

Fall 2006



# Monaco America News

Volume 4 Number 4

October 10th, 11th, & 12th 2006!

Tucson, Arizona

**Come for the Fun! Activities! Fellowship!**

Let's start with the fact that the Voyager RV Resort holds a 5 & 5 Stars rating in Woodall's, 5 Star Wheeler's Rating & 9/9\*/8 Trailer Life Rating!

We've scheduled a dance night for Tuesday and the Rivoli Revue for Thursday, with the entertainment being provided by Monaco America's good friends, Ron & Kay Rivoli. We are also planning a carpool/caravan outing to the world's third largest air force, the United States Air Force's staging area for mothballed aircraft. This I'm certain will be a sight to behold.

What is in the area? Plenty!

How about the Colossal Cave! This is an Ancient crystal cave, home to Indians and outlaws, history and legend. There are guided tours daily, a gift shop, snack bar, wooded picnic area and western trail rides. Or maybe Flan-dreau Science Center & Planetarium which offers interactive science exhibits dealing with sound, light, optical illusion, magnetism and more, including a 16 inch telescope available for night viewing!

Some of the other attractions right in Tucson include Mission San Xavier Del Bac, Tohono O'odam



Reservation built in 1783-1797, Old Town Artisans in the El Presidio Historic District in downtown Tucson, Pima Air & Space Museum with more than 180 restored vintage aircraft representing America's aviation and more.

You can find more information at <http://www.voyagerrv.com/home.html> then click on "RV Park" then click "Out and About"

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### Special points of interest:

- Monaco America Celebrates 5th Anniversary!
- Voyager Resort Has high ratings!
- Still time to register for October Rally!
- Ladies are "giving back to the community" again!
- T-Shirts and Cookbooks available!

## Mark your calendars for May 2007!

The planning process for our Spring 2007 Rally has begun!

As you know, it will be held in Cajun Country, Rayne, Louisiana, the frog capitol of the world. This is scheduled for **May 14 thru 17, 2007.**

Applications for Rayne will be available at Tucson, and as before we'll be

offering a free rally to one of our members who submits their application during the Tucson Rally.

Don't forget to sign up at Tucson! Your next rally may be FREE!



## From the President's Coach

By Al Fetch, Monaco America President

**Al & Joy Fetch**

[alfetch@earthlink.net](mailto:alfetch@earthlink.net)  
 941-639-9364 (Home)  
 941-286-1034 (Cell)

Greetings,

And Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Monaco America!

It's hard to believe that it's been five years since our club was chartered in Myrtle Beach, SC. I've been asked many times how the club was formed, and, for the sake of all of our newer members, will give a quick rundown. I won't bore you with all of the legal mumbo-jumbo; you

can find our By-Laws and Standing Rules at the website [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/monaco-america](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/monaco-america).

As Monaco grew and added new models to their product line they decided that the size of their owners club, Monaco International, had grown to the point of being unwieldy. The decision was made to start an additional owners club to include the newest coaches. Monaco America was born. We were formed as a sister club to Monaco International; their membership would include Diplomats, Windsors, Dynasties, Executives and Signatures; and ours would be open to Monarchs, LaPalmas and Knights. Since then, Monaco has added the Esquire and the Cayman to their line and we've added them to our membership. We also

had a huge number of inquiries from Diplomat owners who wanted to join us, and the decision was made to include them as well.

Since that time our membership has grown to over 1200 and our club has flourished. Monaco International has also continued to do well, and, about a year and a half ago, voted to change their By-Laws to open their membership to include all Monaco coaches. This move was made with Monaco's blessing. In my opinion, Monaco was hoping that by opening MI's membership to all models of coaches, our members would join the older, bigger club and Monaco America would simply merge into Monaco International. Obviously, that didn't happen. [Continued on page 4](#)

## From The Wagon Master



**By Gary Granat**  
**Monaco America**  
**First Vice President**  
[Granat@worldnet.att.net](mailto:Granat@worldnet.att.net)  
 Gary and Carole Granat

To all you fine Monaco America members planning to attend our Fall 2006 Rally in Tucson, please get you applications in now. As of this writing we are still short of the 100 coach requirement needed to insure Monaco Tech support. We all know this is an important part of all our rallies. I feel that we can reach that minimum, but the sooner we do so, helps the folks at Monaco Coach with their rally staffing plans.

Also, the site selection process has begun for our Fall 2007 Rally, which will be held somewhere in the Eastern US. We sure hope to see you in Tucson and again in Rayne,

Gary Granat  
[granat@worldnet.att.net](mailto:granat@worldnet.att.net)

**Order Your Monaco America Cookbook Now!!**

Recipes collected at our rallies!

Quantity	Price Each	Total
_____	\$8.00	\$ _____

*Price includes shipping*

*Make check payable to Monaco America*

*Please Print*

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

Shipping Address *Please Print:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Cell or email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail order form to EITHER:*

Dorothy Robertson	Carole Granat
212 S English Dr	463 East Greening Rd
Moore, OK. 73160	Chesterton, Indiana 46304

# Take a Voyage TO THE DESERT

VOYAGER RV RESORT • TUCSON, ARIZONA

OCTOBER 10-12, 2006

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Second Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Monaco Coach Model \_\_\_\_\_ Coach # \_\_\_\_\_  
 FMCA # \_\_\_\_\_ First Timer? (circle one) Yes No Handicapped Parking? (circle one) Yes\* No

COST: (circle all items that apply)

Coach and 2 persons	\$295.00
Coach and 1 person	245.00
Extra person in coach (age 12 & above)	100.00
Extra person in coach (under age 12)	80.00
Passport for 2 persons <sup>^</sup>	225.00
Non-member fee**	25.00
Other brand coach fee***	50.00
Golf Outing — per person (includes lunch)	50.00 x No. _____
TOTAL REMITTANCE:	\$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Monaco America

MAIL TO:

Monaco America  
 Diane Baker  
 2061 Palomino Rd.  
 Dover, PA 17315  
 (717) 292-5196

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: September 15, 2006: Cancellation request must be received by September 16, 2006 for a full refund.

RALLY INCLUDES: 4 nights (Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs) camping with full hookups, 3 breakfasts, 3 evening meals, entertainment, vendors, seminars, social/cocktail hour and all the fun that is a Monaco America Rally. (Anyone planning to arrive prior to Monday, October 9, or stay past Thursday, October 12, will be charged \$37.63 per night. This fee is to be paid directly to Voyager RV Resort.)

GOLF TOURNAMENT: A golf outing is being scheduled for Monday, October 9. Soft spikes only.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE RALLY should be addressed to the Wagon Master  
 Gary Granat • (219) 926-4910 Home • (219) 921-6694 Cell • granat@worldnet.att.net

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

\*\* 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 the first year's membership dues. Persons owning any other Monaco Coach model may attend by paying the \$25.00 non-member fee.

\*\*\* Persons owning any brand of motorcoach other than Monaco may attend as the guest of a member, but will be charged an additional \$50.00.

<sup>^</sup> Passport attendees are eligible for all meals, entertainment, seminars and exhibits. No camping is included in this package.

## Voyager Resort

These photos are from the Voyager Resort!

There's still time to sign up!  
*October 10th, 11th and 12th  
 2006!*

The application is on page 3 of this issue or contact our Wagon Master Gary Granat at [granat@worldnet.att.net!](mailto:granat@worldnet.att.net)



## Ladies Tea

Once again the ladies will be getting together to enjoy good company, a little food and giving back to the community. The tea is open to all ladies, so come and have an enjoyable afternoon. We are providing the luncheon snacks and tea, you may bring your own tea cup if you have one along!

This rally's project will be donations to the Tucson Ronald McDonald House. If you have hand made caps, small blankets, or anything else on the

list they have provided to us, bring them to the tea. We will include a wish list, furnished by the Ronald McDonald House, in your packet.

If you would like to contribute, but are not able to make the rally, send your donations to:

The Voyager RV Resort, Attn: Monaco America Ladies Tea, 8701 South Kolb Road, Tucson, AZ 85707.

**"Ladies to donate to The Ronald McDonald House in Tucson as they continue "giving back to the community"**

Joy Fetch, Carole Granat

Nancy Stone and Joanne Stone

## President's Coach

*Continued from Page 2*

We've consciously elected to abide by our By-Laws and not open membership to all models of Monaco coaches. The primary reason is the unique character we've developed as a club. We, like most motor home clubs, hope to get 10 to 15 percent of our membership in attendance at our two rallies per year. By controlling the size of the club we're able to hold the rallies at resorts, fairgrounds, campgrounds, etc. that can accommodate us with full hook-ups and good facilities. Not so with clubs that end up with 600 - 700 coaches at their rallies. They usually end up parked in fields with no electricity or water. .

And, as you know, "rally" is just another word for "rainstorm"! Rain, plus parking in fields, generally equals a disaster.

I've tried to keep the "history lesson" concise, and, hopefully, haven't left out any pertinent details. One thing our five year history has taught us is that there's nothing more important we offer each other as members than the chance to gather twice a year at our rallies. If you haven't had the opportunity to attend one yet, don't wait any longer. October's Tucson Rally at the Voyager Resort is going to be great, and you still have time to register. We all know fuel prices are at an all time high, but don't let that stand in the way

of getting the most that you can out of your membership in Monaco America.

Heck, if you drive 500 miles to the rally and you get 8 MPG, the extra dollar per gallon that you pay for fuel over what it was a couple of years ago will only set you back an additional \$62.50 to have a tremendous time with old and new friends. Skip a dinner out and you'll cover that extra 60 bucks!

We hope to see you in Tucson..... and, again, Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday Monaco America!

Al and Joy Fetch

[alfetch@earthlink.net](mailto:alfetch@earthlink.net)

[joyfetch@earthlink.net](mailto:joyfetch@earthlink.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](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/monaco-america)

**Questions on Club Membership?**

Contact Bill Henestofel, 759 Windward Way, Gahanna, OH 43230 or billhenes@copper.net or 614-939-3282  
**Annual Dues Only \$15!**

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](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/monaco-america)

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**ORDER YOUR MONACO AMERICA T-SHIRTS!**

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



*Please circle size*

Quantity	Size
_____	Small Medium Large X Large XX Large
_____	Small Medium Large X Large XX Large
_____	Small Medium Large X Large XX Large

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Number of Shirts  
x 10.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ Sub total  
+ \$ 5.00 Shipping (up to 3 shirts)

\_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL Make Check Payable to Monaco America

*Please circle color choice*

Color
Red Light Blue Ash Gray White
Red Light Blue Ash Gray White
Red Light Blue Ash Gray White

*Mail order form to:*

Ed & Faye Daniels  
503 Shiloh Circle  
Columbia, TN 38401

Only orders accompanied by payment in full by check will be accepted.

## Tech Topic by Larry Leadbetter:

### Electrical Problem in our coach.....

From our fellow member Bill Henestofel

A short time back I encountered an electrical problem in our coach. About half of the 110 volt receptacles and a couple of appliances were inoperative. I had checked the two circuit breakers on the front of the Xantrex 1500 inverter, to no avail. The unit was then wired around because otherwise we would lose both TV/s, microwave, and numerous 110 V outlets. So, it's the 110V nerve center of the coach.

At a Monaco America Rally a technician found the inverter defective. I spoke with the Xantrex factory and the person told me to check the two internal fuses. After removing the cover I found two 250 volt, 2 amp fuses. One was good and one had blown. I found the proper fuses at a TV repair shop, they were not automotive fuses.

The blown fuse was replaced and the unit was powered up. As soon as it reached full power the fuse blew again. At this point the unit was removed from the coach and was shipped to Xantrex. The total cost of repairs amounted to \$350.00 which included repairs, the main circuit control board was defective, and shipping both ways. They recommended insuring the unit for \$1400.00 and specified packing without "peanuts."

I received the unit back and the installation was somewhat difficult as there was no definitive schematic for wiring the inverter in the Monaco wiring book. So if you attempt this type of repair, make sure you mark wiring before removal. The good news is our coach is back to normal.

#### Questions or ideas for a Tech Topic? Please contact:

Larry Leadbetter ([lleadbetter@yahoo.com](mailto:lleadbetter@yahoo.com))

623-203-1217



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