



# ALPINE COACH ASSOCIATION

March 2014

## A View from the Summit

### ACA HERITAGE RALLY – New Braunfels, Texas

October 30 – November 6, 2013



Jan Sandmire, Host  
(Where is Dean?)

Once again, we were all charmed and totally in awe of the “over the top” rally hosted by Jan and Dean Sandmire. Initially, they were reluctant to stage another rally at the same campground with a similar venue as three years prior – but lucky for us they changed their minds!

The building provided for our indoor get-togethers was buzzing from the start at the arrival day Tex-Mex snack/meet/greet social evening to the morning kaffeeklatsches with coffee and local pastries. We had a deluge of rain the first night and woke up to find the Guadalupe River several feet higher than when we retired. Fortunately, the Lazy L & L Campground is high above the river. Others in the area did not fare as well; River Road was closed for a time. (We did have to wait a bit for our morning donuts because water was running over the road to Sweeties and was closed for a few hours!) Thursday night was full of fun, with a Halloween Hat Party, a great live band and lots of “two-stepping”. Scrumptious food, great Texas band, imaginative hats: among them a dude with a big Cowboy hat sporting a mullet hairstyle, and a flamingo perched upon the head of one party animal!



Happy Rally  
Participants

Friday was a free day for golfing, walking, and the opening night of Wursthfest. Beer, German food, and Alex Meisner! What else needs to be said!

Saturday included various activities - walks over the Canyon Dam, great local barbecues, visits to local wineries, market day. That evening we caravanned to Tejas Steakhouse & Rodeo - wonderful food cooked especially for our group; fun rodeo with mutton busting (little tykes trying to ride sheep across the arena), roping, barrel racing, bull riding; speaking of bull riding, one of our own did herself proud on the mechanical bull - yay Patti!



Sunday and Monday were free days catching up on laundry, more golf, visiting, Wursthfest (taking in the ethnic food and oompah band, with lots of cheering and clapping!), sampling wine and local restaurants, and just plain loafing!

Tuesday we enjoyed a catered fish fry, live band, and a last chance to two-step Wonderful food and another great live band who closed with the "Chicken Dance" per request!

Wednesday we said farewell at the final kaffeeklatsch. We all enjoyed daytime explorations on our own or with friends: a walk in New Braunfels, stopping at historic Henne's Hardware, lunch where Gebhardt Brand Chili Powder was invented, visiting the historic district of Gruene, the Gristmill restaurant, downtown Wimberley and the Glassworks, Natural Bridge Caverns, The Salt Lick, Spec's, the list goes on. The travel log Jan put together had so many things to do that we just may have to return to see the rest!

A huge THANK YOU to Jan and Dean for a memorable time!

### More Happy Rally Participants



Article Contributors - Jan Schenefeld and Wilma Egg

## LAKE HAVASU BALLOON RALLY Lake Havasu City, Arizona January 16 - 20, 2014

The Refuge Golf and Country Club was an idyllic setting for the Lake Havasu Balloon Rally and the weather was beautiful. Our hosts Renee (and Gary) and Beth (and Norm) made us all feel welcome and saw to every detail to make our rally a memorable one. By the way, Congratulations to Renee on becoming a published author! (The Good Deed, on Amazon! I've read it, I'm a fan! Even have an autographed copy!)

View of Club House (site of our Saturday night dinner) and Pool/Patio area (site of our Welcome Party and Fiesta Buffet)



Renee Perault and Beth Cannon, Hosts

Arrival day included registration and lots of hugs and exclamations of “oh, so good to see you again, I was hoping you would be here!” That evening we enjoyed a delicious (and plentiful) Fiesta Buffet at the pool/patio area. Friday morning started early (7 am!) as we boarded charter buses and headed to breakfast and the Balloon Rally. Once again the food was delicious and plentiful. But the best part was that the restaurant was located next to the London Bridge. Robert McCullough (of chainsaw fame) and his partner purchased the bridge from the City of London for \$2.5 million in 1968. The bridge was disassembled, and the marked stones were shipped to Lake Havasu City and reassembled for another \$7 million. The Bridge opened on October 5, 1971.



Fiesta Buffet

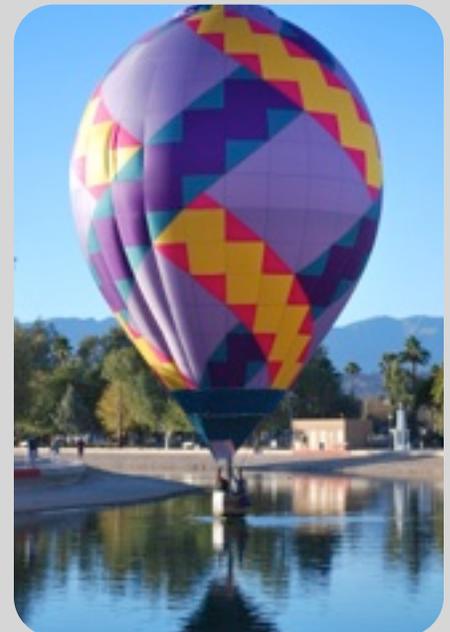
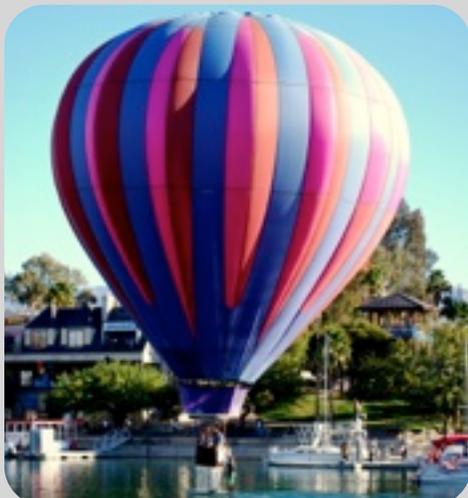


Breakfast Buffet



London Bridge

Before boarding the bus to head to the launch field, we were treated to a couple of balloons doing touch downs on the water near the London Bridge. What a great experience! And what a variety of balloons at the launch field!





After a long day of viewing balloons, we were treated to a Sock Hop and Burger Bar. The owner, his wife and a few of his employees also performed a number of songs and dances. Saturday we were on our own, however a number of us meet at the clubhouse for dinner. Sunday was another relaxing day concluding with a wine/cheese party in the evening. Monday morning we got up early, had donuts and said our good-byes. Many of us will meet again in Quartzsite.

Good Job, Renee & Beth!!



Our entertainment!

# “Get Together in Our Spot” Quartzsite, Arizona January 20 – 25, 2014

Thanks to Mary Langord for “saving” our spot at Quartzsite. Approximately 40 to 50 coaches found their way to Quartzsite. There was no set schedule, but activities included a No Host Happy Hour on Monday and a famous ACA Potluck on Tuesday. Engineer Mike also facilitated a Gearhead Session on Wednesday with representatives from Redlands, Koni Shocks, K&N Filters and HWH. (See notes from Gearhead Session on Pages 7 and 8) The weather cooperated, the Big Tent was - well the Big Tent, and a good time was had by all. Thanks, Mary!



Monday Happy Hour



Delicious Pot Luck



Beautiful Desert Sky

Photo Contributor Matt Moniz

# Pre-Rally to FMCA Perry Family Reunion Ft. Benning, Georgia

March 10 - 15, 2014

Submitted by Sandy Munsil, Photos by Tom Cook



Jim & Linda Fivian  
Terrific Hosts

Another great rally hosted by Linda & Jim Fivian. This is our third rally at Fort Benning, Georgia, and the best yet. Twenty-three coaches gathered at the Uchee Creek Campground March 10<sup>th</sup> thru the 14<sup>th</sup>. We started our rally with a welcome picnic, afterwards Jim told us about the upcoming events.

We traveled to the base for an airborne orientation. An army ranger and airborne instructor told us about what these young men and women go through to graduate airborne school. In the afternoon most of us went to Fryar Field to watch the cadets jump out of some really big planes. The cadets have to complete five jumps to graduate. The group was able to attend a graduation ceremony for the airborne cadets. After the graduation, we had lunch in the mess hall surrounded by Army, Navy, and Marine cadets.

We had docent led tours through the Infantry Museum, which included an Imax movie (We the People) and lunch, and on another day we visited a Naval Civil War Museum. Our last night in Fort Benning, we had dinner in what used to be the Officers Club. A big THANK YOU to Linda & Jim again for arranging this great rally.



New ACA Members  
Margaret & George Punches



Part of the ACA Gang at Ft. Benning

# Gearhead Session Quartzsite, AZ

January 22, 2014

Mike Fleming

Engineer Mike began by introducing Keith Shoemaker (Redlands Truck and RV, RV repair in Redlands, CA), Justin McCoy (Koni Shocks), Dino Marutsos (K&N Engineering, aftermarket air filters) and Paul Maddox (HWH). Keith handed out brochures with services available at Redlands. They have 2 spaces with 50 amp service, a laundry and waiting room. Justin related that Koni Shocks started in the 1940s with shocks for racing vehicles, big trucks and military vehicles. To test your



shocks, get a temperature gun, hit the shock, if the temperature is 5-10 degrees hotter than the metal around it, the shock is working. Justin stated that a stiffer shock is not better. With a stiff shock you can tell heads from tails on a dime. With a soft shock you will get a ride like a Cadillac, but will bounce on the big bumps. Dino spoke next about air filters developed by K&N. The filter is washable/re-usable and our motorhomes require no modifications to use this filter. It is a dry filter and according to Dino provides a balance of filtration efficiency and performance flow. Paul explained that the easiest way

to get help from HWH was by email (include your name, address, phone number, VIN # of your coach and your date of purchase). If it is a big problem, someone will call within 1-2 days. He explained that the company gets over 200 calls per day and each call last 30-45 minutes. If you haven't heard from someone within 2-3 weeks call back. Paul also suggested checking the Frequently Asked Questions section of their website ([www.hwh.com](http://www.hwh.com)) before calling. The HWH service manual and operating manual are both available for download. A parts manual is also available on the website. And most importantly know what system you have and do some diagnostics before you call. He also explained that there is no maintenance on HWH jacks - spray with WD40 when the jacks are down and wipe it off. For the spring - use penetrating oil, drive for a day or two and wipe off. Do this about once a year. Paul posts on iRV2.com as AZPETE, and you can send him a Private Message (PM) with any technical questions.

Always a good turnout for the Gearhead Session



Engineer Mike

Questions after the presentations included:

- ❖ What is the general life of a shock?
  - ❖ At least 3 years, depends on the number of miles driven and the type of roads you've driven on.
- ❖ What is the KONI part number for the front (long) and rear (short) shocks?
  - ❖ 8805-1021 (front), 8805-1022 (rear)
- ❖ Is tire bounce a shock problem?
  - ❖ Check for cupping in the middle of the tire. If all other things are OK, then not a shock problem.
- ❖ What do you use to wash the filter?
  - ❖ Spray on mild water with a small amount of detergent, wait and rinse
- ❖ What supplements would you add to fuel tanks?
  - ❖ When parking for 6 months - full fuel tank. Keith doesn't want to carry a case of additives. No proof that it helps. Strictly a personal opinion.
  - ❖ Engineer Mike - use a water scavenging additive for "water in fuel" indicator.

Engineer Mike emphasized that with any problems you are having that may be electrical, start by checking the connections before replacing parts. Mike also discussed the care of your batteries. He said if you are having lots of corrosion, by putting approximately 2 ounces of mineral oil (on top of corrosion) in each cell will extend the life of a flooded electrolyte battery (doesn't work w/ maintenance free or AGM types). There is no need for this maintenance if you have a watering system and your batteries are working OK.

Some coach owners were having trouble with the "flexible" drain hose connecting the kitchen slide waste plumbing to the fixed plumbing in the basement. Mike recommended changing the last 24" of the hose to more flexible swimming pool cleaning hose which is available at Lowe's and Home Depot. Also use 3M 5200 sticky stuff to fill the spiral grooves in the outside of the hose where you have couplings to mate to.

Someone asked about the foam on the compartment doors. Mike recommended taking the old foam off, clean the area and replace with new foam.

Engineer Mike also has the following items available for anyone interested:

- ❖ Steering bracket kits for 2004 and newer Alpines (\$300)
- ❖ Heavy duty carbon water filters (\$17)
- ❖ Large format schematics for 2004 and newer Alpines (\$25),  
for pre-2004 coaches (\$10)



May 2014

**NO WACA ROUND-UP  
ANNUAL MEETING 2014**

**LET 'ER LOOSE & HIT THE ROAD  
WILDHORSE CASINO  
PENDLETON, OREGON  
MAY 14 - 18**

**Important Rally Information**

Rally Cost

Rally costs are shared among the coaches that attend. Because we do not know how many coaches will attend, it is too early to come up with an accurate cost. At this time we will only be collecting a \$50 deposit. You will receive an email prior to the rally with the balance owed. It will be due and payable upon arrival. Estimated cost is projected to be \$120 to \$140 per coach (2 people) half that for 1 person. Coaches will pay for their own RV site upon arrival. We think the cost will closer to the lower end.

RV Site Reservations

We thought it would be nice if you could pick you own RV site, after all you know your requirements better than we do. 35 Sites have been blocked for us. You will require a Booking Id to make reservations. After we receive your registration form we will send you an email with the Booking Id, Phone Number and Map showing which sites are blocked for us. **PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT TO MAKE YOUR SITE RESERVATION UNTL YOU HAVE REGISTERED FOR THIS RALLY AND RECEIVED THE EMAIL WITH THE BOOKING ID.** 50amp and pull through sites are limited so register for the rally early and get your pick. The Rally Tent will be located in the Event Area as shown on the site map.

RV Site Cost

Wednesday & Thursday

50Amp \$27.27

30Amp \$23.40

Friday & Saturday

50Amp \$33.25

30Amp \$28.34

Future Rallies

**NO WACA ROUND-UP  
ANNUAL MEETING 2014**

**LET 'ER LOOSE & HIT THE ROAD**

**WILDHORSE CASINO  
PENDLETON, OREGON  
MAY 14 - 18**

WAGONMASTERS: TOM & SUE KUNST      DAVE & COLLEEN MARA  
509-899-3900      206-283-2119  
TOMKUNST@CHARTER.NET      MARACV@AOL.COM

LARRY & RITA LEWIS      ED & DIANE DOERN  
253-332-5378      425-418-8839  
RIVERHOUSE750@FRONTIER.COM      DOERNEA@AOL.COM

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY: APRIL 15, 2014

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NORTHWEST ALPINE  
COACH ASSOCIATION

MAIL CHECK & REGISTRATION TO: COLLEEN MARA  
3308 39<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE W  
SEATTLE WA, 98199

CUT HERE AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK

NO WACA ROUND-UP ~ PENDLETON, OREGON ~ MAY 14-18, 2014

NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

LENGTH OF COACH: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PERSONS ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_

NO WACA MEMBER: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

DEPOSIT PER COACH \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

NON-NO WACA PER COACH \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

REQUESTS FOR CANCELLATION MUST BE MADE PRIOR TO MAY 20<sup>TH</sup>  
NO WACA MEMBERS HAVE PRIORITY UNTIL MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>

## August 2014

### ACA PRE-RALLY to FMCA Redman Family Reunion Portland, Oregon AUGUST 7-11, 2014

There are only 40 spaces available for this pre-rally, so let us know ASAP to reserve your spot!

Have you visited the northwest? If no, you are in for a wonderful experience! If yes, you are sure to enjoy a return and adventure in the Portland area!

Here are some highlights:

- On Thursday, our first night, Guaranty will sponsor a light supper with wine, beer and cheese, at Portland/Fairview RV Park, located east of Portland, near Troutdale.
- Roadmaster facilities are located just across the Columbia River in Vancouver, WA. On Friday morning, after pastries, we will tour their facilities and enjoy lunch. Nearby Pendleton Wool Mills are also on the list for a tour, or a Portland destination to be determined.
- Saturday, after pastries, is a free day, but probably not nearly enough time to explore all the Portland area has to offer. There are over 10,000 acres of public gardens (especially Rose, Chinese and Japanese gardens), farmer's markets will be at their best and Saturday Market (since 1974, the longest running arts & crafts fair in USA) has 250 vendors. There is also the Pittock Mansion with breathtaking views, Powell's Books, Columbia River Tours, OMSI with the new Oregon Rail Heritage Center, etc. etc.!! Possibly meet up for dinner at a downtown restaurant—suggestions welcome!
- Sunday we are planning brunch at Multnomah Falls, second highest falls in the USA. For your return, you will want to explore the Columbia River Gorge via Highway 30. Built in 1916, the Historic Columbia River Highway has the greatest concentration of waterfalls in America. Sunday night we will review our caravan to Redmond and provide pizza; you are welcome to bring a salad or dessert.
- Monday morning we will be on our way to Redmond, meeting at a school on the north side of town (and enjoying the box lunches we plan to provide). We will caravan to the Fairgrounds to park together in the electric area. There will be a volunteer meeting in the afternoon where we will be advised on driving the golf carts.
- By the way, Portland has more restaurants per capita than any other city in the USA behind San Francisco. We will try their fare with breakfast pastries, wine, beer, cheeses, appetizers, and pizza, plus a box lunch to take with you when you leave.

Questions? Contact Vic & Willy Egg 201-370-8041 [ywe734@gmail.com](mailto:ywe734@gmail.com) or Tom & Nancy Polk 530-515-8661 [tomgorving@gmail.com](mailto:tomgorving@gmail.com).

**ALPINE COACH ASSOCIATION PRE RALLY FAIRVIEW, OR  
Portland/Fairview RV Park, 21401 NE Sandy Blvd, Fairview, OR 97024  
AUGUST 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 2014**

**Deadline to register May 1, 2014 (Only 40 spaces available)**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**ACA # \_\_\_\_\_ FMCA # \_\_\_\_\_**

(PLEASE PRINT)

**Pilot Full Name \_\_\_\_\_**

**Co-Pilot Full Name \_\_\_\_\_**

**Address \_\_\_\_\_**

**Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_**

**Email \_\_\_\_\_**

**Coach Length \_\_\_\_\_ No. of slides \_\_\_\_\_**

**Pre Rally Fees include 4 nights camping w/full hook-ups, 2 mornings of coffee & goodies, 1 catered brunch, 2 catered lunches, 2 catered dinners, and Wine & Cheese Party**

**2 people/coach \$298 \_\_\_\_\_ Non-ACA Members add \$50 per coach**

**1 person/coach \$260 \_\_\_\_\_ Or join ACA Initial fee \$30 + \$15 dues**

**Each extra person \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ ACA member must pay guest's fees**

**Will you be caravanning to Redmond FMCA? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, do you want to be a volunteer Golf Cart driver? Pilot: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Co-Pilot: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please make check payable to: Alpine Coach Association.**

**Mail to: Tom Polk, 11303 Sonora Trail, Redding, CA 96003**

**Questions? Contact Vic & Willy Egg 201-370-8041 [vwe734@gmail.com](mailto:vwe734@gmail.com)**

**or Tom & Nancy Polk 530-515-8661 [tomgorving@gmail.com](mailto:tomgorving@gmail.com)**

Registration Form

## September/October 2014

ACA HERITAGE RALLY  
SEPTEMBER 26 TO OCTOBER 4, 2014

America's Best Campground  
499 Buena Vista Road  
Branson, MO 65616  
417-336-4399  
[www.abc-branson.com](http://www.abc-branson.com)



Louie and Linda Burch will host this Rally and they have a fun schedule lined up for everyone. Registration form on Page 14.

If you are interested in attending a rally, check out the Alpine Coach Association website ([www.alpinecoachassociation.com](http://www.alpinecoachassociation.com)) for a registration form or email the rally hosts directly.

### Looking for an Alpine Club Near You?

<b>ACE</b>	East Coast	Peggy Bacome, 731-935-2303 <a href="mailto:pjbacome@aol.com">pjbacome@aol.com</a>
<b>NorCal</b>	Northern California Northern Nevada	Steve Picha, 925-339-3933 <a href="mailto:barkley335@yahoo.com">barkley335@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Fulltimers</b>		Maureen Dahl, 425-466-1445 <a href="mailto:wandern.two@verizon.net">wandern.two@verizon.net</a>
<b>NoWACA</b>	Washington, Oregon Idaho, Montana	Terry McGuire, 509-952-7880 <a href="mailto:terry_4444@hotmail.com">terry_4444@hotmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.NoWACA.com">http://www.NoWACA.com</a>
<b>SoCal</b>	Southern California Southern Nevada	Gail Stacy, 702-858-0400 <a href="mailto:gjstacy@cox.net">gjstacy@cox.net</a>
<b>Central States</b>		Ray Schemanske, 734-474-0762 <a href="mailto:cschmaske@yahoo.com">cschmaske@yahoo.com</a>

**ACA HERITAGE RALLY**  
**SEPTEMBER 26 TO OCTOBER 4, 2014**  
**Return by AUGUST 25, 2014**

**NO REFUNDS FOR CANCELLATIONS AFTER AUGUST 26, 2014**

America's Best Campground  
 499 Buena Vista Road, Branson, MO 65616  
 417-336-4399, [www.abc-branson.com](http://www.abc-branson.com)

ACA # \_\_\_\_\_ FMCA # \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Coach \_\_\_\_\_

First rally? Y N

Please indicate if you require Special Needs / Parking Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Last Name First Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Last Name First Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address City State Zip

Cell phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**RALLY FEE:** \_\_\_ \$320.00 ACA Members (2 people in coach)  
 \_\_\_ \$250.00 ACA Member (1 person in coach)  
 \_\_\_ \$370.00 Non-ACA Members (2 people in coach) Must be paid  
 by ACA Member (**Payment for a non ACA member  
 must be made by an ACA Member**)

**TOTAL** \$\_\_\_\_\_ **INCLUDED:** 6 nights camping, 1 Breakfast, 1 Cowboy Dinner  
 followed by Hillbilly Party, Arrival evening Hors D'oeuvres, 2 mornings w/Cinnamon  
 rolls.

**WE WILL MAKE THE CAMPSITE RESERVATION FOR THE NIGHTS OF THE RALLY.  
 IF YOU WANT TO ARRIVE EARLY OR LEAVE LATE, CONTACT THE  
 CAMPGROUND DIRECTLY TO PAY FOR YOUR EXTRA NIGHTS.**

ARRIVAL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAIL COMPLETED FORM, along with a **check payable to ACA  
 Rallies** to:

**LOUIS BURCH**  
**7915 Willow Ridge Dr.**  
**Justin, TX 76247**

## Welcome to Our New Members

George and Margaret Punches  
 Bob and Ann Roenicke  
 Howard and Gail Dahl  
 Rick and Donna LaShance  
 James and Sandra Handy  
 Don and Sandy Thompson  
 Michael and Donna Kuper

Robert Louiso and Linda Magee  
 Todd and Janet Legg  
 Jeff and Johanna Mann  
 Larry and Lorna Kenney  
 Dudley and Melanie Haycraft  
 Mark and Carol Struckert

### REMINDER:

All ACA members must be members in good standing of the FMCA.

Note: by being a member of FMCA in good standing, we are in compliance with their insurance liability.

## Need to Contact a Board Member?

Name	Board Position	Cell Phone	Email
Tom Cook	President	231-920-2606	<a href="mailto:rtcook@acegroup.cc">rtcook@acegroup.cc</a>
Carol Hinkley	1st Vice President	503-382-7573	<a href="mailto:carolhinkley@msn.com">carolhinkley@msn.com</a>
Wilma Egg	Secretary	201-370-8041	<a href="mailto:vwe734@gmail.com">vwe734@gmail.com</a>
Debbie Bragg	Treasurer	817-994-3998	<a href="mailto:dbragg@swbell.net">dbragg@swbell.net</a>
Mike Morris	Membership Director	951-553-5464	<a href="mailto:mike.acamd@gmail.com">mike.acamd@gmail.com</a>
Tris Swan	FMCA National Director	714-357-0505	<a href="mailto:swansnest2@verizon.net">swansnest2@verizon.net</a>
Frank Halasz	Alternate FMCA Director		<a href="mailto:fhalasz@swcp.com">fhalasz@swcp.com</a>
Josie Pellegrino	Newsletter Editor	512-740-432	<a href="mailto:jp4rving@gmail.com">jp4rving@gmail.com</a>

# From Our President - Tom Cook

The very cold weather is still occurring in Michigan and much of the north. Fortunately we have not been there since January 8, 2014. It was -8 degrees when we left. Janice had to scrape frost off the inside of our windshield as I drove until we go to southern Ohio. We have been traveling in Florida, Alabama & Georgia since.

We attended the Tampa Super Show with 15 other Alpines. This is a very nice venue, should you be in the Tampa, FL area in January. We kept going south hoping to get warmer weather, but the weather remained cooler than normal in Florida this year. Following many stops in Florida, including a visit to the Navy Seal Museum in Ft. Pierce, we traveled to Fort Benning, GA and met up with 22 other ACA Members where Jim & Linda Fivian planned an exceptional rally. We got to observe the troops parachuting, docent led tour of the Infantry Museum, the Airborne Orientation, tour of the base, docent led tour of the "Company Street" (WW II), the Airborne Graduation, and the Civil War Naval Museum. From there we drove to our gathering spot in Fort Valley, GA to caravan into the FMCA Perry, GA rally.



Our own ACA members, Jim & Sandy Munsil, receiving their free 27 day Fantasy Tour trip they won at the Perry FMCA Rally.

## Future ACA Rallies:

The ACA Pre-Rally to be held in Portland, OR, August 7-11, 2014 is hosted by Tom & Nancy Polk and Vic & Willy Egg. From this Pre-Rally they will go to the Redmond, OR FMCA International Rally, August 11-16, 2014. The caravan into Redmond is a couple days early to allow volunteers to attend their organizing meetings. Remember, we need volunteers to drive the golf carts to help Fred Royce meet his challenge to supply all the drivers needed for the carts in Redmond.

August 27, 2014 we will gather in Mackinaw City, MI for a SPOT Rally to spend the Labor Day weekend having fun and walking the Mackinaw Bridge. Some will stay a bit longer to observe the parade of 800+ antique tractors cross the Bridge.

The ACA Heritage Rally will be held September 26, 2014 to October 4, 2014 in Branson, MO at America's Best Campground. Louie and Linda Burch will host this Rally and they have a fun schedule lined for everyone. Registration forms will be available in April, 2014.

Remember, have fun and travel safe.

# Wilma Egg - Secretary

The last few months have been full of time spent with ACA friends, plus a few repairs to our Alpine:

The beginning of December we spent a couple of weeks at Lazy Days RV Park, Tucson, AZ, which by the way was bought out by KOA about halfway through our stay. There are definitely going to be some changes, but they assured everyone they would all be for the best . . . we shall see! Then we were off to North Palm Springs, CA to store our coach by Basil and Sue Shannon while we flew to Bend, OR for the holidays. They are a great taxi service, and we most definitely enjoyed their company for a few days, plus a tour to see “Marilyn Monroe” from the bottom up!

From there we were off to Indio, CA for the western FMCA rally with So-Cal. As always, Gail Stacey did a super job of organizing for overnight at the Casino, caravan to the fairgrounds, and volunteering. A fun group, we enjoyed their informal get-togethers, and, as usual, left a few bucks behind when Vic purchased Road King shocks. Then off we drove to Lake Havasu, AZ for a few days at Havasu RV Resort where several Alpine owners were parked. Vic spent two days replacing the lower radiator hose, only to realize the leak was coming from the lower transmission coolant line. We used Joe’s Auto RV & Truck Repair for that service and they were great. Thanks to Norm Cannon for the recommendation!

The Balloon Festival Rally was terrific, start to finish! It was The Refuge’s first rally, and they were constantly trying to please everyone. The food was “top shelf” from Mexican night with spectacular views, to breakfast by the Lake, to burgers and sundaes, to prime rib the last night—Yum! I had a blast taking photos, leaving the resort every morning to catch the rising balloons over the lake and dipping down onto the water. If you haven’t been to The Refuge, give it a try, it is well-worth the cost, especially for golfers! Thanks to the Beth, Norm, Renee and Gary for a fun event!

We stopped at the ACA unofficial Quartzsite Rally for one night, even got to the tents in the afternoon and had time to catch up with ACA friends. More RV work as Orman Claxton serviced our Hydra Hot, replacing a motor and stainless steel flame chamber; great service! Then off to San Antonio (Schertz) TX, via Willcox, AZ and Fort Stockton, TX and cold weather . . . we stayed an extra night visiting with Paul and Dale Sullivan due to an ice storm. Next day we were en route to Beaumont, TX when we discovered another leak, not again! This time synthetic transmission fluid was leaking, which only comes in 50 gal. drums; but, Vic found a shop that sold him enough to get us to Freightliner in Beaumont, TX. We parked in their driveway overnight, even had an electric hook-up (bribed the security guard with coffee and my bread pudding). They are open on Sunday, confirmed problem was upper hydraulic hose to the transmission, had it made first thing Monday morning and we were off by noon. Met another Alpine owner while there, Les and Carole Wright, the ham radio guy.

We drove from Beaumont, TX to Milton, FL and on to Ocala, FL in record time, with one of those arctic storms following right behind us. Now it was the end of January and we were very happy to be with the Cooks and the Munsils, past the cold weather! Plus, Jim, Tom and Vic installed a new Magnum inverter in our coach.

Weir Lake, FL  
Vic Egg,  
Cooks &  
Munsils



St. Augustine, FL  
Driving on the  
Beach



Florida has been the usual busy time for us, catching up with our NJ friends that have all retired to the sunshine. We spent a week at St. Augustine, FL to take the walking tour, plus getting four National Park stamps for my book, and driving our Jeep on the beach. The hotels built by Flagler are amazing, such a decadent time in our history. While in Tampa area, we enjoyed a visit with ACE friends, the Bacomes and Dees at Polk City. Our daughter and grandson flew to Orlando from Bend, OR for a weekend; we saw the Manatees, walked the beach at Fort DeSoto, and visited LegoLand. Now we are at Vero Beach for a week, may get to visit with some ACE friends, and then head up to Georgia for the Pre-Rally at Fort Benning and FMCA at Perry – Hope to see you there!!

If you have plans to be in the northwest this summer, please consider the Pre-Rally at Portland, OR, August 7-11 and the FMCA at Redmond, OR where we will have an opportunity to volunteer to drive the golf carts! Give me a call if you have any questions.

## Debbie Bragg - Treasurer



Hello from cold and rainy Georgia. I guess I shouldn't whine because we did have a few sunny days about a week ago. The Fort Benning rally was awesome thanks to our rally hosts, Jim & Linda Fivian and Tom and Janice Cook. The photo shown of me is during our tour of "Company Street" and the WWII barracks and supply depot. I am wearing a helmet like the one issued to our GI's.

Prior to Fort Benning, Jim and I spent a wonderful two months in mostly sunny Florida visiting many friends and places we had never been before. We are really looking forward to going back there again.

As of 2/28/2014 our Rally account has \$26,738.69 and the Membership account has \$24,116.76.

There are many rallies planned for the rest of the year, so please come

## Mike Morris - Membership Director

It has been a busy January, February and March for ACA membership renewals as well as new members. As of April 1<sup>st</sup> we have 312 paid members, including 11 new members for 2014. Many members have opted to pay for multiple years, some through 2018!!

Since the renewal checks have slowed down to a trickle, I am in the process of finalizing the new member roster for 2014. The roster will be sent via email to all paid members and will be in the new format. Members who have paid the additional \$25.00 for our mailing service will receive printed copies by USPS.



In addition to the member roster in alphabetical order, a new roster will be available listing members by State. You might be surprised to see an ACA member in your same town or close by. We have members from Alaska to Florida, California to Connecticut and Minnesota to Texas.

OK now here are a couple of Trivia questions for you. Which State has the largest number of registered Alpine Coach members? How many States are represented in the new member roster? If you guessed California for the first question you are right. Ninety-five (95) members list a California address and the number of States represented is thirty-six (36).

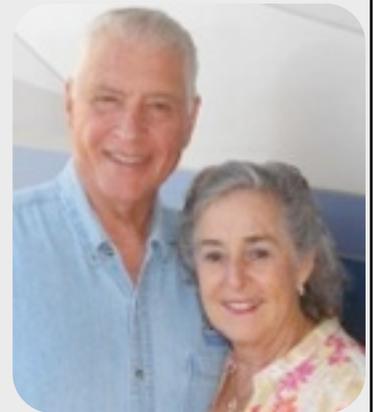
Mary Ellen, Rosie and I are making plans to head back to the California coast in late May to escape the heat of Nevada desert. We will return to our home in Pahrump, NV sometime in the September/October timeframe or when the temperatures get back into the low 80's. Have a wonderful and safe spring as you hit the open road.

Safe Travels,

Mike, Mary Ellen and Rosie ^.^

## National FMCA Director - Tris Swan

Happy Spring where ever you are! In Southern California, we did not have much of a winter. We had one rain storm here and daytime temperatures were often in the 80s. But now that Spring has arrived March 20<sup>th</sup>, we are getting some cool weather! I am not complaining! Our daughter in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina is preparing for freezing temperatures again for the next 3 days. And our son in Oregon is getting the usual constant rain there in the Portland area! We have actually worked in the garden all winter and still have Butternut Squash trying to take over our yard and we picked 7 cucumbers this weekend – with the blueberries already getting their beautiful color, we picked 6 big, sweet juicy ones today! These pictures show one of the squash vines we have cut back 3 times ....



The last week of January we made our annual Guest Helper's Missions trip to Mexico. We flew to Guadalajara with nine of our team members and then drove 3 ½ hours North West to Tepic to work with a group of Indians in a Huichol Village called Alta Loma, where we built them 26 cement ecological ovens.



This primitive Colony consisted of 35 family units with houses built up the side of a mountain. They now have stoves where they can cook their tortillas and beans everyday with just one piece of wood instead of having to use many pieces of wood in an open fire. Another man and I did wood working to build them two pulpits for their church in the week we were there. Here are some pictures of the Villagers and the basic stove ...



#### [Now for FMCA News –](#)

Membership is finally gaining in numbers – In January we saw a gain of 148 new members, but in February there was only a gain of 5 new members – making a total number of members at 77,144. I have not been able to get the official number of Registrations for the Perry Georgia Reunion that just ended but they were expecting around 2,500 coaches.

See the information below regarding RV Insurance offered by FMCA.

Start planning NOW to go to the Redmond Convention, August 13-16, 2014 and to the ACA Pre-Rally in Portland, August 7-11. Go to the FMCA website to sign-up before June 23 for the Early-Bird Registration fee of \$165 and the additional electric for \$175. We are volunteering to be Golf Cart Drivers this year. Being involved as Volunteers is a “hoot” and you really do have more fun! Everyone is being asked with their registration this year if they would like to Volunteer – so list the Golf Cart Driver position!

That is about it for this Newsletter! Wishing you safe travels where ever you roam this year.

# FMCA RV Insurance for Motorhome Owners

[FMCA RV Insurance](#) is powered by the FMCA Coalition, a group of RV specialists with decades of combined experience in the RV industry. No longer will RV owners in the United States be locked into one carrier option. With FMCA RV Insurance, members can select from the industry's top RV underwriters and receive the nation's best rates.

FMCA RV Insurance can provide eligible FMCA members who purchase new motorhomes multiple total loss replacement methods to fit their lifestyle. FMCA RV Insurance picks up where ordinary auto policies stop. FMCA RV insurance specialists know what it takes to maintain and repair RVs and offer the types of coverage options that RV owners need.

FMCA RV Insurance policies offer the kind of protection that only can be found with a specialty RV insurance company.

As an FMCA Member You'll Receive:

- FMCA Member Discount
- Coverage by multiple RV specialty carriers
- Annual policy reviews and rate comparisons upon request
- Multiple RV and auto package options
- Select RV specialty coverages

For more information about standard coverage, available specialty coverages, and to get a quote, visit [www.fmcarvinsurance.com](http://www.fmcarvinsurance.com).

View from Clubhouse at  
The Refuge, Lake  
Havasu, overlooking the  
pool and golf course.  
Alpines have arrived!



# Josie Pellegrino - Newsletter Editor

Happy Spring! I hope y'all are someplace warm. Jack and I spent the holidays with our daughter in Texas and then traveled to Lake Havasu for the Balloon Rally (great job, Renee and Beth!). And since we are now officially full-timers, we were able to head on down to Quartzsite for our unofficial rally (thanks for saving our spot, Mary!) After Quartzsite we visited with friends in Arizona and then headed to Las Vegas for what we thought would be a short stay. However, the weather has been great here and we can't seem to leave. Have been doing the usual touristy things while here. And even though you think that's a halo over my head in the picture, it really is the new road over the Hoover Dam. Jack and I took the Dam tour (hehe) and what a great experience! We highly recommend it! Have also been to Red Rock Canyon just outside of the City, and of course have been down on the Strip to see all the new hotels. All I can say is WOW!



**Newsletter Business:** The ACA Board of Directors has approved (on a 12 month trial basis at no cost) the inclusion of ads for ACA members who are selling their motorhomes. When submitting your ad (to me), please include the following information: **year, model (FDTS - front door, triple slide) length, miles, price (optional), location, contact number or email, name (optional), tow bar and tow vehicle.**

Everyone loves to read and see pictures from our awesome rallies. And even though we are full-timers, Jack and I cannot attend every rally. I would ask that if you are a rally host, please designate someone to take a few pictures and write an article about your rally. You can forward the articles and pictures to me ([jp4rving@gmail.com](mailto:jp4rving@gmail.com)), and I will get them in the next newsletter.

If you are sending me a document for the newsletter (articles, registration forms, etc.), please send only Word (PC) or Pages (Mac) documents. It is very hard to work with pdf documents when incorporating them in text documents. Pictures should be sent as attachments (shown as an icon). If the documents and/or pictures are too large, you can send me a flash drive and I will return it to you when I am finished. Email me first and I'll let you know where to send it. And of course, contact me if you have questions.

This is YOUR newsletter, so please let me know if there is something that you would like to see included and I'll do my best.

Happy Reading!



Red Rock Canyon

## Alpine Coach Association - 2014 Rally Calendar

Date	Rally Name/Location	Sponsor	Rally Hosts
May 14 - 18, 2014	2014 NoWACA Roundup and Annual Meeting Wildhorse Resort & Casino Pendelton, OR	NoWACA	Tom and Sue Kunst <a href="mailto:tomkunst@charter.net">tomkunst@charter.net</a> Ed and Diane Dorn <a href="mailto:doernea@aol.com">doernea@aol.com</a> Larry and Rita Lewis <a href="mailto:riverhouse750@frontier.com">riverhouse750@frontier.com</a> Dave and Colleen Mara <a href="mailto:maracv@aol.com">maracv@aol.com</a>
May 21 - 28, 2014	Week Long Rally Napa Valley Expo RV Park Napa, CA	SoCal	Bill & Patti Figge <a href="mailto:figgebp@mac.com">figgebp@mac.com</a> Phil & Trudy Binley <a href="mailto:philbinley@yahoo.com">philbinley@yahoo.com</a>
August 7 - 11, 2014	Pre-Rally to FMCA Reunion Fairview, OR	NoWACA	Vic & Willy Egg <a href="mailto:vwe734@gmail.com">vwe734@gmail.com</a> Tom & Nancy Polk <a href="mailto:tomgorving@gmail.com">tomgorving@gmail.com</a>
August 11 - 17, 2014	FMCA Rally Redmond, OR	FMCA	
August 27 - September 3, 2014	Mackinaw City, MI	SPOT Rally	Tom Cook <a href="mailto:759cook@gmail.com">759cook@gmail.com</a>
September 28 - October 4, 2014	Heritage Rally Branson, MO	ACA	Louis Burch <a href="mailto:labsr@aol.com">labsr@aol.com</a> Tom Cook <a href="mailto:759cook@gmail.com">759cook@gmail.com</a>
November 14 - 18, 2014	Pismo Coast Village Pismo Beach, CA	SoCal	Mike & Mike Collins <a href="mailto:alpinemikes@2mikeys.com">alpinemikes@2mikeys.com</a> Jerry & Toni Smith <a href="mailto:Geraldsmith18@hotmail.com">Geraldsmith18@hotmail.com</a>

## Alpine Coaches For Sale

2003 40' MDTS (mid door triple slide)

80k miles

Gray, silver, and black exterior

Black Tie interior with bone leather sofa, pilot, and copilot chairs. Black leather Euro chair and ottoman.

Recent tires and batteries

Garage kept

\$79,500

[Jrbragg@swbell.net](mailto:Jrbragg@swbell.net) (Jim/Deb Bragg)

817-992-1783

2000 36' FDDS (front door double slide)

79k miles

White, beige and maroon exterior

Non smoker, no pets

All maintenance records

2005 Honda CRV (120k miles) with hitch also available

Larry Elder

503-807-8301



5808A Summitview #337

Yakima, WA 98908