Volume 11, Issue 2 September 2018

OFFICERS 2018-2019

President

Wilma Jean Alexander 3916 N Potsdam Ave. #163804 Sioux Falls, SD 57104 (309) 824-0652

First Vice President

John P. Jones 495 NW Zack Dr. Lake City, FL 32055 (386) 965-5233

Second Vice President

Dale A. Johnson 16 Tobey Hill Dr. West Seneca, NY 14224 (607) 972-9314

VP of Membership

Lois Tucker 13534 Laughery Creek Road Dillsboro, IN 47018 (703) 362-4733

Secretary

Carolyn Banks 117 Rainbow Drive, #1775 Livingston, TX 77399 (903) 556-2547

Treasurer

R. O. "Dick" Wolfe 704 Palma Sola Blvd. Bradenton, FL 34209 (941) 224-9180

National Director

Harry Henschel 3520 Windjammer Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80920 (719) 339-9237

Alternate National Director

J.R. "Jack" Ehlenberg 108 Michocaun Circle Daphne, AL 36526 (251) 591-3080

REGIONAL DIRECTORS Region 1

Ed Hudson

Joe Bolkovatz

Region 2

Bob White

Roy Holt

Region 3

Lloyd DeGerald Richard Pasetto

Region 4

Bart Mix

Gordon Owenby

Region 5

Don Henderson

Walter Nelson III

Region 6

Bob Tucker

Dan Mitchell

Directors At Large

Dennis "Mitch" Mitchell Dick Strzyzewski

Newsletter Editor

Paulette Jones pjjones4@bellsouth.net (386) 965-5232

MONACO INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER



A Chapter of Family Motor Coach Association
Web: www.MIRVClub.com

Greetings from your President

Wilma Jean Alexander

Trust your travels have taken you to new and exciting places with opportunities to explore and experience vistas that you are enjoying sharing with others.

Les and I have been experiencing electrical problems with our coach and have spent our time since Gillette in a repair facility in Harrisburg, OR. Eric has been working to isolate the problem but as yet has not found a solution. But he isn't the only one. Coach has been to Cummins twice and another facility spent several hours and finally gave up. Eric was employed by Monaco before the bankruptcy and he and two of his coworkers started a firm called Elite RV Repair and Remodeling located in Harrisburg. The transmission, engine, ABS brakes are functioning correctly, but they are not communicating with each other. If you've had a similar problem and found a solution, let us know how you solved the issue. Of course, we hope by the time this newsletter is published Eric has found a solution and we are back on the road.

I'm sure many of you have motorhome issues that may be of concern. If you do and want to share, please, send a note to the newsletter editor, Paulette Jones. She has agreed to assume responsibility for the newsletter and we are anticipating expanding its coverage to better meet the needs of the members. If you have expertise in an area that would be of benefit to motorhome owners, please, submit your ideas and/or an article for publication.

We want to thank Maxine Schremp for her many months of service as editor of our newsletter. She has been dedicated to MI over the years and we wish her and George great success as he assumes the role as VP of INTO. We look forward to your continued support of MI as we move forward.

Jim Crimmons has assumed the role as chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee and is having regularly scheduled telephone conference calls with his committee. They will be presenting their plan to the membership in April at our General Business Meeting which will be held in conjunction with the rally scheduled for April 10-14, 2019 at the Oasis RV Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada.

(Continued on Page 2)

(Greetings from your President Continued from Page 1)

Jim and Melva Crimmons will be hosting the rally in Las Vegas. The rally information is included in this newsletter and online at mirvclub.com. Registration is limited to 100 coaches so don't delay in registering for a great rally in a great location.

For those of you located in the western half of the US, this is your chance to attend an MI rally without having to travel long distances. We have heard your comments regarding location of our rallies. We are carefully considering making further changes to accommodate those concerns.

Not only are we having the rally in Las Vegas but have scheduled a Destination Rally in Perry, GA for March 6-11, 2019. This will be hosted by Sharron Riley and Mike Sanders. The information for the rally is included with this newsletter and can be found online at mirvclub.com. Sharron and Mike have a great rally planned at minimal expense for your enjoyment prior to attending FMCA in Perry.

As you will note, we have allowed three weeks between the FMCA rally in Perry and the beginning of the rally in Las Vegas. This should allow ample travel time for those who wish to attend both rallies. John Jones, First Vice President, will be working closely with Sharron and Mike. I am working with Jim on the rally in Las Vegas as well as long distance with Sharron on Tallahassee.

To provide input from members regarding the future of MI, we invite you to submit your ideas and concepts to us in writing to bumminfir@hughes.net. I will summarize the contributions and submit them to the Long-Range Planning Committee for consideration and inclusion in their report to the membership. This is your club!! We need your input. For those of you registered for the Balloon Fiesta Rally in Albuquerque, safe travels. See you there on October 10.

Thanks for being a member and we hope that you continue to be actively involved.

From the Secretary's Desk

Submitted by Carolyn Banks, Monaco International Secretary

We had a great time at the Westward Ho Pre-Rally in Gillette, WY. It was especially nice to be able to stay in one place through the FMCA Convention. Dan and I headed up the Sheriffs Committee for the first time and had a good crew to work with.

The MI General Business Meeting Minutes are included in this newsletter to bring you up to date on actions by your Board of Directors and plans for future rallies.

We will have a destination event in Tallahassee, FL, March 7-10, 2019. Rally Master Sharron Riley confirmed early arrival date as March 6, 2019, and we will caravan to FMCA in Perry, GA, on March 11. This rally is strictly for fun. Then, we will have a rally out west in Las Vegas, NV, the 2nd week in April 2019. Since this will be our official spring

rally, we will elect officers at that General Business Meeting. Jim Crimmins has agreed to be Rally Master for that event.

So, there's plenty to do in the spring and on into summer 2019 when we have a pre-rally before the summer FMCA Convention in Minot, ND. Details on dates and location will be announced early in 2019.

Dan and I are really into rally-going this year. We'll be at the MI Balloon Fiesta Rally in October and plan to be in Tallahassee and Las Vegas. We might even hit the Tampa Super Show Rally in February. Of course, as secretary for MI, it's necessary for me to attend our rallies, but we always have a great time and get to see our friends, so it's work, but fun work — a win-win in my book.

Rally Report Westward HO!!! Gillette, WY

The advance crew started arriving on July 2 which allowed us ample time to work out the details prior to scheduled arrival date of the members for July 9. Once we arrived, it was determined that members could arrive any time they desired. As a result, only 15 coaches arrived on the first official day, July 11.

The facilities were excellent with ample room for all the planned activities. The decorating committee, headed by Chris Henderson, did an excellent job setting the stage for the Westward Ho!!! theme which included a barn style backdrop the bales of hay covered with horse blankets and a saddle. Adding in LED rope lights and twinkle lights gave us the feeling of stars shining in the sky. The centerpieces of candles accented with western kerchiefs and string ties rounded out the theme.

Seminars were provided by our members and guests from the community as well as vendors to provide a well-rounded educational experience. A special thanks to all those who contributed their time in providing information which will add value to our daily lives as we travel around the country enjoying the wonders of the United States.

Three nights of entertainment were enjoyed including a hypnotist, a local country-western band, and singer from Texas who performed his own creations. Based on the comments as well as the fact that the vast majority of the attendees stayed until the end was a testament to how well the entertainers was accepted.

A total of 23 vendors displayed their wares along with RV Country's display of coaches. A special thanks to each company who participated. Due to the small number of coaches who participate in our rallies in comparison to our heyday of 800 coaches at a rally, it is very difficult to get vendors and dealers to participate. In order to provide more vendors with a larger variety of products we need to find a way to increase our attendance to 150 plus coaches. Of course, attendance alone does not solve the problem but those in attendance need to visit the booths and purchase the products at our rallies that meet their needs.

Thanks to RV Country, serving as our major sponsor, we were able to provide a Welcome Party with food and beverages as well as an ice cream social. Be sure to thank RV Country representatives when you have the opportunity.

A special THANKS to all Committee Chairs who fulfilled their duties in an exemplary fashion. For without them, successful rallies would be impossible to achieve.

FMCA NEWS

Submitted by Harry Hentschel

FMCA membership now stands at 76,700+, up from 70,154 in 2016. This includes over 2,200 towable which have joined since December. FMCA has experienced 17 straight months of positive membership growth.

The following new Benefits/Discounts have been added since the Governing Board Meeting in July 2018 all which is included in dues:

- New Roadside Assistance (now called Roadside Rescue) and priced at \$69/year
- Verizon jetpack offer
- Tech Connect+ (Sprint service)
- FMCA health insurance program (covers most states and aimed at under 65-year olds)
- Hankook tires
- RV pet Safety Monitoring.
- FMCA Campground reservation software
- Revamped FMCA.com
- Magazine redesign
- Discounted first year membership for all veterans
- FMCA University

Gillette Convention

Fifteen hundred and fifty-nine (1559) Family members, including 497 First Timers attended the Convention in Gillette. In addition, there were 217 commercial vehicles. FMCA President, Jon Walker, shared the State of FMCA with the Governing Board and at the General Membership Meeting. In addition to the membership numbers and positive growth over the past two years following twelve consecutive years of decline, Highlights include:

- Dues have increased \$25 since 1980, while the CPI has increased an equivalent of \$61 over the same time frame.
- Fifty percent of the members follow FMCA on social media.
- Summer Convention attendance has increased each of the last two years and is above 2014 and 2015. Winter Convention attendance has increased each of the last three years.

On the flip side of the positive membership and Convention attendance growth is that the number of Chapters have declined steadily since 2014 and non-Chapter members renewal rate is significantly below the renewal rate of members who belong to a Chapter(s).

At the Annual Member Meeting, MI members, Jack and Joan Bryan were recipients of a \$250 attendance drawing. CONGRATULATIONS!

Executive Board

There are two new members of the Executive Board. George Schremp (INTO Area), a MI member, and Don Schleuse (Northwest Area). George replaces David Kessler and Don replaces Kathy Balogh.

(Continued on Page 4)

Governing Board Meeting

Both your National Director, Harry Hentschel and Alternate National Director, Jack Ehlenberg, attended the Governing Board meeting in Gillette. In addition to acting on several administrative proposals, mostly bring the Bylaws and Policies and Procedures in line with the Constitutional changes approved in December, the Governing Board approved:

- The first Balanced Budget in over ten years. And WITHOUT a dues increase!
- Approved Rock Spring, WY for the Summer Convention in 2020 and 2022.
- Few were in favor of returning to Perry again in the Winter/Spring of 2019, but the majority agreed there was not sufficient time to explore alternatives.
- The Upcoming Conventions are:
 - Winter/Spring 2019: Perry, GA; (March 13-19; Registration Opens on September 12th)
 - o Summer 2019: Minot, ND (August 14-17; Registration Opens on February 13th)
 - Winter/Spring 2020: FMCA Staff has been directed to explore: Las Vegas, NV, Tucson, AZ and Kissimmee, FL.
 - Summer, 2020: Rock Springs, WY. (Sweetwater Fairgrounds has over 1,200 FHUs w/30-50 amp)

INTO

Earlier this year, the International Area (INTO) which Monaco International falls under, held Officer Elections with the following results:

- Area Vice President: George Schremp (MI Member)
- Senior Vice President: Paul Mitchell (MI Member)
- Vice President: Rodger Donnelly (MI Member)
- Vice President: John McPherson (MI Member)
- Vice President: Bob Weithofer
- Vice President: Mike Neighbors

The Treasurer (Jim Fitzpatrick) and Secretary (Dick Lowman) were not up for elections this year. David Kessler, Past President rounds out the INTO Board.

Yes, four of the nine INTO Officers are also Monaco International members!

At the INTO Area Gathering in Gillette, Sharon Riley (MI Member) was elected to the INTO Nominating Committee. I'm sure Sharon would like to hear from you if you are interested in running for an INTO Office.

The 2019 INTO Area Rally is scheduled for October 21-25, 2019 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

BALLOON FIESTA RALLY - Carry Me Away!



THERE IS STILL ROOM IN 2018! Join us for the MI 2018 Balloon Fiesta Rally, October 10th through 14th in Albuquerque, NM. If you have not attended the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta Rally, it is a must for everyone's Bucket List and there is no better way to attend this acclaimed International event than with Monaco International.

While you may have seen calendar photos of the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, ask anyone who has attended, photos just don't do this event justice compared to physically having 600 balloons ALL around you. And, there is also the opportunity to get up close and personable AND even crew for a balloon pilot or procure a balloon ride.

For 2018, we again have eighty spaces in the prestigious VIP West RV parking area. For many years MI has occupied the coveted first several rows closest to the field. While dry camping, there is no better location for access to the Launch Field, or you can just sit back and watch from our Social Gathering Area (closest to the Field) or from your coach.

We fully expect to fill all space allocations and have a Wait List again for 2018. On-line registration which is recommended is available at: www.mirvclub.com, > Upcoming Rallies > Balloon Fiesta Rally. A copy of the paper registration is also available at the same website and on the following page of this newsletter.

If you would like more information or have questions, please contact the Rally Hosts:

Harry and Sandy Hentschel

OR

De and Marvin Pitts

719-339-9237 928-713-0983

hands1968@me.com

depitts@cableone.net

MONACO INTERNATIONAL 2018 BALLOON FIESTA RALLY

Hosted By --- Harry & Sandy Hentschel & Marvin & De Pitts

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Wednesday, October 10 – Saturday, October 13, 2018

Departure on Sunday October 14, 2018 after morning ballooning events

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

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.



Sign up online (Preferred)

at

WWW.MIRVCLUB.COM

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 available for a fee.

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

Registrar:

Sandy Hentschel

719-237-5412

Email: hhsh1968@gmail.com

The rally fee includes

Parking, admission to all ballooning events, welcome dinner, two luncheons, two breakfast and the Bring Your Own Beverage social hour each afternoon before the evening Fiesta activities.

Sign up Information Required:

MI Member Coach	2 persons	\$500
MI Member Coach	1 person	\$450
Non-MI Coach	Additional \$150	
Extra person (13 & Above	e) each	\$150
Extra person 6-12	each	\$ 90
Extra person under 6 free		
but must be registered		
TOTAL		

•]	Non-MI members must have a MI sponsor attending R	Rally. MI S	Sponsor's name:	
Nam	es:	_		
Mail	ng Address:	*		
City/	State/Zip:		MI Member: yes no	
	e# Cell#		FMCA #	
E-Mail Address:				
Coac	h Make Co	oach Length ₋		
Nam	es of Guests:(all guests must be preregistered regardless of age)	Please ma	Please make checks payable to: Monaco International Balloon Fiesta Rally	
	lease check if this will be your first time at the Balloon Fiesta Ionaco international.	Mail to:	Monaco International c/o Sandy Hentschel 3520 Windjammer Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80920	

MINUTES FOR MONACO INTERNATIONAL GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING Gillette, WY, July 14, 2018, 2:00 p.m.

President Wilma Jean Alexander called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in the Energy Hall dining area at Camplex Multi-Events Center in Gillette, WY. She asked the gathering to stand and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The officers did self-introductions: Secretary Carolyn Banks, Treasurer Dick Wolfe, National Director Harry Hentschel, Alternate National Director Jack Ehlenberg, First Vice President John Jones, Second Vice President Dale Johnson, Vice President Membership Lois Tucker, President Wilma Jean Alexander. She introduced Wilt Greenwood, who is serving as Parliamentarian.

Wilma Jean introduced the Regional Directors present at the meeting and listed the states covered by each region: Roy Holt, Region 2, Bob White, Region 2. Present at the rally but not at this meeting are Lloyd DeGerald, Region 3; Gordon Owenby, Region 4; and Bob Tucker, Region 6.

Past Presidents attending this rally are Mitch Mitchell (current Director-at-Large), Wilt Greenwood, Don Wyatt, Wilma Jean Alexander, and Les Alexander.

Approval of Minutes:

Secretary Carolyn Banks stated that the minutes from the Moultrie, GA, Pre-Rally were published in the Board of Directors book and are also on the MI website. There were no corrections or additions. Don Wyatt moved they be approved as published. Motion seconded. Motion passed.

Officer Reports:

1st Vice President John Jones reported that vendors were disappointed with response from attendees. Many did not spend their \$5 complementary coins, and some didn't even visit the vendors.

He has also been interfacing with manufacturers and explained how REV Group handles its contribution to the different brands it owns. He was able to get door prizes from REV Group and Freightliner and expects to be able to continue that contribution in the future. Wilma Jean Alexander commented that, in addition to these, we are always grateful to RV Country for its continuing support, which this year was \$7,500.

2nd Vice President Dale Johnson reported on his efforts to determine the location of all the equipment the club owns. He has been able to track down some items but is still trying to find two laptops, a few radios (maybe 3), and the MI canopy (used by parking committee to keep them out of the weather). Dale asked all present to contact an officer if they know the location of any of the equipment. Nancy Wolfe said she thinks Kathy Ann Taylor, registrar for the previous rally, may still have the laptop. John Ham, parking committee chair, will turn over the parking radios to the 1st Vice President, rather than keeping track of them himself. Dale plans to have a complete inventory list and perhaps require a sign-out sheet to check equipment out. He will consult with the Board on the best procedure.

Wilma Jean explained to the meeting that, with the number of resignations and changes in officers over the past year, the club equipment has been in a state of flux. Dale said that Wilt Greenwood has given him an inventory list from 2011, which will give Dale a place to start.

Vice President Membership Lois Tucker reported on what the club has done since Celina in 2017. In Celina, we had 97 coaches present; in Moultrie, 86; in Gillette, 94; and the Balloon Fiesta, 72. We have gone up in attendance. First-timers

in Celina, 22; Moultrie, 14; Gillette, 16; and Balloon Fiesta, 34. Club membership since the first of 2016: 965; end of 2016, 1059; end of 2017: 1124; 2018, 1199. She encouraged everyone to get out and talk to others about the club and complimented this rally's group of first-timers.

Wilma Jean said that Lois has given the first-timers a questionnaire to complete, with a follow-up meeting with them this afternoon, and that will give us an idea of what we did right, what they don't like, etc.

Treasurer's Report – Wilma Jean Alexander announced that the Board had appointed Dick Wolfe as Treasurer, and he had agreed. She said that the previous year's treasurer had opted not to run again, which left the club with no treasurer. Not finding a member who would accept, Wilma Jean appointed Brenda Reagh, who is the club's paid employee, as interim treasurer. Wilma Jean went over the activities that Brenda had to undertake to have our nonprofit status reinstated and to get signatures approved for our accounts. She worked closely with Bank of America and Merrill Lynch to maintain the club's accounts, in addition to her work with membership records.

Treasurer Dick Wolfe stated that Wilburn Ply had agreed to assist him in the job. The only report Dick had right now was the investment report, which shows a bottom line of \$202,232.58, with 85,035.10 in cash and the rest in fixed income bonds, which average about 2.6% return. That was good at the time they were purchased, but they are now selling at a discount, so we may need to look at selling some of them since interest rates are on the rise.

Wilma Jean added that the club always gives back from that \$200,000+ balance in the form of the \$100 early-bird discount members receive for rally registration. Also, since we are not getting the contributions from REV Group, we are using more of our own funds for the rallies. If we don't find more sponsors or ways to curtail rally expenses, we have only about 5 years of monies left (assuming 2 rallies per year). Jim Crimmins, who is heading up a Long-Range Planning Committee Task Force, will have a report on steps we have taken to look to the future.

National Director Harry Hentschel said that 1800 towables have joined FMCA since membership was opened to them. Total FMCA membership is approaching 78,000 with a target of 80,000 by the end of next year.

A number of new benefits have been approved, and a number of new discounts are also in force. One discount that is for new members only is a \$10 discount for all active and veteran military personnel of any country (so includes Canada) for a one-year period.

Upcoming conventions: FMCA is returning to Perry, GA, in March 2019, after first announcing it would be in St. Paul, MN, which was then moved to Madison, WI, and finally to Perry. Summer 2019 convention is scheduled to be in Minot, ND, in mid-August. Registration for Perry opens up September 12, and for Minot, February 13. For 2020, Las Vegas, Tucson, and Kissimmee, FL, are being considered.

Several MI members have been elected to positions in the FMCA International Area (INTO): George Schremp was elected as INTO Area Vice President; Paul Mitchell, Sr Vice President, and Roger Donnelly and John McPherson, Vice Presidents. The INTO Area Rally for next year will be in Myrtle Beach, SC, in October.

Nine proposals are coming up at the Governing Board meeting, with changes to bylaws and policies & procedures. Seven are administrative changes to bring everything into line with the new change to the constitution. The only controversial proposal is one that would change the National Director position to one from each area, rather than from each chapter. Proposal doesn't have support from the Executive Board. Alternate National Director Jack Ehlenberg contributed to this report.

President Wilma Jean Alexander said that, since her report covers many of the topics already discussed, she will be brief. She has been busy planning and executing plans for this rally. During an onsite visit to Gillette in October 2017, she was able to cut the cost of the contract in half. She believes that justifies the \$1000 plane fare paid by MI. Her hotel, meals, and a car were provided by Camplex. Contract savings were about \$3000, and she was also able to reduce the cost of the campground facilities, for a total of an estimated \$5000 savings overall.

She offered a special thanks to the volunteers who made the program a success. She plans to call committee chairs by name at tonight's dinner and have all their committee members stand.

Following the decision by FMCA not to go to Chandler, AZ, but to return to Perry, GA, an email discussion among the MI Board members resulted in a plan for some kind of event before Perry, but to have our regular spring rally in the west. We will have a destination event in Tallahassee, FL. Rallymaster Sharron Riley confirmed early arrival date as March 6, 2019, with events 3/7-10 and a caravan to FMCA on 3/11. John Jones will be administrative attendee since Wilma Jean had already planned to spend entire season on west coast. Wilma Jean advised that Tallahassee will not have vendors or seminars or formal entertainment but will be more like a chapter rally. Sharron will put together a calendar of events related to local attractions. Meals will be potlucks. Application should be online within 3 weeks. We have a tentative contract with the Tallahassee Fairgrounds.

The next rally will be in April in Las Vegas, NV. Jim Crimmins will be rallymaster for that event. She invited him to come forward and tell about what is planned. He first thanked Wilma Jean and her husband for putting the Gillette rally together, and an ovation followed. His rally will be the 2nd week in April 2019; early arrival will be April 8. We will be at the Oasis RV Resort with full hookups. The resort will park us, so no parking committee and perhaps no golf carts needed. All are invited. He has a great committee already for planning.

Wilma Jean reiterated the difficulty in finding a rallymaster for Gillette, leaving her with dual responsibilities. When FMCA returned to Perry, she lost Jim Crimmins as the March Pre-Rally rallymaster, since he would not be going to Perry.

She appointed Jim Crimmins to chair a task force to study and look at options regarding the future of MI. He welcomes comments from members. They have discussed ideas for communication, and many ideas were discussed in the Board meeting. We currently have only RV Country providing us with information about motor home sales. REV was formerly providing that to us, but a regulation now prevents them from giving us that information. So instead of receiving 100 contact names, we now receive only 12 to 15, reducing our pool of new members. John Jones has a list of other dealers in REV products and plans to contact them to see if we can give them brochures to display at least. Wilma Jean encouraged all members to speak to any potential members in campgrounds and invite them to join.

Motions From Board of Directors Meeting

Wilma Jean went through the various motions acted on in the Board meeting and explained the rationale for each. The motions are detailed in the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, which are published on the MI website. One of the motions was to have MI match up to \$1000 in donations to this rally's charity, Climb Wyoming, and that has resulted in a total contribution of \$4000, which will be presented at tonight's dinner.

Rally Reports

Moultrie, GA, Pre-Rally, March 2018 – Carolyn Banks read the report provided by Dick Strzyzewski and published on the MI website. Wilma Jean explained to the Business Meeting that Dick and Judy had to take over as rallymasters when Nancy Wolfe had an accident and was unable to continue as rallymaster.

Balloon Fiesta, Albuquerque, NM, Oct 10-14, 2018 – Harry Hentschel went over past attendance figures since 2013 and changes to the registration process to ensure MI members aren't left on a waiting list instead of nonmembers. There are 74 (perhaps 75) registered for this year's rally. We hope to have 7 or 8 on a waiting list by rally time. For the last few years, about 20% of attendees are non-MI members, which is up right now to 27%. This may be attributed to the fact that we allow members to bring non-member guests who have towables, as long as they are FMCA members.

He announced that his co-hosts, De and Marvin Pitts, have said this is their last year in that capacity. He asked for anyone who might be interested in filling this position to contact Harry or Sandy to arrange to come as part of the advance team at this year's rally and take over next year.

Applications are still available. We go in on Oct 10 for 4 nights of dry camping and 4 days of ballooning. Honey wagons and fresh-water trucks are available.

Branson, MO, MI Rally – Wilma Jean asked that anyone who might be interested in putting together a rally in Branson contact her about the possibility. She did her last one in 2015 and has been unable to find anyone to do another. She emphasized that a 100-coach rally in Branson is much easier to do, as an individual, than one of these Pre-Rallies. It's

more of a commercial venture, like putting together tours with a person who leads the wagon and person who is tail gunner. All participants come on their own.

New Business

Long-Range Planning Committee – Jim Crimmins reported on committee appointed at Moultrie Pre-Rally to study ways to increase membership in Monaco International. His committee first brought up rally in the west and received support from the MI Board to proceed with its planning. Las Vegas was chosen as the location.

The committee also discussed lack of communication between the club and its members. They decided to try to have a monthly or bimonthly newsletter with information on how members have recruited new members. Paulette Jones (John's wife) has agreed to be the editor. They will need inputs.

The committee meets by conference call once a month and has come up with several ideas to pursue.

Nominating Committee Selection – Wilma Jean Alexander called for nominations from the floor to participate in the nominating committee. She stated that we will have openings for 2nd Vice President and at least two regional directors. Nancy Wolfe, Paulette Jones, and Laura Wyatt were nominated and agreed to serve. Roy Holt moved that nominations cease. Motion was seconded. Motion passed, and the committee was set. Carolyn Banks suggested that the committee talk with Jim Crimmins about the conference call setup used by the previous nominating committee as a very convenient meeting method.

Announcements – Bob White asked if Will Call packets for FMCA had been picked up. Wilma Jean said yes, they were distributed. Wilma Jean said that a peewee rodeo would be going on tonight and is free. Sharron Riley encouraged MI members staying for FMCA to complete and turn in their locator cards to be able to get their welcome bags right away. We were reminded that we would use FMCA lot and street numbers as locations, rather than site numbers. Our rally members are in Lot I.

Meeting was adjourned at 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Banks
Monaco International Secretary

Please join us for the Monaco International "Tallahassee, See More, Do More" Submitted by Sharron Riley, Rally Master

Destination Rally, March 6-11, 2019. Rally fee includes camping for 5 nights with electric and water, pizza party, hotdog supper, ice cream social, potluck dinner, BYOB/appetizer socials and donuts one morning.

Spend your days visiting the area attractions including the Historical Capital, the Working Capital (including the 22nd floor), Governor's Mansion, campus of Florida State University, Mission San Luis, Alfred B. Maclay State Gardens, Museum of Florida History, Wakulla Springs, St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge, Canopy Roads, Tallahassee Automobile and Collectibles Museum, Tallahassee St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail, Miccosukee Canopy Road Greenway and day trip to Apalachicola. Most of these things are free.

In addition to all the fun things to do in Tallahassee, we have a day trip planned to Colquitt, GA to enjoy the Swamp Gravy Buffet at the Historic Tarrer Inn and to see Georgia's official folk life play, Swamp Gravy: Fourth and Long at Cotton Hall. "There's life happening on the bleachers & whole other world on the football field. The 26th edition of Swamp Gravy will explore the dreams fulfilled, the loved ones found, and the lives altered irrevocably under the Friday night lights-proving that sometimes our fumbles make the victories that much more sweet". Colquitt, GA is an hour drive from Tallahassee and is Georgia's first Mural City.

The registration form will be posted on the website soon.



See More, Do More

March 6 - March 11, 2019

North Florida Fairgrounds 441 Paul Russell Road Tallahassee, FL 32301

MONACO INTERNATIONAL DESTINATION RALLY \$189

5 NIGHTS CAMPING
50/30 AMP AND WATER
PIZZA PARTY
HOTDOG SUPPER
ICE CREAM SOCIAL
DONUTS ONE MORNING
BYOP/APPETIZERS HAPPY HOURS
POTLUCK DINNER

Optional Activity: Day trip to Colquitt, GA, to see Swamp Gravy play and buffet at historic Tarrer Inn \$40 per person



Historic Capitol Tour Governor's Mansion Working Capital Tour Florida State University Tour Mission San Luis Alfred B. Maclay Gardens Museum of Florida History Wakulla Springs State Park Boat Tour
St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge
Day Trip to Apalachicola
Tallahassee Automobile and Collectibles Museum
Scenic Canopy Roads
Tallahassee St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail
Miccosukee Canopy Road Greenway

Our Vendors and Dealer Are Important

We Need to Show Them Our Support to Keep Them

Submitted by John Jones, 1st Vice President

We all enjoy having a variety of vendors at our rallies and are ready to complain when there are not as many as we expected. To keep vendors returning, however, we need to show our support by patronizing them, both at the rally and ordering from them when possible during the year. We need to let them know we're placing our orders with them because they are showing their support for our club by showing up to our rallies. Likewise, if we are looking to purchase or sell a coach, we need to make sure the dealer that supports our club gets the opportunity to make that deal and we let him know that his support was the determining factor in the decision to deal with him.

We had an extraordinary number of vendors at this summer's rally. Most of them were highly disappointed in their sales at our event. We were discouraged to find that not all tokens were even redeemed which indicates that a great number of our attendees didn't make any purchases at all from our vendors. If we want to keep vendors returning, we need to try and support them by making purchases at the rallies.

LAS VEGAS RALLY

Hey, if you haven't heard Monaco International is having a rally in Las Vegas! Right off the strip with 50-amp full hookups; we will be staying at the beautiful Oasis RV Resort (www.oasislasvegasrvresort.com) for four days and nights.

Our committee has planned four full days of events, entertainment, and historical seminars about how Las Vegas became Las Vegas. We've engaged the best caterer in Vegas to provide you with scrumptious breakfasts, and dinners. In addition, Mitch has agreed to be the MAN in charge of our bocce ball tournament, a golf tournament played on their 18-hole natural greens putting course, and if that's not enough, a horseshoe tournament on their sanctioned pits. Not to be outdone Chris Henderson has planned a special ladies' luncheon with a Las Vegas style fashion show.

Have you ever wanted to have your own personalized wine glass? During the rally friends of mine, Wayne & Betty Cerne, will have a seminar to teach you how to etch your name, initials, or favorite college logo onto wine glasses. They will be furnishing the glasses, and to make it better, we will all sip some wine while we do it!

It's going to be fun! We all hope you can make it.

The rally is limited to 125 coaches so be sure and go to the website and get your registration in early. If you have any questions, feel free to give me a call. 623.261.9728. Melva & Jim Crimmins, Rally Masters.



MONACO INTERNATIONAL CLUB

Oasis RV Resort, Las Vegas, NV

April 10-14, 2019

The annual club meeting with be held at this rally.

Be Sure and Be There!

\$500

4 Nights Camping with 50amp Full Hookups Welcome Social

4 Breakfasts

1 Lunch

3 Dinners

Happy Hours

3 Evenings Entertainment
Afternoon Wine Tasting Party
Boche Ball & Long Putt Contests
Horseshoe Tournament

History of Las Vegas Seminar Afternoon of Karaoke

Options

Ladies Luncheon & Fashion Show - \$25/person
Etch Your Own Wine Glass - \$10/person
4-Hour Guided Boulder Dam Tour on Thursday - \$40/person

ONLY 125 RALLY SITES AVAILABLE.
REGISTER EARLY!

Arrangement for early arrival/parking is to be made directly with the Oasis Las Vegas RV Resort at \$50 per night (Monaco rally rate). Call 800-566-4707 for your early parking reservation.

Mention that you are attending the Monaco International Rally.