

THE AMERICAN WAY

American Coach®

CHAPTER OF FMCA

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Stone Mountain Rally A Fun Time for All

By Chip Aiken

Hello to all from Arkansas. I hope this newsletter and the lower fuel prices find you traveling and enjoying those beautiful American Coaches. Annette and I spent most of the winter in Yuma, Arizona before heading east to Stone Mountain, Georgia for the ACC pre-rally at Stone Mountain Park and Campground.

Forty coaches attended the rally and the weather cooperated fairly well until the last day when it got a little cool. Our DJ on Thursday night was a big hit, with the help of ACC first-timers, Randy and Robin Brock. Randy and Robin worked the crowd, along with the DJ of course, and Robin sang on a few occasions. They motivated many members to get out on the dance floor and kick up their heels. Everyone had such a great time that donations were

made by a couple members to keep the DJ beyond his scheduled time. Beverly Martin's mother, who is traveling with them, got up on the dance floor and proclaimed later that it was the first time that she had danced in over 35 years! Amazing!

I'd like to thank everyone that helped out with all the little chores that make for a successful rally. There are too many to list and I wouldn't want to leave anyone out.

I'd also like to personally thank Indigo Bluffs in Michigan for their sponsorship of the DJ. They not only paid for the DJ but were personally represented at our rally. Indigo Bluffs is a new Class A Motorcoach RV Retreat. You can check them out at <http://www.indigobluffs.com>. Also, thanks to Mac the Fire Guy for donating his time and equipment to put on his popular "Fire and Life Safety In



Your RV" seminar. You can learn more about fire safety at his web site <http://www.macthefireguy.com>.

Twenty two Coaches caravanned to Perry from Stone Mountain. I'm pleased to report that there were no breakdowns, accidents or lost coaches along the way. With everything going smoothly, we arrived at Perry more than 30 minutes ahead of schedule. Fortunately, we got in just as they finished the parking a previous caravan so we got parked quickly. We even had the electric and non-electric coaches close to each other so walking from one group to the other wasn't an issue.

Perry started out with a lot of rain but the last three ⇨

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High Attendance Anticipated at "Coming Back Home" Rally

By Marcia Bratsburg

Please join us for the "Coming Back Home" pre-rally on July 13th - 18th, 2009 in Decatur, Indiana. North Adams Community High School has opened their campus for us to use for camping as well as recreation. The Superintendent of Schools, the mayor, the Downtown Merchants and the Chamber

of Commerce are joining together to welcome us to Decatur.

The local hospital is even on board to provide us with health screening, blood work (for a small fee) and free classes on nutrition and fitness on the road.

Are you interested in tours? We've got them:

Exploring Berne, Indiana

Visit the Amish country and tour an Amish home. The tour includes a guide to take you through an Old Order Amish community, lunch at a local restaurant (pot roast, chicken, and all the fixin's) and entry to the Swiss Heritage Center. At the Heritage

Cont. on page 8



"The D.J. at the Stone Mountain Rally motivated many members to get out on the dance floor and kick up their heels. "



Loading up the Coach for Decatur

"We are already preparing the coach for the trip to Decatur and the "Coming Back Home Rally."

days were dry so no one had issues getting out, a concern with many that have been to Perry in previous years.

With Stone Mountain behind us, it's time for everyone to start thinking about the next pre-rally. Mark your calendars for July 13th - 17th for the "Coming Back Home" pre-rally in Decatur, Indiana.

Bellmont High School in Decatur is opening their doors to provide us with parking and facilities which will make for a great rally. In addition to the grounds. They are offering the use of the cafeteria, auditorium, tennis courts, swimming pool, and class rooms. They will also have internet access available for members. We expect to park the first 200 coaches on asphalt.

We're anticipating a large turnout for this rally, so I'd recommend you register early. We've also scheduled this rally to be one day longer than normal due to the anticipated number of coaches. Many members I've talked to have already scheduled service appointments around this rally.

You can read more about the Decatur pre-rally from our rally master, Marcia Bratsburg, in

Stone Mountain Rally, cont.

this newsletter, and online at <http://www.acc-fmca.com>. We hope to see you there. We also hope you'll join us in Bowling Green, OH for FMCA's 82nd International Convention where we will keep the party going.

Don't forget our "Buddy Coach" program. Bring along another FMCA member who's not an ACC member, whether they have an American Coach or not, and as a sponsored guest they'll be able to attend the rally at the member rate.

There is one last item I need to mention. At this time we still have nearly 200 members who are behind on their 2009 dues. They were due and payable on January 1st. In order to keep receiving this newsletter, you'll need to get your dues paid soon. You may pay one year online or one or more years by mail. You'll save money by paying multiple years. There is a renewal and change of address form in this newsletter.

Summer will be here before you know it. I hope you're able to enjoy the great lifestyle your American Coach affords you. I'd love to see each and every one of you in Decatur in July. Have FUN and travel safe.

plains, the flowering trees and the Cadillac Ranch in North Texas. We even sampled catfish with okra and hush puppies in Alabama. This is a beautiful country.

We just got back to the "stick house" and are already busy preparing the coach for the trip to Decatur for the "Coming Back Home Rally". We are expecting over 200 coaches for this rally and the committees are busy ➡

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By Tony Stellar

It seems that time passes like a runaway freight train. We began this year with the FMCA Western Area Convention in Indio, then on to Quartzsite, Yuma and finally, Stone Mountain, Georgia. We met many wonderful people, mostly from the east coast, and many members that we would not normally see. We have covered over 7000 miles this year and summer is just around the corner. I really enjoyed the varying countryside from the deserts of Arizona to the Oklahoma



Loading up the Coach for Decatur, cont.

working out the details. The mayor of Decatur and the local business community are involved in rolling out the red carpet for us.

So, get your registration in early. You can now register online at our website, <http://www.acc-fmca.com> or via snail mail by sending in your registration.

For those of us who live on the west coast, we have a special treat in store. The northwest chapter of the ACA will hold a rally in Blanchard, Idaho on July 2-6. From there we will caravan from Idaho to Decatur.

This caravan is organized by none other than our past president, the one and only Merritt Mosby. Check with him for details at maceagle@oregonfast.net or call him at 541-999-0304.

He has planned a number of special stops along the way to make the trip interesting and memorable. If last year's caravan from Reno to Austin, Minnesota is any indication of Merritt's planning, this should be a fun trip. Everyone travels at their own pace. Some rise at six AM; others like to sleep in. There is no set schedule - just places to meet, maybe barbe-

que, sight see and linger.

So get that coach ready for the summer. Check the tires, the batteries, service the engine and the chassis. Now is the time to do the maintenance, not on the road. Visit http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/American_Coach/messages where you can find fellow AC owners willing to help with all sorts of technical issues and non-tech ones such as "Where is the best place to eat breakfast in Decatur?"

Fuel prices are down, so there are no excuses. See you in Decatur!

"The northwest chapter of the ACA will hold a rally in Blanchard, Idaho on July 2-6. From there we will caravan from North Idaho to Decatur."

★ Blanchard, ID



★ Decatur, IN

Counting on Each Other

By Chip Aiken

I know there's a lot of concern among American Coach owners about the future of American Coach.

It was at the start of the Stone Mountain pre-rally when Fleetwood announced that they were closing their travel trailer operations and were proceeding with Chapter 11 bankruptcy filings. I feel that they were very proactive in contacting the owner clubs. They provided us with copies of their announcements and arranged to have a conference call between Paul Eskritt and the ACC board members in attendance at Stone Mountain. Paul indicated that it was Fleetwood's intent, with the approval of the bankruptcy judge, to continue supporting their warranty program and retail sales incentives.

I'm writing about this because I respect the fact that they were

quick to communicate with the owner clubs at the time these changes in business occurred. It was also encouraging to hear how important it was to support their current owners through continued warranty support. It's true that American Coach is scaling back their rally support. I can't tell you if it will get better or worse. I can't predict the future of Fleetwood, but I hope that by the time you read this, we will be hearing positive news regarding their operations.

As the RV industry struggles with the current economic climate, there's no doubt that the owner clubs of Fleetwood and American Coach will need each other more than ever. Getting together at rallies and travelling with other owners is a great way to learn more about our coaches, share challenges and help each other. Attending rallies and spending quality time

together is a great way to enhance your ownership experience.

Many owners attend the rallies for service support. What if there was no service? I feel that the fellowship and friendship gained from attending the rallies are worth as much or more than rally service.

Now more than ever, we need to "count on each other" to enhance the ownership of our coaches. Renew your club memberships, encourage others to join, and attend rallies. To quote a fellow American Coach owner, "you can't put a price on a good time" and you also can't put a price on the friendships you'll make while attending rallies. ***Your owner clubs need you now more than ever and you need your owner clubs now more than ever.***



"Now more than ever, we need to count on each other to enhance the ownership of our coaches."

East or West - Great Places to See on Your Way to Decatur

Camp Verde, near Sonoma, is about 40 miles south of Flagstaff on Interstate 17 in Arizona. You might stop there just because there is a really nice big rigs RV park called Distant Drums RV Resort but, plan to stay a couple days and you will see some of the most interesting history of the North American continent.

Tuzigoot (Apache for "crooked water") is the remnant of a Southern Sinagua village built between 1125 and 1125.

The original pueblo was two stories high in some places, with 77 ground floor rooms. You can walk through the village and view artifacts at the visitor center.

Montezuma Castle is actually the remnants of a five story cliff dwelling of the Sinagua farmers. It stands in a cliff recess 100 feet above the valley. It was once a 45 room apartment-like building overlooking a creek. If you have been to Mesa Verde National Park, you will recognize the architecture.

Montezuma Well is an amazing place. The well is a lime-

stone sink formed by the collapse of an immense underground cavern. The springs that feed it flow continuously. Sinagua dwelling, much like the ones at Tuzigoot, lined the rim at one time. The water seeps out through an ancient man-made canal and flows into the local creek. The well was beautiful but the creek-side path was

even more peaceful

Local Native Americans still use the well for water to baptize their young

children, believing that all life starts at the well.

If you want to shop, Sonoma is just a few miles up the road from Tuzigoot. But, the nearby Cottonwood and Clarkdale are

great little villages with art galleries and restaurants and less crowds.

There is also a casino nearby the Distant drums RV Resort (same exit, opposite side of freeway) where we saw RVs parked with their slide-outs out.

When you drive into Kentucky, you might wonder whether to check out the many horse farms or the Bourbon distilleries. Go for the Bourbon!

The Kentucky Bourbon Trail connects the nation's Bourbon distilleries, where you can see the art of Bourbon making being practiced much as it was 200 years ago. Visit the producers of "America's ONLY Native Spirit" and experience for yourself the magic and science of the Master Distiller's craft - all within an easy day's drive through the rolling Kentucky hills.

Don't miss Jim Beam where you will taste the finest bourbon that they make. And, the grandmother of the young girl that pours the fine bourbon has an old southern restaurant so make sure and ask about it. The food is fine.

Makers Mark distillery is the nation's oldest working distillery and has been named a National Historic landmark. Don't even think about tasting; the county is dry. You can, however, buy bourbon and have the cap dipped in its trademark red wax.

At Wild Turkey, you might meet the legendary Jimmy Russell who has watched over the bourbon making process for years. Again, there will be no tasting. They give you lemonade, however.

Heaven Hill distilleries, Four Roses and Buffalo Trace are also on the Kentucky Bourbon Trail. Nearby Bardstown is a historic village and worth visiting for the restaurants and shops.



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Treasurer's Report

By Sheri Tomaszewski

Both accounts, the main checking account and the CD account, have been reconciled through March 31, 2009. I have included both a Balance Sheet Report, showing what

moneys are currently in our accounts, and an Income vs. Expense Report, which reflects losses from the Stone Mountain Rally. The shortage of support from Fleetwood has definitely had an impact on our rally funds.

Anyone having questions regarding these reports may contact me at 602-524-1690 or treasurer@acc-fmca.com.

ACC-FMCA	
INCOME VS. EXPENSE REPORT	
Category Description	1/1/2009-4/15/2009
INCOME	
Membership Dues	4,609.00
Membership Fees	240
Other Inc-Interest	91.61
Rally Income	12,648.00
FROM Customer Invoices	518
TOTAL INCOME	18,106.61
EXPENSES	
Administrative	710.17
Rally cost	19,344.58
TO Vendor Bills	1,345.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	21,399.75
OVERALL TOTAL	-3,293.14

Balance Sheet - As of 4/15/2009	
As of 4/15/2009 (Accrual Basis)	
Account	4/15/2009 Balance
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Flexible CD account	13,932.58
Main Account	9,598.51
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	23,531.09
Other Assets	
Customer Invoices	3,238.00
TOTAL Other Assets	3,238.00
TOTAL ASSETS	26,769.09
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
LIABILITIES	
Other Liabilities	
Sales Tax	0.00
Vendor Bills	0.00
TOTAL Other Liabilities	0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	0.00
EQUITY	26,769.09
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	26,769.09

A Friendly Reminder from the Secretary

By Annette Aiken

I hope everyone is packing up their coaches and getting ready to head to Decatur for the "Coming Home Rally".

I would like to remind everyone to *please check the expiration dates on your FMCA dues*. I receive a

monthly report from FMCA of members who are not current with their dues. In turn, I will send out a friendly reminder letter.

Being a member of American Coach Chapter is contingent upon being a member of FMCA. We really don't want to lose any mem-

bers.

Safe travels to everyone and I hope to see you all in Decatur.

More Fun at the Stone Mountain Rally



By Marcia Bratsburg

Singers, dancers, comedians, vendors... were we already in Perry? No, this was the Stone Mountain pre-rally!

Forty coaches registered and many attendees started the fun early. All but 12 coaches were in before opening day and everyone started catching up with friends in the beautiful wooded

show coach with them! The ladies luncheon at the Continental Café, an old English tea room, was a big hit. And, everyone enjoyed the ice cream social and the servers, Wendy Holloway, Sheri Brewer, Robin Brock, Beverly Martin and Nancy Durrance.

We ended day two with Chris the DJ and entertainment by many of our ACC "idols". Have you heard Robin Brock sing? She is amazing! And, would you believe Chip can play the guitar and sing? It was a fun night for everyone.

Many of the members climbed

Stone Mountain, some even hiked it twice!



Mac the Fire Guy taught us all about fire safety and demonstrated how to put out a fire in our coaches. Thanks, Mac. And, Jane Lihou showed us how easy it is to keep your aluminum wheels looking like new. Thanks, Jane.

Many of the group took the tour of The World of Coke and CNN and the reports were that it was very interesting.

We gathered on the last night for a buffet dinner and music by the Dixie Stompers. A cold front had come in so everyone called it an early night.

Thanks to everyone who helped make this rally one of most fun in recent history!



setting beside Stone Mountain Lake. That made the parking easier for Don Harter and Bill Land.

Eight first time attendees, Randy's service team and Paul and Skippy from Spartan joined us for pizza the first night. Randy's team even bought a



"Have you heard Robin Brock sing? She is amazing! And, would you believe Chip can play the guitar and sing? It was a fun rally for everyone."





“A few of the members actually climbed Stone Mountain.”

“Randy and his crew were there along with Skippy and Paul from Spartan.”



“The ladies luncheon at the Continental Café, an old English tea room, was a big hit.”



Coming Home Rally, cont.

“So pack your silly hat and your tropical clothes and don’t forget your dancing shoes because the local band will have you dancing the night away.”

Center you’ll go back to the late 1800’s and early 1900’s as your tour guide recounts stories of the settlers lives and how they came to Berne to build homes and businesses. *Price for this tour, including lunch is \$52 per person.*

Exploring Auburn, Indiana

Military history buffs, veterans, and automotive lovers will be excited about this tour. First, you’ll visit the National Military History Center! The center spotlights the service and sacrifice of America’s military through a variety of museum units dedicated to Young America’s military, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Cold War, and today’s War on Terror. Bring your walking shoes; the museum complex is expansive.

You’ll also be visiting the Kruse Automotive Horsepower & Carriage Museum. Located in the same building as the National Military History Center, there is a car to interest everyone at this museum: Andy Griffith’s Packard, a car driven by Dale Earnhardt, President Hoover’s car, Buffalo Bill’s Stagecoach and the General Lee. You will enjoy just strolling and reminiscing. You’ll lunch at Mad Anthony

Brewing Company and then visit the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum, one of the “Top Ten Gearhead Destinations in the United States.” *Price for this tour, including lunch is \$68 per person.*

For the golfer’s, Jim and Doty Graham have worked with the Grey Goose Golf Club to offer you golf, including a cart and lunch for only \$40.00.

And, ladies, you’re invited to the Grey Goose Golf Club Restaurant for lunch! Register now for only \$15.

Did we mention food? Bring

your tropical wear, because it’s a “Cheeseburger in Paradise” night on Friday. Do you have a funny hat? We’re having a funny hat contest along with our DJ on Wednesday night. The “Ice Cream Cheerleaders” will be back with their Ice Cream Social on Wednesday afternoon. Those of you that were at Stone Mountain may remember the cheerleaders and their delicious ice cream sundays!

We have many vendor’s waiting to join us as well as many of our ACA friends. We’re making this a rally like no other ACC rally we’ve had!

And since we’re *coming back home*, how can we forget that we’ll be joined by your American Coach service team? Since we’ll be in town it’s not necessary to pre-register for service. You can do that when you get to Decatur and for those coaches out of warranty, labor is free!



You’ll just need to pay for parts.

Come as early as Saturday, but no earlier; the gates will be locked! Remember that we will be dry camping for the rally so early means more days with no hook-ups. Early days will be \$10.00/ day and you’ll pay for this at the registration desk on Monday!

Plan to arrive with your fresh water tank full and your

grey and black holding tanks empty. We will provide a pump out service on Friday. Please bring your jack pads as we will be parking on asphalt. Additionally, since generators will be our source of power, please respect your neighbors and bring your exhaust stacks.



Bellmont High School is located at 1000 N Adams Dr. in Decatur.

So pack your silly hat and tropical clothing, and don’t forget your dancing shoes because Chip Aiken has contracted with a local band that’ll have you dancing the night away. The DJ (who will be a surprise to some of you) and his “ACC Idol” wife, will not let you down! And I mean sitting down. They, too, will have you on the dance floor before you can say no!

You’ll want to sign up now as the tours are for a limited number. Send in your application now or register on-line at www.acc-fmca.com.



**American Coach Chapter of FMCA Pre-Rally Registration for
July 13 - 18, 2009, 2009
Decatur, Indiana**

Registration Deadline: June 30th, 2009. For those of you wishing to arrive early, you may come as early as Saturday - NO EARLIER - for \$10.00/ night, payable at registration on Monday, July 13th. If the rally sells out earlier than June 10th, you will be placed on a waiting list and notified by email. All confirmations will be by mail. To be registered for any rally, your registration and payment must be received by the deadline. Cancellations and refunds after June 30th, 2009, will be considered on an *if possible* basis.

Names of Persons Attending

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

FMCA# _____ ACC# _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone (home) _____ Phone (cell) _____

Email address _____

Coach Year _____ Model _____ Length _____

Is this your first ACC rally? Yes _____ No _____

How many ACC rallies have you attended? _____

Are you handicapped or do you have special needs? _____

Note: For handicap parking, a copy of the handicap form must be included with payment.

If you want to park near friends, you will need to arrive with them. We will not be assigning parking in advance.

Will you be caravanning to Bowling Green for the FMCA rally? You will need to be registered for the FMCA rally to caravan.

Yes _____ No _____

Important Information

- We will be dry camping and will offer a pump service on Friday.
- We will be parking at the Bellmont High School facility on asphalt so bring your jack pads.
- Since generators will be our source of power, please respect your neighbors and bring your exhaust stacks.
- We will have access to water if you need to refill.

Rally Fee	
2 people \$225.00	\$ _____
Rally Fee	
1 person \$175.00	\$ _____
Additional	
Guests \$75.00	\$ _____
Non-member	
Buddy Coach \$225.00	\$ _____
FMCA # _____	
Non-member rally fee	
2 persons \$400.00	\$ _____
Children under 16 years of age are free, except for golf and tours but, we need the number. _____	
Golf , \$40.00/person # _____ \$ _____	
Exploring Auburn, IN	
\$68.00/person # _____	\$ _____
Exploring Berne, IN	
\$52.00/person # _____	\$ _____
Ladies Luncheon	
\$15.00/person# _____	\$ _____
Total Enclosed \$ _____	
Make checks payable to: ACC-FMCA	
Mail to: Sheri Tomaszewski	
P.O. Box 17810	
Fountain Hills, AZ 85269-7810	
Or register online at www.acc-fmca.com	

Easy Recipes for Breakfast

“Breakfast is the easiest meal to make for your sweetheart on Mother’s Day.

By Jane Lihou

The easiest breakfast I know how to make is popovers. There are just five ingredients, a bowl, whisk and a muffin pan. But, when those puffed up popovers come out of the oven, everyone will go “Wow!”

Muffins and scones take a few more ingredients but are just as easy and just as impressive. Everyone who has tried this muffin recipe has kept it as a favorite.

Old Fashioned Popovers

1 tablespoon Shortening or non-stick spray coating

2 eggs

1 cup milk

1 tablespoon cooking oil

3/4 cup all-purpose flour

1/2 teaspoon salt

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Using 1/2 teaspoon for each cup, grease the bottom or sides of 6 cups of a popover or muffin pan or generously spray with non-stick coating.

In a medium mixing bowl, use a wire whisk to beat eggs; beat in milk and cooking oil. Add flour and salt; beat until the mixture is blended but still slightly lumpy. Fill the greased popover cups 3/4 full.

Bake about 40 minutes or until the tops are crisp and brown. Do not open the oven, if possible.

Turn off oven. Using a fork, prick each pop-over to let the steam out. Return to oven for five minutes. Serve hot.



Current Studded Scones

3 cups cake flour

2 tablespoons baking powder

2 tablespoons sugar

3/4 teaspoon salt

1/2 cup butter, cut into cubes

2 cups whipping cream

1 cup currents

1 egg yolk, beaten

turbinado or raw sugar for sprinkling (if desired)

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

Sift together flour, baking powder, sugar and salt.

Using your fingers or a pastry blender, work butter into flour mixture until mealy.

Add cream and currents and gently mix until dough comes together.

Turn dough onto floured board and roll out to about 3/4 inch thick round disk. Slice disk into 8 to 12 pie shaped pieces.

Carefully place pieces on buttered or parchment lined cookie sheet. Brush scones with beaten egg yolk and sprinkle with sugar, if desired. Bake for 18 to 20 minutes, until golden brown.

Serve with butter and jam if desired.



Apple Carrot Muffins

2 cups flour

1 1/2 cups sugar

1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda

2 teaspoons cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon salt

2 cups grated carrots

1 cup chopped walnuts

1 cup shredded coconut

1 cup grated Granny Smith apples, skin included (about 2 small)

3 eggs

1 cup oil

2 teaspoons vanilla

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Mix together flour, sugar, baking soda, cinnamon and salt in a large bowl. Add the carrots, walnuts, coconut and apple and mix together.

In a small bowl, beat together the eggs, oil and vanilla. Add the egg mixture to the large bowl of ingredients and stir until just combined.

Bake muffins for about 25 to 30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.

Makes 18 muffins.



New Computer Not in Your Budget?

By Jane Lihou (because Rob Carson is busy this month)

My Publisher, a photo book making program, was telling me that because I was low on memory, it would be running slower. This was right after I was required to download an upgrade in order to purchase and upload my finished book.

Next, I was downloading a book from audible.com and my laptop is telling me there are 34 minutes remaining to upload. I use *Verizon Wireless* for internet access; I was frustrated.



My computer was three years old which is probably 85 in human years but, our budget is telling us that our investments stink right now and a new computer is not on the essentials list. So, I called my son who has a good friend who is a com-

puter wonk and we set up a time for him to access my computer via the internet.

Gerald, the computer wiz, sent me an email with a link to a web site where our appointment was set and after reading the disclaimers and signing off on any liability, he took over my computer from his computer.

We had already purchased and installed a 250 GB external hard drive (\$89.00 at *Best Buy*), partially to back up documents and photos but, also to move them off my hard drive and free up some space. He moved some more stuff to the external drive, downloaded a temporary program to check something.

He said my wireless card was outdated and sent me to *Verizon* to purchase the new, faster card. It turned out to be free after the rebate and a two year resigning of the contract. My internet speed is now much faster.

He also sent me out to buy one GB of memory which he said should cost no more than \$15.00. He thought I could install it myself by removing probably just one screw from

my computer. This would take care of the memory problem. We found one GB of memory at *Best Buy* for \$17.00. The in-store *Geek Squad* said I could replace the two existing 256 megabyte cards so we bought two PNY 1GB memory cards at \$17.00 each and had them installed for \$39.00. It probably was only one screw but, \$39.00 seemed like a small price to pay considering we know nothing about the inner workings of a computer.

My computer feels like new. Internet access is much faster. I can download a book, load it on my ipod and be out the door before I have finished my coffee. *Microsoft Publisher* and *My Publisher* are both much faster. And it only cost me \$73.00 (and a \$50.00 vegan restaurant gift certificate for Gerald) - a lot less than a new computer.

The *Geek Squad* can do the same thing my son's friend did and the price seems reasonable. I saw several people bring their laptops in while we were there and, like us, people seemed pleased with their work.

“My computer feels like new. Internet access is much faster. I can download a book, load it on my ipod and be out the door before I have finished my coffee.”

Tips for Keeping it Green in Your RV

- Slow down - towing or cruising the RV at 60 MPH rather than 70 MPH can really help reduce fuel usage and thus CO emissions.
- Use propane instead of charcoal for the BBQ. Propane burns much cleaner.
- Save some gas and ride your bike to the store if you have to get a few supplies while camping.
- Open those windows and let the breeze flow through your RV (if the temperature isn't too hot) instead of running the A/C. This will save generator run time and thus reduce CO emissions.
- Most RVers are already doing this but using paper products, like plates, bowls, and cups, can help reduce landfill decomposition time, unlike plastics which can take hundreds of years to break down.



Become a Part of Something Fun!

FAQS about ACC

Q. What is the difference between the ACC (American Coach Chapter of FMCA) and ACA (American Coach Association)?

A. All members are owners of American Coach motor homes. The ACC is a chapter of FMCA (Family Motor Coach Association) and you must be a member of FMCA. The ACC has two pre-rallies a year so they may caravan and park together at the FMCA International conventions. Members of ACA do not need to belong to FMCA and are independent from any other membership group. ACA has two national rallies a year and has eleven regional chapters.

Q. Can I be a member of both ACC and ACA?

A. Yes, most American Coach owners are members of both organizations.

Q. Why do I have to be a member of FMCA in order to join the ACC?

A. FMCA by-laws require that members of a chapter also belong to the national association.

Q. What are ACC's roots?

A. The ACC was started by ACA members that wanted to park together at FMCA events and had their first rally in Gatlinburg, TN in 1993.

Q. Are the officers in ACC paid?

A. No, they are volunteers and only out-of-pocket expenses are paid.

Q. Do I have to be an original owner to have the American Coach service team work on my coach at the rallies?

A. No, qualifying service is available to all American Coach owners attending a participating rally.

American Coach Chapter of FMCA consists of members that are owners of an American Coach including American Heritage, American Eagle, American Dream, American Tradition and Limited Motor Homes.

We are the only American Coach chapter of FMCA and provide our members with camaraderie with other American Coach owners. Our primary goals are to foster good relations with the American Coach manufacturing and servicing facility. We bring its management, their technicians and coach owners together.



We meet twice a year, immediately preceding each of the two international FMCA rallies. The American Coach Service Team joins us at our rallies to perform repairs on our coaches. One or more American Coach dealers also join us to display the latest coaches, hopefully sell a few,

and participate in the rallies. There is a golf tournament, a tour of nearby points of interest, many cocktail hours, dinners, pizza nights and more.

We print a quarterly newsletter with the upcoming rally information and highlights of our previous rallies. This newsletter is also available online. Once you are a member of ACC, you will be able to join the American Coach Yahoo group where you will find valuable information about your coach and be able to ask questions about your coach. This is a fun group of American Coach owners and you will be glad you joined us.



New Member Application

To be eligible for membership in the American Coach Chapter, you must first be a member in good standing of the FMCA. You can join FMCA online at www.fmca.com or call 800-543-3622. You must also own at least a one third interest in an American Coach Heritage, American Coach Eagle, American Coach Dream, American Coach Tradition or a Limited Motor Coach.

Have you ever been a member of ACC? Yes ____ NO ____ If yes, what was your member # _____

Full Name (for database) _____

Co-Pilot's full name (for database) _____

First Name: _____ First Name: _____
(For your name badge) (For your name badge)

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Coach: _____ Year: _____ Length of Coach: _____ # Slides: _____
(Heritage, Eagle, Dream, Tradition, Limited)

FMCA Member #: _____ You must be a member of FMCA to join ACC.

You can join FMCA online at www.fmca.com or call 800-543-3622.

Renewal and Change of Address Form

Check your address label. If the date has passed you are behind on your dues. Dues are \$12.00 per year. You may pay more than one year at a time. You may pay your dues and make all the above changes at fmca.com and acc-fmca.com.

ACC member # _____ FMCA member # _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Co-Pilot Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Coach / Year _____

To renew an expired membership, change your address, phone number or e-mail address, fill out the form , enclose your check and mail to: American Coach Chapter of FMCA

Future American Coach Rallies

ACC Rally, July 13—19, 2009, Decatur, Indiana

Caravan to FMCA Rally in Bowling Green Ohio, July 20 –24, 2009

ACA Rallies

Spring Rally, May 18 - 23, 2009, Texarkana, USA

Fall Rally, Sept. 10 - 15, 2009, Columbus OH

Note: We are now accepting ads for the ACC newsletter. E-mail or call Chip Aiken for rates.

Wendy Holloway, Membership Chairperson
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Lake Havasu, AZ 86406