



# Monaco America News



VOL. 14, No. 2

SUMMER 2016

Our Fall 2016 rally will be in Goshen, Indiana.  
Some events around our rally time can be found at  
[visitindiana.com](http://visitindiana.com)



Weekly  
Antique Auction



Fall Crafters Fair



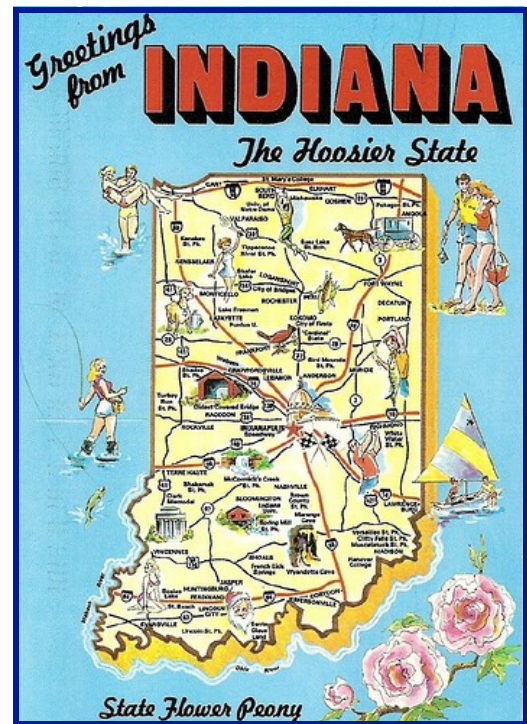
Blue Gate Theater

These and more good stuff can be found at the above link. The theater has some very interesting shows.

**I hope you all come for the 15th anniversary party!**

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# WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

## Members who joined at our Spring 2016 rally in Rayne, LA

Theo & Blanche Bueto, Saint Amant, LA  
Steve & Pat Colborn, Fort Mohave, AZ  
Bill & Connie Crawford, Pensacola, FL  
Ted & Jill Hebert, Santee, SC

## Members who recently joined!

Bill & Annique Smith, Folsom ,LA

## From the President

Up front I want to let everyone know, I can talk all day but putting words on paper isn't one of my strengths. But what the hell-here goes.

I hope that everyone had a safe and uneventful trip home from Rayne. Even with a little rain, thunder, lighting and of course LA mosquitoes, it was another great rally.

I would like to thank the members showing confidence in me by electing me to serve as your president for 2016-2017. All other members of the board were elected to a two year term, 2016-2018. At the May 2017 rally there will be an election for President to serve for a two year term, 2017-2019. Anyone interested in running for any office either next year or in 2018 should contact one of the nominating committee members listed on the Monaco America web site under officers. To say I have a hard act to follow (you listening Gary) would be an understatement.

The 15th anniversary of Monaco America is fast approaching. The anniversary rally will be held in Goshen, IN this fall. Alan is finalizing catering, vendors, entertainment and a host of other things so we have a great rally. So, If you haven't signed up yet now is the time to down load the application and the get your check in the mail. There cannot be a rally if we don't have attendees. **Remember this your club**, and the officers are elected to work for you. If you have a suggestion or a compliant nothing can be done about it if you don't let someone know.

Here's hoping to see everyone in Goshen.  
Sonny and Suellen Hodge





**Gary and Carole Granat**  
gegranat@gmail.com

## From the Past President

Well I write this note as a “Past” President of Monaco America. It’s been a 13 year run, and Carole and I thank every member for making my time as Wagon Master and then President a most enjoyable journey, for at least 99.9% of the time anyway. Both these positions are shared and could not be effectively done without the help and console of the love of my life, Carole.

As you most likely know, the other member leaving the officer ranks is Bob Allen. Bob has been our Treasurer for 5 years and could not have done a better job for our organization. Bob has, also been a close confidant of mine and a true friend. This working relationship will be missed by me. The Allens and Granats will now sit back a little and maybe enjoy mingling a bit more.

Monaco America is in good hands, with Sonny Hodge as our President and Carrol Hennessee our Treasurer. The club has an excellent Board, you should feel very confident and proud with the direction Monaco America continues to go.

I will, for the time being at least, be the “go between” with Monaco RV and Monaco America. We had certain “verbal commitments” from the former President of Monaco RV, primarily for our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary rally this coming October in Goshen, Indiana. I will be working with the new contacts at Monaco RV to determine if they will follow through on Mike Snell’s commitments given us in October of 2013. I am hopeful, but no way am I certain. It is at Sonny’s request that I continue this process.

Carole and I have so many great friends in the Monaco America family, and it is so much a family, this is what makes Monaco America **The Motor Coach Club of Choice** and what I truly believe to be the **Premier Motor Coach Club**.

To try to list and thank all the members that have made this journey so enjoyable for us is impossible. But we do thank you one and all. Rest assured, we will continue to enjoy Monaco America’s semi-annual rallies.

As I tried to mention at the Rayne rally, there are many of our members that have passed on during this period, these friends continue to be in our thoughts and prayers. This is the same for our members who may be struggling with health issues, they too are in our prayers.

We really hope to see you all at Monaco America’s 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration this coming October in Goshen, Indiana.

**God Bless America & the members of Monaco America,**  
See you Goshen,  
Gary and Carole Granat



Allen and Sharon Jackson

## From the Wagon Master

To Our Monaco America Family and Guests,

First & foremost I want to thank all who joined us in Rayne. We had 43 coaches with four first timers. All the first timers joined Monaco America; thus, I am sending a big welcome to Theo & Blanche Bueto, Steve & Pat Colborn, Bill & Connie Crawford, and Ted & Jill Hebert WELCOME! In addition to the scheduled rally events we had a very entertaining lunch at Kelly's Landing on Saturday, and on Sunday we did a swamp tour.

As I prepare this article, the month of July is coming to a close and our fall rally is only two and a half months away. As advertised this is our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary and we hope to see all of you there in celebration of this event. If you are planning on attending, be sure to register. The more the merrier.

As usual, we have planned a fun filled 4 days including food, entertainment, seminars, the Lady's Tea, the men's ROMEO luncheon, washer toss, pet show, round tables and more. When we think of Fall we think of Oktoberfest, college football, fall colors, tailgate parties, and fall harvest, Thus the overall theme for this rally is "A Fall Festival." We are planning a day in support of favorite sports team so bring something to show your support. Tuesday evening we will divide into two groups and travel to Amish homes for dinner. We are also planning an outing to the "RV/MH Hall of Fame and Museum." Watch for more information in your rally confirmation packet which will be e-mailed by the end of September.

Over the past months I have contacted a number of vendors. As of this writing, I have no confirmed commitments. I am open to any suggestions that you might have for vendors and how we might encourage vendors to attend our rallies.

If you are interested in presenting a seminar or giving a craft class please contact me via an email to [wagonmaster@monacoamerica.com](mailto:wagonmaster@monacoamerica.com) or by calling me at (740) 739-0019.

As you are probably aware, Elkhart is the RV capital. Even with the downturn in the industry over the past few years, there are still a number of RV manufactures in the area. REV Group (i.e., Monaco) is located in Decatur, IN which is approximately 2 hours from Goshen. The old Monaco manufacturing facility in Wakarusa, IN is now occupied by "Thor Motor Coach", and Newmar manufacturing is in Nappanee, IN. This is just three of the manufactures in Northern Indiana that you may want to visit while in the area.

It takes many members to make our chapter work and continue to be one of the best in FMCA. In addition, the Wagon Master must rely on everyone attending to make a rally successful. Our appreciation goes to everyone who volunteered their time to make this happen during our rallies and throughout the year. I am always looking for suggestions on how to make our rallies more attractive to all and where to hold rallies.

Sharon and I hope all is well with each of you and that you have a fun filled Summer.

Looking forward to seeing all of you In Goshen.  
Allen and Sharon Jackson

## FROM THE FMCA DIRECTOR

1st - I would like thank Bill Brewer for representing Monaco America as a alternate delegate to the FMCA rally in Springfield MA since neither Bert or I could attend.

2nd - If you haven't all ready looked at your August addition of the FMCA Magazine be sure to check out the article, written by our past president on page 27, about Monaco America helping the local communities. **A BIG HAND TO ALL THE LADIES.**

Sonny  
FMCA National Director

# Attention Crafters

Since this is my last article as craft coordinator I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has taught a class at our rallies, especially Peggy Morris who has pitched in when I really needed a class. Also thanks to everyone who helped me set up, clean up or assisted in teaching a craft. Thanks to everyone that attended the classes I hope you enjoyed them. I know Suellen will have lots of new things for us to enjoy.



Carole Granat

## **MONACO AMERICA LADIES' TEA**

What can I say but thanks to all the ladies that hosted a Tea through the years. I have been very proud of all the support we have given to the numerous community organizations through the years. Ladies you did good.

The Goshen Tea will support The Ronald McDonald House in South Bend IN. They have three separate requests, The Ronald McDonald House, The Cart With a Heart and Stitches of Hope.

Ronald McDonald House needs are: Gift cards to Walmart, Target, Office Depot and Office Max, Meijer and Martin Grocery stores, also phone cards. Individual chips, pretzel and Doritos snack packs, single serve cereal boxes, granola bars, pudding and fruit cups, juice boxes, bottled water, coffee. Also toilet tissue, air fresheners, paper towels, dish soap. Postage stamps and copy paper. Plus the usual personal care items.



The Cart With Heart: They take snacks, juices, water and cookies around every afternoon to the patients and parents. The little individual packages are best.

Stitches Of Hope: This group provides clothing for anyone in need while they are there. Baby items are needed especially quilts and blankets. Since it will be close to Christmas items for teenagers would be welcomed. They are unable to accept any used clothing, toys or appliances.

We had decided at the Rayne Tea we would like to make a huge donation of pop-tabs. So save 'em and bring all you can collect.

As this also is my last report on The Ladies Teas', It has been a most rewarding and memorable time.

Carole Granat

## **Rayne Newspaper Article**

On June 9<sup>th</sup> The Rayne Acadian Tribune printed a front and second page picture and article about our donations to the Daily Manna and the Veterans Park.

# Newsletter

Please send any articles you find that might be of interest/benefit to us all. Send them to Suellen Hodge by the 15th of March, July or November.

## Crafts and Ladies Tea

Sadly, Carole has resigned her posts as craft coordinator, charity finder and Ladies Tea Host finder. I will be assuming these duties, temporarily. I hope someone will volunteer to do any one of these three jobs.

For the Goshen rally, I will be teaching a knitting class. \$15-\$20 fee will include yarn, pattern and needles for a hat, mitts or keyhole scarf. These are all easy patterns and can be finished before the end of the rally.



I will also be available during “downtimes” to help with any knit/crochet project that’s giving you trouble.

Sandy Barnes will be teaching a glass etching class. We will be etching on a picture frame. (Sounds hard to me but she says it’s easy). This is a sample of an etching



Please contact me if you would be willing to teach a crafty class in Goshen or any future rally.

Suellen Hodge at  
HodgeSuellen@aol.com  
Secretary  
Newsletter Editor

## RV DONATION TO DAILY MANNA CENTER



During their recent visit to Rayne, members of the Monaco America RV Club made a donation of needed goods for the Daily Manna Center. On hand for the donation were, from left, RV Chairman Carole Granzt, and Daily Manna Center reps Janet Boudreaux and Deacon Tommy Adams. (Acadian-Tribune Photo by Lisa Soileaux)

## RV DONATION TO VETERANS PARK

Members of the Monaco America RV Club who visited the city May 23-27 during their 2016 visit, presented a donation for the upcoming Veterans Park to be built at Gossen Memorial Park. On hand for the presentation were, from left, Veterans Park committee members Larry Guidry and Robert Comeaux, and RV'ers Carole Granat and Sharron Jackson. (Acadian-Tribune Pho-



**Our newly designed Monaco America Plaques are now available!**

**Proudly mount this plaque on your rear ladder or in you windshield.**

This plaque is made from sturdy 1/4" molded plastic resin, silk-screened in three bright colors then painted with clear enamel to keep it looking good for years. This plaque is the same size as your FMCA plaque. Ladder brackets or suction cups are available for mounting.

The Order Form is on our club website. The plaque is \$30, ladder brackets are \$12 per pair, and suction cups are \$6 per pair. Order now and pick up your plaque at the next rally to save shipping or have it shipped to you immediately. Don't delay!



# Monaco America Fall Rally

WE WELCOME ALL COACHES IN GOOD STANDING WITH FMCA



## CELEBRATION

### October 17-20, 2016 • Goshen, IN

Two week cancellation notice required. See website for details.

**ELKHART COUNTY 4-H  
FAIRGROUNDS RV PARK**

17746-D County Road 34 • Goshen, IN 46528

#### FEE INCLUDES

4 Nights Camping with 50 Amps/Water/Sewer  
Monday Welcome Gathering • 3 Breakfasts  
4 Evening Meals • Entertainment • Vendors  
Seminars • Social Hour • Ladies Tea • Craft Classes  
(additional cost may apply) • FUN and more

Early arrivals and late departures must make arrangements directly with the RV Park. Please contact the RV park at (574) 533-3247.

Towables are welcome as guests of attending members at the non-member rate of \$450.

### FALL RALLY REGISTRATION FORM

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Model: \_\_\_\_\_ FMCA #: \_\_\_\_\_

Handicapped:  Yes  No First Timer:  Yes  No

E-mail rally confirmation packet or  Hold rally packet at Info. Center

Visit our website for more information and updates.  
[WWW.MONACOAMERICA.COM](http://WWW.MONACOAMERICA.COM)

### CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

- 2 Members/Coach with Full Hookups \$ 425.00
- 1 Member/Coach with Full Hookups \$ 375.00
- Registration for 2 (no camping) \$ 320.00
- Non-Monaco America Members add an extra + \$ 25.00
- Monaco America Plaque \$ 30.00

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to Monaco America

Mail to: Monaco America  
c/o Carol Henestofel  
759 Winward Way  
Gahanna, OH 43230

Questions concerning the rally should be addressed to the Wagon Master:

Allen Jackson  
7151 Watkins Rd. SW • Pataskala, OH 43062  
(740) 739-0019  
allenjcksn125@gmail.com

Website





# Monaco America Board



**President:** Carl "Sonny" Hodge, hodgeus@yahoo.com  
**1st VP/Wagon Master:** Allen Jackson, allenjcksn125@gmail.com  
**2nd Vice President/Security:** Floyd Cook, fwcook1@cox.net  
**Secretary:** Suellen Hodge, HodgeSuellen@aol.com  
**Treasurer:** Carrol Henestofel, billhenes@copper.net  
**Nat'l. FMCA Dir.:** Carl "Sonny" Hodge, hodgeus@yahoo.com  
**Alt. Nat'l. FMCA Dir.:** Bert Garcia, n8nn@earthlink.net  
**Newsletter Editor:** Suellen Hodge, HodgeSuellen@aol.com  
**Webmaster:** Bert Garcia, www.monacoamerica.com, or n8nn@earthlink.net

## Past Presidents:

Gary Granat, gegranat@gmail.com  
Richard Cotterall, cotterall@earthlink.net

## Send your change of address and/or your dues to:

Monaco America  
7956 Vaughn Rd., Box 174  
Montgomery, AL 36116  
334-546-6618  
Email: bobandsallyq@aol.com

## Questions on Club Membership?

Contact Bob Allen  
7956 Vaughn Rd, Box 174  
Montgomery, AL 36116  
334-546-6618  
bobandsallyq@aol.com  
**Annual Dues Only \$25**  
\$15 Initiation fee

The Newsletter is published by Monaco America Motorhome Owners' Club. The views expressed are strictly those of the individual contributors and do not reflect the views of Monaco RV, LLC or Family Motor Coach Association. If you have information you would like placed in the newsletter, please send it to the editor by email at:

HodgeSuellen@aol.com, (**Please identify any e-mail with the subject line of Monaco America**)

## A NOTE FROM THE WEBMASTER

Have you visited the Monaco America website lately? You can find it at [www.MonacoAmerica.com](http://www.MonacoAmerica.com). We have a photo album on-line with more than 3,000 photos available for you to view or print. View your friends

who have attended past rallies. Check to see if the photos of you make you look younger! Go to [www.MonacoAmerica.com](http://www.MonacoAmerica.com), click on Photos and then click on Photo Album. The Photo Album opens in a new window.

The photos are arranged into galleries by topic, usually by rally. When you click on a gallery, the photos are visible as thumbnails, a slideshow or a filmstrip. Poke around the various controls to view the photos full screen, make the slideshow go faster or slower, or download photos to your computer. Try it!

Remember, to access the membership information you need a user name and password. If you have forgotten yours, use the Contact Form on the website to request that information, or you can send an email request directly to [webmaster@monacoamerica.com](mailto:webmaster@monacoamerica.com).

See you at the next rally in Goshen, Indiana in October!

Bert Garcia  
Monaco America Webmaster

A Chapter of the

Family Motor Coach Association  
An International club for the  
owners of All Motorized Coaches



**Monaco America News**

Suellen Hodge, Editor

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**UPCOMING RALLY  
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!**

**Fall 2016**

Monaco America Fall Rally

Oct 17–Oct 20, 2016



Elkhart County 4-H  
Fairgrounds RV Park  
17746-D County Road 34  
Goshen, IN 46528