

Spring 2009



Monaco America News

Volume 7 Number 2

Fire up the coach it's time to go!

If you're not a full timer and already out and about enjoying this great country of ours, pull that cover off and get your coach ready to go!

Some of us are experiencing what we hope is our last snow for the winter and are making our plans to head to Goshen!

Make sure if you haven't already sent it in, that you fill out your rally application on page 3 of this newsletter and get it in the mail! Also if you are planning to arrive a little early you won't want to miss the dinner show that is planned for Saturday night before the rally. You must fill that out and get it mailed to Gary before May 1st!

While making your travel plans, don't forget the important pre-planning and checking over your coach before you hit the road. Everyone has their own schedule and check list I'm sure, however sometimes after being cooped up for the winter, items can get overlooked in the excitement!

For those of us that have

to store our coach for the winter and empty it completely, this can be a real chore.

Try to plan when you load your coach up, how you'll unload as well. We have learned to use crates and plastic containers with lids that stack and fit in our storage compartments underneath. When we head out in the spring, we just take the containers back to the basement of the coach, and when we have to store them we can stack them so that take up too much room. We even use plastic containers with lids for items in the storage compartments overhead. Place them in, leave the lids off, and we've made it easier (at least for us short people) to just pull them out like a drawer to reach items instead of having to climb and try to reach the back of the cabinet. Put the lids on, and we can remove them and stack them for storage.

I'm sure everyone has their list for things like checking your tires, batteries, and such but making a list of what you're taking for the inside of the coach

ahead of time and checking it off as you put it in can cut down on things you may forget, but also can help you to not overload! When you look at the list, you might very well eliminate some things. Not to mention you have peace driving down the road knowing you have your prescriptions and everything that was important you need.

Also, don't forget about checking your house out before you leave and to be sure someone is aware of your travel plans, how often you'll be "checking-in" with them, and how to reach you in an emergency. (Yes, make another list!)

Some of the fun of traveling is in the planning! Think of the places you are going to see and the friends you are going to catch up with! It can make the planning a lot of fun!

We hope to see all of you in Goshen! The rally looks like it shaping up to be a true Monaco America Rally with great fun, food, old friends to see and new friends to make!

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Special points of interest:

- Rally Application
- Ladies Tea
- Upcoming Rally Schedule

From the President's Coach



Richard and Linda Cotterall
cotterall@earthlink.net

Hello and Happy New Year fellow Monaco America Members,

Only a little over two months and we will be gathering together to have another great time in Goshen, Indiana. I can hardly wait.

We are going to have a so much fun. I am looking forward to seeing you all and

experiencing that great Amish food again.

I spoke with Page Robertson, from Monaco Corporation, and he told me that the corporation will not be supporting our club, at least until times get better. That means the \$1,000 they chip in for each rally won't happen and there will not be Techs to work on our rigs.

I explained to Monaco that in my opinion, they are making a big mistake by not supporting us who have already purchased at least one Monaco coach. Instead they are concentrating on those who have really high end coaches or don't own a coach yet. Seems to me, they would be better off trying to get us to upgrade to a bigger, nicer coach, than trying to get someone who doesn't own

a coach to buy one, especially in these uncertain times. Obviously, they don't feel the same way about it.

For those of you that have things you want fixed on your motor homes, Gary Granat has been in contact with Turning Wheel RV. They will be making a presentation at our rally and you will have to pay for any repairs. They have hired many of the Monaco Techs that were laid off.

FMCA is also cutting back and did not send out door prizes this year. We will be looking for other sources to donate, however we will not be giving out nearly as many door prizes as we have in the past.

Continued on page 5



Gary and Carole Granat
Granat@worldnet.att.net

Boy if you haven't sent your application for our Spring Rally in Goshen, Indiana, you will want to do so now. You just don't want to miss all the good times. Remember we're going to have some great Amish meals, both in the rally dining room and at an Amish home Wednesday evening of the rally. Then there's the Amish bake sale, how good it is. And don't forget about the optional Saturday evening Dinner/Theater at Amish Acres, more great Amish food. You had better fast well this Lenten season.

The Turning Wheel RV Center will be

From The Wagon Master

**By Gary Granat, Monaco America
 First Vice President**

participating in our rally. We expect to have both Sales and Service representatives on hand, to give some presentations on their operations. They also will have several new Monaco coaches on display for us to look over and, who knows, maybe some members will make a purchase. As stated in the last newsletter, Turning Wheel now operates the Monaco Service Center in Elkhart. Should you want to contact them for service while in the area, their telephone number is: 877-666-2262.

Now for our **Fall 2009 Rally**, a site has been chosen and committed to. It is:

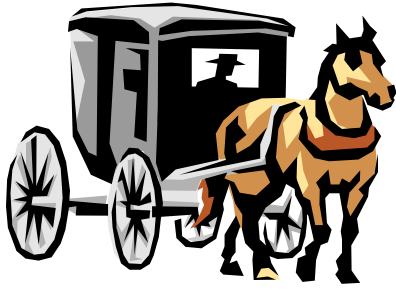
**Palm Lake RV Resort in Foley,
 Alabama**

The official rally period will be:
September 28 thru October 1, 2009.

The Palm Lake RV Resort web site is: www.palmlakerv.com, you should check it, it's a neat facility. Monaco America members, Dennis & Karen Carlson, recommended the facility after visiting it and taking the grand tour, we thank them for their efforts. We always welcome this type of information.

We sure hope to see you in Goshen and again in Foley.

Gary & Carole Granat



Back Home in Indiana's Amish Country



Monaco America 2009
Spring Rally Application

Elkhart County 4h Fairgrounds, Goshen, Indiana

Monday evening, May 11th through Thursday, May 14th, 2009

Please circle all items that apply:

COST: Coach and 2 persons	345.00
Coach and 1 person	295.00
Extra person in coach (age 12 & above)	100.00
Extra person in coach (under age 12)	80.00
Passport for 2 persons*	275.00
Non-member fee**	25.00
ALL sites full hook-up	Included
Other brand coach fee***	50.00
Total _____	

Make check payable to Monaco America
 Mail to:
 Monaco America
 5830 NW Expressway,
 Box 117
 Oklahoma City, OK 73132

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

Gary Granat
Home (219) 462-8795
Cell (219) 921-6694
granat@worldnet.att.net

Registration deadline: April 20, 2009.
Cancellations request must be received by April 20, 2009 for a full refund.

Golf!
 Information on local golf courses will be available at the information center!

First Name: _____
 Second Name: _____
 Address: _____ Email: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Coach Number: _____ FMCA Number: _____
 Coach Model: _____ _Handicapped? Yes ___ No ___ First Timer? Yes ___ No ___
 Mail rally package _____ or Hold rally package at will call: _____

Rally price includes 4 nights (Mon, Tue, Wed, Thurs) camping with full hookups (50 amp site assigned as paid reservation is received), Welcome Gathering, 3 breakfasts, 3 evening meals, entertainment, vendors, seminars, social/cocktail hours, Ladies Tea, craft classes (additional cost may apply for craft classes) and all the fun that is a Monaco America Rally. (Early arrivals prior to Monday May 11th will need to dry camp at gate 4 & 5 at \$10/night plus tax; Stay past Thursday you must pay the park direct their customary rate.. Early arrivals and late departures CALL the park for reservations at 574-533-3247 . DO NOT arrive early and park in a 50 amp site unless directed by the MA parking committee, you will have to relocate.

Handicapped: Must have a state issued handicapped placard displayed on your coach.

* Passport attendees are eligible for all meals, entertainment, seminars and exhibits. No camping is included in this package.
 ** Persons owning a Monaco Esquire, Monarch, LaPalma, Cayman, Knight or Diplomat coach who are not members of Monaco America will be charged \$25.00 for first years membership dues. Persons owning any other Monaco Coach model may attend by paying the \$25.00 non-member fee.
 *** Persons owning any brand of motor coach, other than Monaco, may attend as the guest of a member but will be charged an additional \$50.00.



See ALL our rally photos in color at

www.photobucket.com/monacoamerica

This group knows how to eat and party!



From the President's Coach continued

Continued from page 2

Remember, we will be having elections at this rally so, be thinking about your ability to fill either, an Officers position, a Committee head, or one of the many volunteer positions.

I know for sure that Gary Granat, 1st VP and Wagon Master will be stepping down, Peggy Morris, Secretary is not going to run again, and we need someone to replace Leah as the News Letter Editor (remember you only have to put the letter together on the computer, Bill Stone has it labeled and mailed out). Of course, if anyone wants my job, please let me know.

In these trying times, and with Monaco Corporation backing out of their support for our club, it will be interesting to see how many members, continue to attend the Monaco America Rallies. Goshen will be a good indicator of just how many coaches we can expect to attend our functions.

Your Board of Directors will take this information and use it for scheduling future Rallies. Even if we have to go to smaller rallies, we will do everything possible to continue the high standards of camping with full hookups, great food and good entertainment. Plans for the fall rally are already under way!

Hope all who are coming to Goshen have a safe journey and arrive ready to have fun.

See you there!

Rich and Linda Cotterall
cotterall@earthlink.net

Cell: (805) 732-2945

Ladies Tea

The Ladies Tea will be in Goshen. It will be **Christmas Blessings in May**. We will be blessing the Bashor Children's Home in Goshen. This home has boys and girls from 8 to 18 years of age. We can bless them with sport items and games. (New or gently used.)

They can also use all types of games, such as board games, but all games have to be NON-violent. Also they have all kinds of computer game systems and would appreciate any games, including sport themed games for the computer systems.

The ladies of Monaco America have always been so generous in the past and I know this will be the same.

Any questions please contact Pam Franklin at pfrank@ameritech.net

See you in Goshen!



The MA Ladies are always generous!

Ladies Tea donations from the Beth Page and Amana Colonies Rallies!



Monaco America Hot Topics!

Final Call for Modifications Seminar #2

Modifications seminar #2 will be held at the Goshen rally.

Please e-mail pictures and descriptions of your favorite modifications to me at alfetch1@gmail.com. Also, be sure to include the source and cost of any items you had to purchase to complete your project so that information can also be passed along to the next do-it-yourselfer.

Thanks, .Al Fetch

Elections to be held at our Spring Rally in Goshen.

Annual elections will be held at the Goshen Rally in May. Any one interested in holding an office or becoming the Newsletter Editor may submit their names, or the name of another member to the nominating committee. You can email your nominations to: Pam Franklin at:

pfrank@ameritech.net

Or Gary Cummings at:

simplysue@cableone.net

Thank you!

Just a note to thank all of you that have contributed with articles and other assistance in getting our newsletter out every quarter over the past 3 years. Tom and I have been fortunate enough to meet a lot of people and make great friends through our club and part of that was because we got involved. For that we are very grateful. We'll still be around, but it's time for someone new to take a turn as the editor. See you all in Goshen and again, thank you!

Leah Knoerlein



Monaco America's Spring 2009 Rally - Visit Amish Country!

We've got some fun activities planned for you - don't miss out, sign up today!

Amish Acres Thresher Dinner and Theater Saturday, May 9th, 6:30pm



A Nappanee landmark, Amish Acres is a "must see" during your stay. Start with the famous Thresher's Dinner served up in the century old barn restaurant. Enjoy overflowing bowls and platters of homemade noodles, mashed potatoes, meats and dessert! Then, a talented cast offers professional Broadway musicals in the restored Round Barn Theatre. Come root for the Little Sisters of Hoboken who will try anything to save

the Order in *Nunsense II*. **Depart on your own at 6pm. Dinner at 6:30pm, theatre at 8pm. Maps provided.**

Amish Country Bake Sale Thursday, May 14th, 11am-2pm

Local Amish bakeries bring their home-based shops to you! Fresh, homemade sweet rolls, cookies, pies, breads and cakes will be available at the rally site for pick-up and purchase. Advance orders recommended, but some items will be available for last minute decisions. **Find order forms in your goodie bag upon arrival or visit the Information Center. Return order form to the Information Center by Tuesday, May 12th at Noon.**

AmishCountry.org

NORTHERN INDIANA

**Sign Up Today! Space is limited!
Deadline May 1, 2009**

Amish Acres Dinner and Theatre
Saturday, May 9th, 6:30pm - *Nunsense II*

_____ @ \$42.²⁵ per person = \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

ZIP: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Make checks payable to **Monaco America** and send to: **Gary Granat, 764 Verbana Court, Valparaiso, IN, 46385**
For more information, call **219.462.8795** or email **Granat@worldnet.att.net**

Monaco
America



Monaco America Board



A Chapter of the Family Motor Coach Association

An International club for the owners of Esquire, Monarch, LaPalma, Cayman, Knight and Diplomat Coaches

• www.groups.yahoo.com/group/monaco-america • • •

Questions on Club Membership?

Contact Carrol Henestofel, 759 Windward Way, Gahanna, OH 43230 or billhenes@copper.net or 614-580-0291

Annual Dues Only \$15

\$10 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 Corporation or Family Motor Coach Association.

If you have information you would like placed in the newsletter please send it to the editor either by email or regular mail to the following addresses: leahshomes@aol.com **Please identify any e-mail with the subject line of Monaco America** or by ordinary mail to: Leah Knoerlein, 68 Haverhill Rd, Joppatowne, MD 21085. Previous editions of the newsletter are archived at: www.groups.yahoo.com/group/monaco-america

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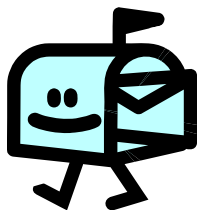
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**Articles for the Summer 2009
Newsletter are due
June 1, 2009 .**

Moving?



Send your change of address and/or
your dues check made payable to Monaco America to...

Email: oldchief1@sbcglobal.net

Monaco America , 5830 NW Expressway, Box 117

Oklahoma City, OK 73132

Did you pay
your MA
dues?



**Monaco America
Cookbooks and T-Shirts Available at our rallies!**





Mark your calendars now
For the following Monaco America Rallies!

Spring 2009

Elkhart County 4H Fairgrounds in Goshen, Indiana

May 11th through May 14th, 2009

Application for the above rally is on page 3 this newsletter!

Fall 2009

Palm Lake RV Resort in Foley, Alabama

September 28 through October 1, 2009



Monaco America News
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Don't worry!
There's still time to
sign up for the
May Rally!!

