Web: www.MIRVClub.com

Notes From the Prez

Greetings to all our Monaco International Chapter Members! Here we are in August already—almost another summer of RV traveling gone bye! I hope all of you who are on the road have had safe and fun travels!

As I write this, I am in Cavendish, Prince Edward Island, Canada. JJ and I are traveling with the Murleys and the Ehlenbergs, eating as many PEI mussels and lobsters as we can cram into our bodies! Two summers ago, our three coaches went to Alaska, so this year we decided to head up the East Coast and into the Maritime Provinces. We have learned about the famous PEI mussels—there are numerous “aqua farms” scattered around the island where long rows of ropes are strung for culturing the mussels. The larva attach themselves to ropes hanging down from the stringer ropes and after a year and a half, the mussels are large enough to be harvested. Fascinating, eh? We still have several weeks left on our itinerary so we will cover most of Nova Scotia before turning southward to the United States.

In late July, 94 coaches gathered in Syracuse, NY, for the summer pre-rally. You can read about the rally on the MIRVCLUB website (www.mirvclub.com) and see a map of the geographic locales of those who gathered on the New York State Fairgrounds. Jack and Terri Brewster put together a great rally and received many positive comments—I especially liked the performance of William Florian who was the lead singer for The New Christy Minstrels. He did a lot of songs that our age group could surely identify with! A well-deserved thanks to Jack, Terri, and their cadre of volunteers for producing another memorable Monaco International event!

There have been considerable attempts to pull together a Spring, 2017, pre-rally in Arizona. Several members have had conversations with FMCA regarding holding a pre-rally in advance of the FMCA Convention in Chandler. The FMCA dates are in early March which makes our timing for a pre-rally beginning late February and into the first week of March. With the difficult timing and other considerations, the end of March-early April dates in Tucson rather than Chandler were explored. Subsequently, Scott Phillips was successful in working out better terms with FMCA, so we considered reverting to the original schedule. Now we have lost the second volunteer Rally Master, so your club is back in limbo regarding a Spring, 2017 event. Our goal has been to put another pre-rally out west of the Mississippi—of the last 7 rallies, 3 have been “out West”: Pahrump, NV, Coos Bay, OR, and Gillette, WY—so we were keen on an Arizona location.

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Region 1

Ed Hudson Peter Johnson

Region 2

Bob White Roy Holt

Region 3

Lloyd DeGerald Carolyn Banks

Region 4

Tam Murley Pam Chehaske

Region 5

Walter Nelson Marcella Pasetto

Region 6

Lois Tucker Dan Mitchell

Dirs. At Large

Dennis “Mitch” Mitchell
Wilt Greenwood

www.MIRVClub.com

Notes From the Prez

Continued

A decision will be made by the MI Board very soon as to the viability of pulling together a major rally within five (5) months, so watch your email for an announcement.

In my previous column for the newsletter, I mentioned the need to add to our membership ranks. I am happy to say that we have been steadily adding new members during these months of 2016. I am sure that Norma Preston, our VP of Membership, will have some comments to make on this subject, but if you are one of the folks who have recruited friends and neighbors to join up, a BIG THANKS. And keep your recruiting shoes on and tapping!!

I also mentioned in March the need for volunteers to take on officer responsibilities in the club. Jerry Jenkins is closing out his tenure as Treasurer, so he would certainly like to coach the next Treasurer on the easy points and methods that he has used in his three years in that post. Who is able and willing to step up? We also need somebody to assume the responsibilities that Jerry has doubled up on: we need a webmaster to keep our website humming along. If you know of someone who would be perfect for either role, let me know and I will put the Nominating Committee on notice for your recommendation.

Best regards, and safe travels!

Rich Halverson

RichardMIRV@gmail.com

BALLOONS! BALLOONS! BALLOONS!

ALBUQUERQUE INTERNATIONAL BALLOON FIESTA RALLY HURRY! DON'T PROCRASTINATE!!

By the time you read this, the MI Balloon Fiesta Rally held at the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque, NM on **October 5th through 9th, 2016** may be filled and have a waiting list. Attending the Fiesta with MI is an exceptional opportunity at an exceptional price for the package and the word is out!

The Balloon Fiesta is one of the world's most photographed events and MI is located in a prime location for viewing the balloons, but we have only eighty spaces. Go to the Upcoming Rallies section of the MI Website www.MIRVClub.com for details and a list of what the Rally Package includes.

Don't procrastinate any longer. Sign up or get on the waiting list as some travel plans get interrupted. Filling vacant slots that may occur will be based on the date order on the waiting list.

If you have any questions, please contact: Harry or Sandy Hentschel at 719-339-9237, hands1968@me.com or Marvin or De Pitts at marvinpittsaz@gmail.com

The application is also on **page 6** of this newsletter.

See you there!

VP of Membership Report

There were fifteen First Timer Couples at the Pre-Rally in Syracuse, New York. Two of the couples had attended Monaco Chapter Rallies, but not a Monaco International Pre Rally. They were a welcome addition.

A "thank you" from your VP of Membership to those who volunteered to be Mentors and to those who extended the invitation to their chapter members to be First Timers. As you participate in your various Monaco chapter rallies, please extend the invitation to all your members to join us at a Monaco International Pre-Rally and have them sign up as a First Timer if they have not previously attended a Pre-Rally.

Brenda Reagh helped me greet the First Timers as they arrived, and even increased the number. As Brenda registered a couple for Monaco International, she told them about our Pre-Rally and they joined us!

The Regional Directors have been checking with all the Monaco Chapters to help us update the information that is on our website under "Useful Links", Other Monaco Clubs. Jerry Jenkins has been helping us by making the corrections on the web site: www.mirvclub.com

The membership has remained stable due to the twenty-one New Members who joined in May and twenty-two more since then. As of mid-August, Monaco International had 1,592 members.

We have been on the road since the end of February attending six rallies and a caravan through the Shenandoah Valley, so we are looking forward to seeing our daughters and grandchildren out west while we spend a few months at our RV lots at Rancho Casa Blanca RV Resort in Indio, CA.



If you would rather receive your Monaco International Newsletter via email, please send an email to our Vice President of Membership Norma Preston at vpmbship@gmail.com. Norma will place you on our email list. You will receive your **color** newsletter weeks before everyone else! And it will save our chapter funds on stamps, and printing; plus, think of all those trees that you will be saving!

Thanks,

Maxine Schremp
Newsletter Editor

National Directors Report

FMCA UPDATE

FMCA Dues Increase

At the FMCA Convention in August, the Governing Board virtually unanimously approved an annual dues increase of \$10.00. This is the first dues increase since 2010. In addition to some minor projected increases in operational cost, the Governing Board supported shifting the expense of FMC Assist from investment income to an Operational Expense. FMC Assist, the medical and travel assistance program, will continue to be included as a part of your annual dues. Other organizations charge over \$100.00 annually per coach for essentially the same coverage. By approving the \$10.00 increase at this time, the FMCA staff and Executive Board projects that another increase will not be forthcoming for several more years. The Good News: The increase is not effective until October 1, 2016. You may renew your dues prior to October at the current annual rate of \$40.00. Better yet, if you renew for four years you get the fifth year free. This is in essence like getting two years free (4 years X \$40 = \$160) vs. (4 years X \$50 = \$200). Renew by October and save \$40 over four years and get the fifth year free.

Upcoming FMCA Conventions

From now on, the FMCA gatherings will all be referred to as Conventions instead of Reunions. The following Convention is on the books and registration is now open:

Winter, 2017	Chandler, AZ	March 7 - 10, 2017
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The following Conventions are pending successful negotiations:

Summer, 2017	Indianapolis, IN
Winter, 2018	Perry, GA
Summer, 2018	Gillette, WY
Winter, 2019	Chandler or Tucson, AZ
Summer, 2019	St. Paul, MN
Winter, 2020	Perry, GA
Summer, 2020	Redmond, OR

Winter Conventions are normally scheduled in March or April and Summer Conventions scheduled in July or August.

Harry Hentschel
MI National Director
hands1968@me.com
719-339-9237



Syracuse, NY

“Explore NY”

Monaco International Pre-Rally

July 27th through 31th, 2016

The rally started with three days of early parking which provided plenty of time to enjoy the area and one of many fine restaurants. The weather cooperated with afternoon breezes cooling things off.

We had vendors, and Paul Evert provided a tech who spent time making adjustments and repairs to our coaches. I can't forget to mention the new Monaco on display, a new Holiday Rambler, and many used coaches that were all available for purchase.

We had 94 coaches in attendance, approximately 188 individuals.

The first night of the rally featured a preview party, with food, refreshments, and an opportunity to view one of the new coaches and a selection of gently used coaches from Paul Evert's on display. Paul Evert actually sold one new coach to Wilt and Barbara Greenwood, to replace the one that was damaged by several trees in a wind storm. Breakfast in the morning, liquid refreshments and salad bar just before dinner, each of the four days we were there and entertainment four nights was enjoyed by all, and we were able to feed all 188 diners each night in about 15 minutes.

The entertainment was exceptional; we were thrilled with ***Border Ride***, a progressive Bluegrass Band known for its well-blended vocal harmonies and tight instrumentation who played the first evening, the second evening William Florian, former lead singer of the 60s group...***The New Christy Minstrels***. In addition, we had ***Johnny Goodrum*** one night and ***Clarence K. Pinckney*** a local musician the last night. Good times were had by all!

Each attendee received a t-shirt, license plate frame and decal as a remembrance of the event.

We enjoyed hand-dipped ice cream sundaes on Sunday afternoon.

The staff at the NYS Fairgrounds did a great job in making us feel welcome.

Jack and Terri Brewster,

Rally Masters

MONACO INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER

MONACO INTERNATIONAL 2016 BALLOON FIESTA RALLY

Hosted By --- Harry & Sandy Hentschel & Marvin & De Pitts
Honorary Hostess: Kay Piper



Albuquerque, New Mexico

Wednesday, October 5 – Sunday, October 9, 2016

The Balloon Fiesta is the most photographed event in the world.

Over 600 balloons come from around the world to participate in the greatest spectacle of its kind. You won't believe your eyes as 100 or more special shaped balloons take off to create a menagerie in the sky. See Mass Ascensions, Night Glows, Special Shapes Glows, Races, Key Grab Competition, Fireworks, and more. Nearby for your entertainment – Golf, Casinos, Shopping, Fine Restaurants, etc.

There will be NO REFUNDS unless your cancellation request is mailed and post-marked by July 15th or your space can be filled from the wait list. Registration confirmations will be emailed. If you want a confirmation mailed, please enclose a stamped, return addressed envelope.



We will be parking in the VIP R.V. area which is adjacent to the launch site.

This will be Dry Camping and no hook-ups. However, water and honey wagon are

Rally Contacts:

Harry & Sandy Hentschel
719-339-9237 or 719-237-5412
email: hands1968@me.com

Marvin & De Pitts
928-713-0983
email: marvin.pittsaz@gmail.com

Kay Piper—Honorary Hostess

2016 MI AIFB Rally is in Memory of
David Piper
1938—2015

The rally fee includes

Parking, admission to all ballooning events, two luncheons and the Bring Your Own Beverage social hour each afternoon before the evening ballooning event.

Sign up online
(Preferred)
at
WWW.MIRVCLUB.COM

Sign up Information Required:

Names: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

MI Member: yes ___ no ___

Phone# _____ Cell# _____

MI Member Coach	2 persons	\$445
MI Member Coach	1 person	\$395
Non-MI Coach	Additional	\$150
Extra person	each	\$100
TOTAL		_____

E-Mail Address: _____ License # & State _____

Coach Make _____ Coach Length _____ # Slideouts _____

Names of Guests: _____

Please make checks payable to:
Monaco International Balloon Fiesta Rally

Mail to: Monaco International
c/o Marvin & De Pitts
520 Highland Avenue
Prescott, AZ 86303

☐ Please check if this will be your first time at the Balloon Fiesta

Secretary's Corner

It has been a busy summer and the heat has been almost unbearable at times. As many of you know my "perfect temperature range is 68-72 degrees".....unfortunately we have been experiencing temperatures in the high 90's with a heat index sometimes in the triple digits.

Enough about the weather! For those of you that did not attend the MI Rally in Syracuse, you truly missed a wonderful rally. It was such a treat to have full hookups, beautiful buildings, and a new and exciting area to explore.

Our Board Meeting and General Membership meeting were well attended. The Standing Rule & By-law Committee presented a report on their studies completed thus far. There were a couple of Standing Rule changes as well as two By-Law changes that were introduced, discussed, and passed. Following are the changes as voted on by the membership. The new Standing Rules and By-Laws now read:

New Standing Rule # 1, now reads:

1. Membership is limited to owners of models manufactured by or acquired by **Monaco division of REV Group, Inc. (formerly Allied Recreation Group)**, Navistar RV LLC, Monaco RV LLC, Monaco Coach Corporation, Royale Coach, **all** coaches manufactured by Executive Industries and all Monaco coaches manufactured prior to 1992.

New Standing Rule # 9, now reads:

Rally fees, early parking and all electrical fees will be paid by the Rally Treasurer for **all MI Pre or Post rallies held in conjunction with the** FMCA National Conventions for the following positions: Rally Master, Rally Treasurer, Rally Registrar, and Site/Parking Coordinator.

The Rally Treasurer shall not pay any other rally fees.

New Standing Rule # 10, now reads:

10. For the MI pre or post rallies held in conjunction to the FMCA National Conventions:

ALL VOLUNTEERS will pay their own electric and related fees commencing on the first day of the rally, other than those stipulated by Standing Rule 9 above.

The rally Master with approval of the President may request and approve those to arrive early to assist in projects deemed necessary by the Rally Master.

Those volunteers required to come in prior to early parking days will have their parking and electrical fees, if applicable, for those days paid by the Rally Treasurer.

All volunteers whose duties require them to work during early parking days will have the early electric and early parking, if applicable, paid for those days by the Rally Treasurer.

Due to the need for some volunteers to be working all day, adequate snacks and lunches will be provided to them by the rally for those days.

The need for and allocation of golf carts will be determined by the Rally Master and President and will be paid for by the Rally Treasurer.

Due to site variances and volunteer position, the actual day of arrival will be determined by the Rally Master and approved by the President.

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Secretary's Corner

New By Law - Article VII -Elections # 4, now reads:

4. *TERM LIMITS:* The President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Vice President of Membership, Secretary, Treasurer, and twelve (12) Regional Directors shall serve no more than three (3) terms in office, **or until a successor is elected**

New By Law - Article VI Chapter Administration -# 4 Chapter Meetings: E. Voting now reads:

ARTICLE VI – CHAPTER ADMINISTRATION - E. VOTING: 2nd paragraph: The Chapter has established that voting will be one (1) vote per family unit. Balloting by mail, **including electronic mail**, may be undertaken when a proposed matter is considered to be of such importance or urgency that a total membership vote is advisable.

Briefly the two Standing Rule changes were made to include the new owner of the Monaco Brand listed as eligible for MI membership. Rule # 9 was changed to allow flexibility in planning an MI rally either pre or post in conjunction with FMCA. In addition, Rule #10 was changed to reduce the payments by the club to the rallies.

The first By Law change was made to try to keep all officer positions filled until a new candidate could be elected. This of course, left up to the individuals in those positions and not mandatory. The second By Law change was made to bring our club into the “electronic age” and allow us to conduct club business thru the internet, etc. if necessary. FMCA and a large percentage of chapters have already made this change.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please feel free to contact Norma Preston, Wilt Greenwood, or myself as members of the Standing Rules & By-Law Committee. We welcome your input on any Standing Rules or By-Laws as we continue to review and recommend any changes or additions to the membership. Please feel free to make suggestions in writing.

I hope to see all of you in Celina, Ohio for our MI pre rally in July, 2017, in the meantime safe travels, and stay warm or cool.....we all have our preference!

Hugs,

Nancy Wolfe,
Secretary

Monaco International Website

www.MIRVClub.com/

Monaco International

*Join Us for a 4th of July Rally
Celebration*

Celina, Ohio July 5 – July 9, 2017
Mercer County Fair Grounds

Rally Masters - Marty & Cathy Kimball



Greetings to all Monaco International Members

Summer is flying by; I can't believe Labor Day is right around the corner.

Judy and I are home in Wisconsin now after spending time in Syracuse. While in Syracuse we attended a Monaco Travelers and Friends rally of which we are members. Steve and Andrea Sporenberg hosted the rally and did a wonderful job. We then stayed on site for the Monaco International Rally with Jack and Terri Brewster as Rally Masters and they did a great job also.

In my last newsletter article, I mentioned looking for a rally site and Rally Master for the 2017 pre rally to the FMCA Indianapolis convention. I am happy to say that Cathy and Marty Kimball have volunteered to be Rally Masters, and together we visited sites in different states. After much inspection and a lot of questions we agreed on the Mercer County Fairgrounds in Celina, Ohio. Celina is a quiet, peaceful town on the shores of Grand Lake St. Marys. Grand Lake covers 13,500 acres with 52 miles of shoreline. The Grand Lake is the largest man made lake in the world and dug by hand.

I am including a flyer that was passed out at the Syracuse rally to help you with next summers travel plans. Cathy, Marty, Judy and I have come up with some fun and interesting ideas that are in the early stages of planning.

The rally dates are July 5th. through the 9th. I explained to everyone at our business meeting that these are the only dates that coincide with FMCA's convention. I felt it necessary to accommodate attendees that needed, or wanted to attend FMCA's Governing Board meeting and Rally.

As I said, things are in the early stages of planning but more information and a registration form will be out as soon as possible.

Until then safe travels and I hope to see you all down the road.

Dick Strzyzewski
First Vice President
Monaco International

Monaco International Michelin Tire Program



The Michelin discount program still exists within Monaco International. The price listings that are online are still the correct pricing and the process is documented online as well. Be sure to follow the process completely so your experience will be successful. If you have any questions, contact Jerry Jenkins at jajenkins47@gmail.com or call at 830-377-6195.

What you can do on your MI Website

Most members know how to sign up for rallies and pay for the registration and many know how to pay their annual dues online. However, many do not know that there is more to the web site than just those two items. It's interesting that we receive a higher percentage of checks for membership renewal than we do for rally registrations.

Did you know that you can change your mailing address, phone number(s) and even change your email address you use to logon to the web site?? All you have to do is enter your email address and password and log on to the site. Once there, you'll notice that there is a **Members Only tab** where you can find the minutes of the Board and General Business meeting, details of the Michelin Tire program, and a listing of the officers with a link. When you click on the name or picture you are able to email each of them individually.

In addition, there is a **member directory** which is only available to members and then only after you actually log on to the site.

To **modify your personal information**, click on the link "View Profile" just under your name at the top left of the screen. If you choose to edit your profile, you can change the spelling of your name, address, and much more. It's easy and you can do it yourself as often as you need to make changes.

Log on to the site and check it out!

MI Webmaster
Jerry Jenkins

"AMERICA'S MUSIC SHOW CAPITAL" RALLY

The application is included in this newsletter on page 11 and is available online at MIRVclub.com for "America's Music Show Capital" Rally scheduled for May 7- May 14, 2017. It is scheduled for America's Best Campground with 50 amp service, water, sewer as well as garbage pickup on site.

We visited the week of April 24(2016) and finalized the show schedule which include a minimum of ten (10) shows such as Dixie Stampede, Show Boat Branson Belle, Shoji Tabuchi, SIX, IT (The Hughes Brothers Show), Clay Cooper Country Express, The Haygoods, The Presley's.

Present plans include socials on evenings when the schedule will permit, gourmet dinner at the College of the Ozarks, as well as other meals including breakfast, lunch and/or dinner each day.

Our schedule will include a tour of the Ozarks and a trip to Springfield to shop at the original Bass Pro Shop with optional shopping at Grizzley Tools. A Dutch Treat Lunch will follow at Lambert's, the home of the Threwed Rolls, with a stop at Russell Stover's before returning to the ABC.

We will be checking out the status of Eureka Springs, Arkansas for a possible day trip. We won't know for sure about that until after our trip on site. In the past we have enjoyed a tour of the historical town by tram with time for shopping and snacks/lunch before returning to Branson.

Time will be available for outlet and craft mall shopping using the buses as time permits. Once we have the tentative schedule finalized, I know that sounds like a misnomer, I will publish it on line. It will be tentatively finalized based on what is currently scheduled in the theaters, but there is always the possibility of cancellations; therefore, requiring us to schedule alternate activities.

The Schedule is usually distributed to the registrants after the first of the year.

MONACO INTERNATIONAL

Presents

"AMERICA'S MUSIC SHOW CAPITAL" RALLY

BRANSON, MISSOURI
(Limited to 114 PEOPLE)



Noon Sunday, May 7, 2017
thru

Sunday, May 14, 2017
at

ABC Campground
Branson, Missouri
Full Hookups



Fun activities may include selections such as the following:

Tour of the Ozarks; dinner show and cruise on the \$100 million showboat, the Branson Belle at White River Landing; shows such as Shoji Tabuchi, Dixie Stampede, Pierce Arrow, Silver Dollar City, SIX, IT (The Hughes Brothers), Clay Cooper Country Express, Presley's Country Jubilee, The Texas Tenors, The Haygoods; cocktail hours, 6 dinners, and 5 breakfasts; ice cream social; and time for craft and factory outlet shopping. Transportation provided for shows, tours, and scheduled shopping. Camping fees for 7 nights included.

To enroll send form and a minimum of \$750 (U.S. funds) deposit made payable to "Monaco International Branson Rally"

Mail to Registrar:
Dick Wolfe
704 Palma Sola Blvd.
Bradenton, FL 34209
Cell: 941-224-9180
Cell: 941-704-4455
Dicknancywolfe@aol.com

Rally Masters:
Les & Wilma Jean Alexander
(309) 824-0652 or 824-0639
bumminfir@hughes.net

Note: Payment in full required
if mailed after Dec. 31, 2016

"AMERICA'S MUSIC SHOW CAPITAL" RALLY

Branson, Missouri

Registration Form May 7-14, 2017

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ E-Mail _____

Telephone _____ Coach _____

		Make	Year	Length
MI Member Coach 1 person	\$850	Handicapped		
MI Member Coach Spouse	\$550			
Extra Person in Coach	\$650	First Branson Rally	Y	N

Non Member Coach additional \$100 _____ FMCA # _____

Total _____ Register on line at MIRVClub.com or

Deposit (minimum \$750) _____ MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO "MONACO
Balance of fees due by December 31, 2016 INTERNATIONAL BRANSON RALLY"