

Monaco Romers e-Newsletter



President: John Roan

Editor: Bob Thompson

Volume 2009, Issue 3

September 2009

Tahoe or Bust Rally Complete Success



chairman Curt Curtis, and included a presentation by co-wagonmaster Paul Klempner of prized green "jacket sweatshirts" for each winning team member of our "miniature masters" tournament. Further after dinner entertainment was provided by local Ted Medeiros, who played a variety of music for our listening and dancing enjoyment, including some enthusiastic line dancing. .

The next morning we had pastries, juice, and coffee in the tent while most everyone packed up their coaches for the ride home or to their next destination. To our knowledge, everyone made it out from among the trees without incident and got safely down the hill.

Thanks to all. See you down the road.

*Dale & Judy Edwards and
Paul & Pat Klempner*

We had a great time at the Romers Tahoe or Bust Rally in early September. The weather was beautiful and about 75% of the 40 attending coaches arrived at least one day early to enjoy the area. We were especially pleased to welcome three first timer couples into our midst. They were Bill and G'Nell DeLack, Tom and Sheryl Costa, and Jim and Joanne McPheters. Due to the dense trees, the size of our coaches, and location of the "premium" cable TV sites, our rigs were somewhat spread out into about four groups in the campground but they were pretty much centered around the big white tent that was the focus for our in-park activities. A few lucky souls actually found the TV satellites through the tall trees, but most of us had to settle for the park cable TV service. But in that environment, we didn't sit around and watch much TV. Following the arrival day cocktail hour and hors d'oeuvres in the big white tent, we enjoyed a fanciful talk by a local Forest Service Ranger who told us stories of some of the early settlers in the area.

Dale Stucker, who has been our head bartender for quite a long time, had already bought all the cocktail supplies before his doctor recommended against a high altitude exposure on at least a temporary basis. So Dale had to abruptly cancel his plans to attend the rally and he arranged for near-neighbor Larry Johnson to bring the stuff to the rally and for Rob Wilson to step in and organize the great team of bartenders who kept everyone's glass as full as they wanted. The rapid bar service that is a hallmark of a Romers Rally caused a level of expectation that fell short of reality when we arrived at the Chart House restaurant for our Wednesday sunset dinner. The management had promised us six servers to take our drink orders on the banquet level grassy patio overlooking the lake, but they didn't tell us that they would have only one bartender upstairs serving the whole restaurant. So it took a long time to get our drinks, but the sunset over the mountains across the lake was beautiful and the dinner service and food was pretty good.

Breakfast was available Wednesday and Thursday morning over at Ernie's Coffee Shop starting at 6:45 AM and required a short walk out the park entrance over to Highway 50. But no one seemed to mind the walk and the open menu breakfasts were excellent. After breakfast on Thursday morning we had a Tech Talk session that was attended by over 25 people, which was more than I think is usual. The session covered lots of topics and lasted until it was time to jump in our cars for the ride over to Zephyr Cove and board our optional lake cruise to Emerald Bay and back. Following the cruise we had a general membership meeting in the tent and we elected a new uncontested slate of club officers, including John Roan for President. With that the bar was opened for the pre-dinner cocktail hour, and our hard working bartenders stayed on duty through dinner and until the liquid supplies were depleted. The dinner was a catered Italian meal of salad and lasagna but "only one cookie each for desert". After dinner the golf awards were presented by golf

Business Meeting

September 10, 2009

ENCORE TAHOE VILLAGE,
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, NV

The meeting was called to order by President Marty Ehrlich at 4:05 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Curt Curtis.

Marty gave special thanks to the wagonmasters who put on a great rally - Dale and Judy Edwards and Paul and Pat Klempner.

The minutes of the last meeting at Valencia Travel Village, CA were printed in the May 2009 newsletter. Secretary Gladyce Ehrlich asked if there were any additions or corrections. There being none, the minutes were accepted as published.

Marty Ehrlich introduced the new members (first timers) that were in attendance :

Bill and G'Nell De Lack, Tom and Sheryl Costa, and Jim and Joanne McPheters.

Treasurer Karenann Evans gave her report, which is printed elsewhere in this newsletter. (Pg-5)

Membership Chairman Rob Crow gave his report - (Pg-4)

National Director John Rahkola gave a report on the last FMCA Directors meeting. (Pg-4)

Vice President John Roan gave a report on our future rallies: (Pg-4)

Sunshine Lady Nancy Baumgart gave her report: She brought shirts, jackets, and flags with her for sale, and they will be available after this meeting.

She then gave her Sunshine Report: [Sunshine](#)

Long time member Irene Caligiuri passed away on 7/20/09 and a card was sent from the Romers. Mike Caligiuri sent a note in response that they had wonderful years with the Romers.

Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Rob Wilson presented the Slate of Officers for next year. Layne Strelac and Len Widdes were on his committee.

Nominations were as follows:

- President: John Roan
- Vice President: Curt Curtis
- Treasurer: Karenann Evans
- Secretary : Tom Townsend
- National Director: John Rahkola
- Alt. National Director: Larry Johnson.

Each name was called individually, there were no nominations from the floor, and there being none, each was elected to fill the office for the years 2009 - 2011.

Marty gave a Thank You speech saying that he openly and gratefully thanked the members of the Board of Directors for making his job easier and then handed John Roan his Badge of Office as New President.

A gift was given to Marty in recognition of his service (a desk clock that had been engraved) and he thanked all for the gift.

All Badges were passed to the new officers.

Peggy Rahkola, Secretary of Monaco International, gave a report on their status.

Monaco Romers is on the same level as Monaco International. MI has no relationship with the corporation. We are both members of FMCA. MI changed their Standing Rules and now ALL coaches made by Monaco Coach Corporation or

Monaco RV LLC may join Monaco International : Monaco, Royale, Beaver, Safari, Holiday Rambler. Membership in MI has fallen 10% over the last few years. They had 4,800 members in 2007, which fell to 4,300 in 2008 and they now have 4,142 member is 2009.

MI is going to publish a newsletter available by email. Ellen Johnson will take email addresses to get everyone onto the system. Monaco International website is: monacointernationalrvclub.com. As reported by John Roan above, the next two rallies will be Tucson, AZ and Salem, OR.

Rob Crow then reported that the Monaco Romers Roster is now on email. Please contact Rob with any corrections!

JoAnn Curtis thanked the past Board for work well done.

The meeting was adjourned by John Roan, President at 4:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gladys Ehrlich
(now past Secretary).



President's Message

Well, Labor Day came and went. Romers partied at South Lake Tahoe. What a great turnout and what a great rally!

My thanks to our hosts who put together a complete rally schedule and even influenced the weather to perfection.

I suppose that it's time, and so I am finally writing a column of THANKS.

My thanks to our nominating committee, elected earlier this year, for presenting us a ticket of qualified individuals who, as a team, will insure the future stability and maybe even growth of the Monaco Romers.

Thanks again to the members of the board who served and put up with me during the past two years.

To the entire membership, my thanks for your constant support and turnout in record numbers for our rallies. Never letting the turmoil in the RV industry slow you, we partied with your full support.

To our new leadership THANK YOU for stepping in. Not every FMCA Chapter is able to bring in new high quality leaders and your willingness to participate speaks well for our future.

Last, but not least, I thank those who were so thoughtful as to present me with a timepiece that will sit in an honored position in my coach each time it is parked.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at future rallies, my best wishes for safe travels to all.

Marty Ehrlich

Tahoe Golf Results

The golf tournament at the South Lake Tahoe rally took place on Wednesday, September 9th. Twelve Romers turned out for a very enjoyable day of golf at the Lake Tahoe Golf Course. We had a three team competition, with three individual competitions. Even though the course was quite challenging, the scramble format allowed everyone have a fun day, while still contributing to the team event.

The team competition was very close. Two teams were tied for 1st. It took two card-offs to determine the winner – Team 2, composed of Joe Dingman, Tom Townsend, Michael Wagner and Jack McAuliffe. The winning team members were awarded green "master" sweatshirts.

Judy Pagano won the closest-to-the-pin for Hole 6, while Joe Dingman won closest-to-the-pin for Hole 17. Joe Dingman aced out the rest of the field to take the longest drive competition on Hole 13 by just 5 yards.

A great time was had by all. Everyone is looking forward to the next competition at Bakersfield. We hope more of you can join us. The primary objective is for the participants to have fun, regardless of skill level.



Tech Stuff
By Gary Quilla

I'm sorry that Pat and I could not be at the Tahoe rally, but we are traveling on the East Coast. We hated to miss it, because Lake Tahoe is one of our favorite places.

I'm not sure what was discussed at the Tech Session, but I do have a couple of items to talk about.

On this trip I decided to do a little non scientific experiment with fuel mileage. I typically drive pretty fast on interstate highways; about 70 when I can. This trip I decided to force myself to stay at about 60 MPH. We are still traveling, but I am getting some interesting numbers. I usually get about 7.5 MPG on a trip. So far this trip we have gone about 4,000 miles and I have averaged 8.6 MPG. That works out to about a 15% increase. Not a great amount, but pretty significant on a trip that will be seven or eight thousand miles. We will have to see if I can keep the speed down when we start home!

Thanks to Steve Porter, one of our members that is not too active as far as attending rallies. He read my note in the last newsletter, and e-mailed me that he had a Datron Dish that he had taken off of his 2001 Signature. We managed to strike a deal, and I ended up repairing my Datron again. I may never get rid of that thing!

On a recent short trip, my HWH air leveling began to act erratically. It would not return to Travel position. I could get it into a fairly level condition by manipulating the up and down arrows, but it was kind of awkward at best. At the same time, my Tag Axle would not lift. It turned out that they are related. Anyway, I contacted HWH and after discussing my problem, we decided that the Control Panel had failed. The cost for a new one was \$1025, but they ended up repairing mine for under \$200. If you have occasion to work with HWH, they are very customer friendly. That is more than I can say for Carefree Awnings. I needed some awning parts, but they would not even talk to metold me to talk to a dealer. That is too bad, because they used to be easy to work with.

Also, I wanted to let you know that our own Bob Hunter carries Racor fuel filters, along with his other products. By the way Bob, I used the last one I bought from you and need another.

Not really a technical subject, but Monaco RV LLC is having a Come Home Rally in Tucson in late October. We plan to be in Arizona by then and will be at the rally. If you can get there it might be interesting to see what Mother Monaco has going on.

Until next time, that is all that I can come up with.

Gary



Membership Report

September, 2009

We now have 153 paid up members. We have gained 2 new members since the Valencia rally: Bill & G'Nell De Lack and Gene Reynolds.

We have emailed the Dues Statement and Roster to everyone. Dues are due by September 30, 2009. They are \$ 10.00 per year. Make the check payable to Monaco Romers, and mail to Karenann Evans. President Marty Ehrlich helped obtain emails that were incorrect in our roster. Please remember to send in your e-mail address changes so that you will get all the latest information.

Membership Chairman - *Rob Crow*

What's Coming up
By XVP John Roan

MARK THESE DATES

This is my last calendar as I hand off the duties of Vice President to Curt Curtis, as you know his duties are to help our members organize rallies. At this time we have two scheduled for 2010 and could use a third. The Vice President cannot host all these rallies but he can assist the members by suggesting locations and procedures. So call VP Curt Curtis and volunteer to host a rally. (805) 343-9117

Feb 23 - 26, 2010 at Bakersfield RV Resort, CA. Diane and Tom Peel and Glen and Laverne Herman will be co-hosts. Diane gave a report on the rally and told us that Redlands Truck and RV will do service on site.

October 6 - 9, 2010 at Flying Flags, Buellton, CA. Sal and Marianne Rosenmann and Larry and Phyllis Sanfilippo will co-host.

The Monaco RV LLC 1st Annual NEW FRONTIER RALLY will be held **October 26 - 30, 2009** in Tucson, AZ at Beaudry RV Resort. Features 400 full hookup pads and 256 pull-through sites. ALL coaches built by Monaco will be able to attend.

The Monaco International Pre-Rally will be held **March 15 - 18, 2010** also in Tucson, AZ at the Pima Co. Fairgrounds prior to the FMCA rally in Albuquerque, NM.

The Monaco International Pre-Rally will be held **August 3- 7, 2010** in Salem, OR, before the FMCA rally in Redmond, OR.

Volunteers are being requested to put on a rally for us in May, 2010.

A Blast from the Past

This article is from the Monaco International, volume 8, May 1987 letter which discusses the new FMCA Chapter, Monaco Region II. It sheds some light on this subject.

Submitted by: Hugh Chase

REPORT FROM Helen Thomas

I would like to give you information on the progress of our new FMCA Chapter, called Monaco Region II, that was formed in November 1986. We are using the Roman numeral II to make a distinction from the Monaco International Region 2. Informally we will be known as the "ROMERS". Everyone in Monaco Region 2 has been contacted twice to join the group. If anyone is interested in joining, they can contact me at 4 Mira Las Olas, San Clemente, CA 92672, for an application. Our initiation fee is \$10, and dues are \$10 annually. We are serving the California, Arizona & Nevada Monaco owners and we are now 44 members strong.

We had our most recent second Rally on Feb. 19, 20, 21, 1987 at Rincon Country West RV Park in Tucson, Arizona, just prior to 9 RV's leaving for the Brooksville, Florida Rally. We had 30 RV's in attendance.

A great time was had by all enjoying good food, Arts & Crafts shows and a beautiful Hot Air Balloon Festival. Thanks to great Wagonmasters, Joe & Barb DiMaria.

Our next Rally is to be held on June 11,12,13, 1987 at Chula Vista RV Park, Chula Vista, CA. Wagonmasters are Don & Patty Artimez. (However the Registration deadline is May 8th.)

At the present time the Chapter plans are to have about 4 Rallies a year.

A NOTE FROM Jim Leach Director of Region 3. In my opinion, I can only say that the Brooksville rally in Florida was a big success. This was only my second rally to attend, the first being in New Braunfels, Texas. I have enjoyed both rallies enough to know that I hope never to have to miss one from now on.

All the Monaco people worked hard to try and please each and everyone. They didn't get my problems taken care of, but it was through no fault of the mechanics, they tried. The mechanics are a really nice and hard working group.

Hope to see all of you in Iowa in June!

FMCA Director

The last **FMCA Directors meeting** was held at Bowling Green, OH on July 7, 2009. There are 501 National Directors, and 422 were present. They worked mostly on how to balance their budget for 2010 which is \$ 200,000 short. The Board of Governor's decided that Medex will be retained as a benefit for another year. It costs FMCA \$ 500,000 per year to maintain. FMCA is \$ 794,000 in the red for their operating budget for 2010 and funds will be taken out of the reserve. Dues will probably go up \$ 5.00 per year and a ballot is coming soon to vote on this. The meeting started at 9:00 AM and didn't end until 8:45 PM.

National Director - *John Rahkola*

Romer Officers

President:

John Roan (805) 680-9696
E-Mail: jt_goldie@msn.com

Vice President:

Curt Curtis (805) 343-9117
E-mail: curtcurtis@verizon.net

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E-mail: tomt@pacecases.com

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Past President:

Marty Ehrlich (702) 656-3657
E-Mail: marty@qla-mar.com

Sunshine & Showers

Long time member Irene Caligiuri passed away on 7/20/09 and a card was sent from the Romers. Mike Caligiuri sent a note in response that they had wonderful years with the Romers and would never forget us.

Dale Stucker (usually our Bartender) is not present at this rally - he is undergoing tests at this time. Newsletter Editor/Webmaster Bob Thompson has had Back Surgery. They removed 30 staples today, and he is feeling better. Glen Winnor has also had surgery and is doing well. JoAnn Curtis had a 2nd knee replacement in May, as did Diane Peel. Both are doing well. Diane Wilson is going to have a knee replacement in November, and we wish her well. Rob Crow is going to have hip replacement surgery in the near future. The Curtis' and McAuliffe's are going on to Branson, MO from this rally.

Sunshine & Showers Chairman:

Nancy Baumgart

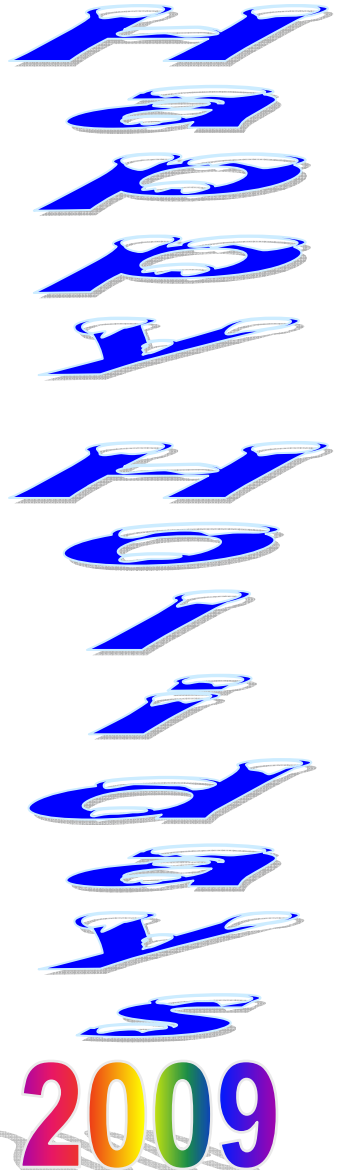


Treasurer's Report

9-Sep-09

Balance Savings & Checking as of May 1, 2009		<u>10,916.74</u>
Bank of America Bank Savings Account	6,028.07	
Interest Earned	3.53	
Total Savings Account:		<u>\$6,031.60</u>
Checking Account Balance as of May 1, 2009	4,888.67	
INCOME:		
Dues & Initiation	45.00	
Rally Income Valencia	395.70	
Rally Income fm Paul Evertt for Valencia	<u>300.00</u>	
Subtotal – Income:		740.70
EXPENSE:		
Membership Expenses		
Rob Crow Postage & Supplies	(73.45)	
R L Thompson Postage & Supplies	<u>(107.50)</u>	
Subtotal – Expenses:		(180.95)
Checking Account Balance as of September 9, 2009		<u>5,448.42</u>
Total Checking & Savings September 9, 2009		\$11,480.02

Respectfully submitted,
Karenann Evans, Treasurer



We're on the
 World-Wide-Web (WWW)
monacoromers.com





MONACO ROMERS



TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2010 Thru FRIDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2010

**BAKERSFIELD RV RESORT
5025 WIBLE ROAD
BAKERSFIELD, CA. 93313**

The new Prez will be in the house...No debating. It will be the BEST GIG in town!!! Dress it up or dress it down for a "Bakersfield Ho Down"

Live Entertainment and Dancing in our own Club House that we have 24-7 We have a Private Bar...Kitchen...Game Tables...Big Movie Screen and More!!! Remember Tuesday night will be Heavy Hors D'oeuvres (bring vittles to share)

Redlands Truck & RV...They are bringing a service crew for chassis & engine upgrades...Plus seminars. (Call Keith Shomaker 888-249-0124 for service appointments)

Paul Evert's RV Country...Will have show coaches on display.

APPLICATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 11, 2010

MAKE ALL ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH RALLY MASTER-DO NOT CALL PARK DIRECTLY!!!

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ St. _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____ E-Mail _____

First Timer _____ Coach Length _____ # of Slides _____

RALLY FEES:

Coach 2 Person	\$295.00	_____
Extra Person	\$ 90.00	_____
Coach 1 Person	\$190.00	_____
Non-Romer(SOB)Extra	\$ 25.00	_____
Golf/Cart/Lunch	\$ 45.00	_____
Extra Day	\$ 35.00	_____
TOTAL		_____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: DIANA PEEL

17652 Falkirk Lane
Huntington Beach, CA. 92649

(714) 846-6075 Fax. (714) 840-0242
The Links at Riverlakes Ranch

Early Arrival Dates _____ Late Stay Dates _____

RALLY MASTERS: Tom & Diana Peel
Granniediana@aol.com

Glenn & Laverne Herman
herman1@lightspeed.net

Tom cell: (714) 330-8933 Diana Cell: (714) 749-5646

Home: (559) 732-1766 Cell: (559) 799-7357