



MONACO AMERICA NEWSLETTER

The Club for Owners of Monaco
Knight, Cayman; LaPalma and
Monarch Motorcoaches

Vol. 2, No. 2

April 1, 2004

Spring Rally 2004 CERAland Park, Columbus, Indiana

The Spring 2004 Monaco America Rally is rapidly approaching. This Rally is scheduled for May 25, 26, and 27, 2004 at CERAland Park, 3989 S 525 E, Columbus, Indiana 47203. If you have not already sent in your application (found on page three of this newsletter) please do so immediately. This is shaping up to be an outstanding rally.

CERAland is a semi-private park open to members of FMCA and Good Sam Club. The park consists of 346 acres for recreation, 84 sites with sewer hook-ups, 324 sites with water and 50 amp electric hook-ups. There are several lake sites, three bath houses, mini golf, 12 acre stocked lake, boat rentals, driving range, horseshoe pits, playgrounds, picnic area, indoor fitness facility and much, much more.

Details for this Rally are all in place. A good sized crowd is expected and the seminars, entertainment and food vendors are all set.

In addition to the Rally there are many activities in the area. Our Rally will take place the week just proceeding the Indianapolis 500 Race. In addition to the race itself, you may want to watch qualification rounds prior to the race. (You will need to make your own arrangements for attendance at the race.) You can make arrangements with CERAland to stay at the park, following the Rally for this purpose, if you so desire. You should contact CERAland direct if this is your plan.

Also in the area is the Cummins Diesel Testing Facility in Columbus and the Diesel Assembly Facility nearby. You may want to call the Monaco factory in Wakarusa to schedule a tour. Another side trip either before or after the Rally would be a tour of Amish Country, a historic part of Indiana.

For informative facts about Indiana and the Columbus area contact the Indiana Department of Tourism by going on line to: www.in.gov/enjoyindiana/ or by calling 1-888-Enjoy-IN (1-888-365-6946).



From the President's Coach

By Bill Stone
Monaco America
President

Nancy and I have returned from the FMCA convention in Albuquerque, NM. We had a great time and learned the many benefits of being a chapter of FMCA. We manned a booth at a chapter fair, held the first day of the rally. We were joined by Dave and Nancy Cormier, who were a great help at the booth. We had expected to have the help of Chuck and Ruth Parker also, but her mother fell and had to have surgery, so they were unable to attend the convention. We hope she is doing well. We had several people visit with us at our booth, making it was worth the effort. We had several Diplomat owners ask about joining our club. I passed this information on to Monaco Corp. and was told they have no problem with this if we change our standing rules to reflect this. This proposed change is reflected on page 3 of this newsletter.

Nancy and I went on to Laughlin, NV. After the convention to seek a place for the fall rally. The rally is tentatively set for October 19, 20 & 21 at Avi Resort. This is 9 miles south of Laughlin or 14 miles north of Needles CA. We will have more details on this later.

I hope gas prices have not kept our members from enjoying our lifestyle. Just remember, that a rise in price of 50 cents cost you \$80.00 more per 1000 miles driven, based on an average of 8 miles per gallon. I hope this amount doesn't keep anyone home.

Nancy and I look forward to seeing you at CERAland or somewhere down the road.

1st Vice President Replaced

The Nominating Committee has appointed Gary Granat, Chesterton, IN, as First Vice President/Wagonmaster to fill the unexpired term until May 2004.

This appointment was necessary due to the resignation of D. W. (Mac) McClure this past month.

Got Your Goose Egg Yet?

A Monaco America coach plaque proudly displayed on a members coach.



We have had many of our members renew their membership in Monaco America for 2004. We appreciate all of you who have sent in your renewal payments. If you have not sent in your renewal please do so. (Remember, those who purchased a new coach after October 1, 2003, had their 2004 dues paid by Monaco Corporation. Although your membership was paid by the Company you are not actually a member until you have returned your Monaco America application form that was in your new owner package.)

With your 2004 renewal you will receive a Monaco America coach plaque for display on the back of your coach. These are being mailed out by the club treasurer after receipt of your 2004 renewal payment. This is a beautiful, full color plaque that makes it easy to show your pride of being a Monaco America member.

Monaco America Newsletter

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 any of its officers.

If you have information you would like placed in the newsletter please send it to the editor, Rick Stone, either by e-mail to:

oldchief1@aol.com

or by ordinary mail to:

5941 Seminole Rd

Warr Acres, OK 73132-5707

Please identify any e-mail with the subject line of Monaco America.

Racing to CERAland Monaco America Spring Rally-2004 Rally Application Form

WHERE: Ceraland Campground, Columbus, Indiana
WHEN: 25, 26, 27 May 2004
COST: Coach and 2 persons..... \$300.00
 Extra person in coach..... 125.00
 Craft project..... 5.00
 Non-member fee**..... 35.00
 Other brand coach fee***..... 50.00
 Sewer hookups..... 8.00

Make check payable to
Monaco America

Mail to:
Diane Baker
2061 Palomino Rd
Dover, PA 17315

Registration deadline: May 10, 2004
 Cancellations must be received by
 May 14 for a full refund. Total: _____

Questions about the
should be address to
the Wagonmaster:
Gary Granat
(219)921-6694
granat@worldnet.att.net

First Name: _____

Second Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Coach Number: _____

Coach Model: _____ Handicapped?* Yes ___ No ___ First Timer? Yes ___ No ___

Rally price includes 4 nights (Mon, Tues, Wed, Thru) camping with water and electric. (Sewer-\$2.00 per day extra.) 3 Breakfasts, 3 Evening Meals, entertainment, vendors, seminars, social/cocktail hour and all the fun that is a Monaco America Rally. (A \$16.00 charge will be required of those arriving on Sunday to cover that nights camping. This fee will be collected at the gate.) No arrivals allowed prior to 12:00 noon on Sunday, 23 May 2004.

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

**Persons owning a Monaco Knight, Cayman, LaPalma or Monarch coach who are not members of Monaco America will be charged \$35.00 for first years membership dues.

***Persons owning another brand of motorhome may attend as the guest of a member but will be charged an additional \$50.00.

Proposed Change to Standing Rules

Article 1 of the Standing Rules read, in part: "Limit membership to owners of Monarch, LaPalma, Cayman and Knight coaches manufactured by Monaco Coach Corporation...."

Currently owners of the Diplomat model are only eligible for membership in Monaco International. Many of these owners have expressed an interest in joining Monaco America since these coaches are closer in size and price to the other Monaco America models. It is felt this would be a boost to the membership of Monaco America.

It is proposed that the above section of Article 1 be changed to read: "Limit membership to owners of Monarch, LaPalma, Cayman, Knight and Diplomat coaches manufactured by Monaco Coach Corp..."

This proposed by-laws change will be voted on at the business meeting at the Monaco America rally in May at CERAland.

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Monaco America Elections To Be Held At Spring Rally

All of the Monaco America officer positions will be up for election during the Spring Rally at CERAland. The election will be held during the general business session at the rally. The Nominating Committee have submitted the following slate of nominees:

President:	Bill Stone Purcell, OK
1st Vice President:	Gary Granat Chesterton, IN
2nd Vice President:	Marvin Norton Gladstone, MO
3rd Vice President:	Bill Henestofel Gahannon, OH
Secretary:	Ed Stebbins Arlington, TX
Treasurer:	Diane Baker Dover, PA
National FMCA Director:	Joy Fetch Punta Gorda, FL
Alt FMCA Director:	Nancy Cormier Hereford, AZ

Additionally, nominations will taken from the floor at the time of the election for any of the above offices.

Crafts at CERAland

The ladies enjoyed the craft times at the Rally in Claremore, OK. They also decided to continue to hold them at future rallies.

Peggy Morris has lined up the craft for Ceraland. She will lead in the making of flowers out of pantyhose. There is a \$5.00 charge for supplies, as shown on the registration form. Be sure to sign up for the craft session when you register. This will insure enough supplies are on hand for everyone who wishes to participate.

None of the group claims to be "craft experts", but they all enjoy doing crafts and helping each other. The fun and fellowship are the best part of craft times.

Correction

There was an error on the application for the Rally at Ceraland that was printed in the January Monaco America Newsletter. Where it indicated that people arriving on Sunday would be required to pay a fee for Sunday night of \$10.00. This was incorrect. The fee for Sunday night camping is actually \$16.00. This was a typographical error on the part of your newsletter editor. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Proposed Rules Change

Article 3 of the Monaco America standing rules state: "The annual dues for membership shall be \$25.00. A dues notice will be mailed prior to December 1, stating that as of January 1 dues are due. If dues are not paid by April 1 membership will be cancelled and a reinstatement fee of \$10.00 plus one years dues will be assessed for re-affiliation."

It has been proposed that the above rule be changed to reflect an annual membership dues of \$15.00. This will bring the dues for Monaco America more in line with the other Monaco sponsored clubs.

This proposed change will be voted on during the general business meeting at the Monaco America rally in May at CERAland.

Tech Topics by J. P. McVicker and Larry Leadbetter

Recall Items on Your Coach

Occasionally, our coaches are subject to recalls for various safety related items as deemed by the Office of Defects Investigation of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administrations (NHTSA). In most cases, the manufacturer will notify you of the recall, as related to your coach, with instructions on what to do and where to take your coach for inspection/repair. This may not always be the case, for various reasons. If you would like to find out more about these recalls you can contact NHTSA at 1-888-327-4236 or on the Internet search on "NHTSA RECALL".

Brake Overheating

On Monaco coaches equipped with hydraulic brakes, there have been several instances of the service brakes overheating. The brake assemblies, manufactured by Bosch and installed by Monaco, have been susceptible to uncommanded brake application, which in turn generates heat. This action may or may not be evident to the operator of the coach. The heat generated can lead to catastrophic results, including brake, axle and ABS (antilock braking system) component failure with the potential of fire and/or loss of control. In a technical discussion with Monaco, they (VP of Chassis Engineering) deem this a 'thermal event'!! After gathering data on these failures, NHTSA has issued a recall of Monaco coaches with these brakes installed. The coaches involved are Knight, Cayman and La-Palma in the Monaco line. The NHTSA recall number is 02V278000. If you think your coach is involved in this recall action, call Monaco (1-800-685-6545). Otherwise, you may find yourself on the side of the road, singing along with Kenny Rodgers--"You Picked a Fine Time to Leave Me, Loose Wheel"!

Questions or ideas for a Tech Topic? Please contact:

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