



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

JOHN and MARIE MOCCALDI GILBERT, SC

WALTER and KAY ZILKA NAVARRE, FL

BILL CLARK VAN CLEAVE, TX

RON and TINA VAN ARSDALL BOX ELDER, SD

MADDY SAWYER SEATTLE, WA

KEN and MARILYN SIPLER COMMERCE TWP, MI

JOHN W and LINDA HUGHES MIAMI GARDENS, FL

JEFF and KATHY SNEDEKER CHAGRIN FALLS, OH

Even though you're thinking about Christmas and New Year's (yes, it's almost 2019), don't forget our May rally. We'll be in Gulf Shores, AL. I love the beach and look where it is.



And nearby



Inside this issue	
Welcome New Members	1
President's Message	2
Rally Master's Message	3
FMCA	5
Past President's Message	6
Crafts and Ladies Tea	7
Rally Registration Form	8
Monaco America Board	9



We expect to see all of you there!
Suellen

President's Message

Well the ghosts and goblins hopefully are gone for another year, family and friends have likewise departed. One more holiday to go but more on that later.

In recapping we started out the year with our spring rally in Mineola TX where those who couldn't make it missed a great time. Elections were held for the 2018-2020 term. Elected unanimously was 1st Vice President Alan Jackson, 2nd Vice President Floyd Cook, Secretary Suellen Hodge, Treasurer Jack Connell, FMCA National Director Sonny Hodge and FMCA Alternate Director Bert Garcia. A big thank you all for volunteering and serving.

Next up was the fall rally in Hiawasse GA. As usually where Monaco America goes so does the rain. However the main rain fall happen between 10pm and 6am of the 2nd/3rd day. The rest of the time the rain was off and on.

As mentioned in previous newsletters and e-mails to the membership the subject of allowing towables to join Monaco America would be discussed and voted on. A lively discussion of pros and cons was had by one and all. In the end a vote was taken and passed to allow towables, that meet the definition of an RV set by FMCA, to join Monaco America.

With the vote to add towables a motion was made to change the current bylaws by deleting the words Motor home or Motor Coaches and replacing them with RV or RVs. Motion passed. The new bylaws are posted on the monacoamerica.com web site.

Also elected unanimously were the nominating committee for 2018-2020, Peggy Neal, Bert Garcia and Tina VanArsdall. Thank you all.

With what a lot of people believe to be the most holy of holidays of the year fast approaching I think it's a good time to give thanks to all of those wearing a uniform 24/7 that allows us to have the freedom we have. To law enforcement and Firemen/women that also serve 24/7 to aid us in need and the list could go on.

I hear people say how bad our country is, sure it has it's problems but I don't see any people leaving but a whole lot of people trying to get in?

GOD BLESS THE USA - HOME OF THE BRAVE - LAND OF THE FREE

Sonny Hodge
President

To Our Monaco America Family and Guests,

First and foremost, we want to thank all who joined us in Mineola and Hiawassee this past rally season. You all deserve a big “Shout Out of Thanks” for making the rallies a fun time. Without you, we would not have a rally. I wish to extend a sincere “Thank You” to all who volunteered to perform different activities at the rallies.

As I prepare this article, the month of November is coming to a close and the Christmas season is fast approaching. So we would like to take this opportunity to say that we hope all of you had a bountiful and blessed Thanksgiving and we wish you a Blessed and Joyous Christmas. May we never forget the reasons for both Seasons.



Next year’s rallies are still in the planning stages. The spring rally will be at Gulf Breeze RV Resort in Gulf Shores, AL May 6th-9th. We encourage everyone who plans on attending to register early. This helps in planning and scheduling activities. For additional details, please visit the Monaco America website. Sharon and I plan on spending a couple days between Christmas and New Years in Gulf Shores to check out the area. Continue to watch for additional details from rallymaster@monacoamerica.com. Buck and Suzanne Emerson have volunteered to assist us with this rally. They will be the “Local Rally Masters.”



The fall rally will be at the Echo Basin RV Resort in Mancos, CO September 30th thru October 3rd . This facility is in the Southwest corner of Colorado aka Four Corners. If you plan on attending and would like to extend your stay, we encourage you to get in touch with them. Their website is

<http://www.echobasin.com/>. We are hoping that Chuck and Ruth Parker will assist us in the planning of this rally. Our rally is immediately before the Balloon Festival in Albuquerque, NM; which, Sharon and I plan on attending. However, we will not be coordinating this as a Monaco America activity.



If you are interested in presenting a seminar, giving a craft class or if you know of vendors that would like to join us, please contact me by sending an email to rallymaster@monacoamerica.com or by calling (740) 739-0019. Also we are currently searching out facilities for the 2020 and 2021 rallies. All suggestions are greatly appreciated.

Sharon and I hope all is well with each of you and we wish you a Blessed and Joyous Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you next year.
Allen and Sharon Jackson



Allen and Sharon

In Memoriam



Our Dear Dear Friend, Peggy Morris:

What a sad time for, not just the Morris family, but also for our Monaco America family. We have lost a Monaco America Charter Member, a true friend and quality Lady. Peggy will be so missed.

Peggy and Neil have attended every Monaco America rally from Lake Havasu City on, and hold the record for most Monaco America rallies attended. Peggy was drafted as the “Information” person at our Claremore, OK rally and then served as Monaco America’s Secretary for number of years. And who can forget Peggy’s many “beading” classes at numerous rallies.

At a time like this, words are just too empty and cannot tell our true and deep feelings for this wonderful person. God Bless you, Peggy, may you rest in peace. You will always be in our hearts and prayers.

One last note, St. Peter better watch out, cause a new sheriff is in town.
Peggy, until we meet again,

Gary & Carole
And
the Monaco America family

A note from two “old” charter members

Unfortunately, due to my Myasthenia Gravis, we have missed the last four Monaco America rallies. We so miss not being able to attend these great rallies and being able to spend time with so many long time friends.

We are slowly gaining control of my many symptoms of this crazy disease. We are somewhat hopeful that we will be able to attend the spring rally in Alabama. We’ve got our fingers crossed.

Myasthenia Gravis is something we really had not heard anything about, or just didn’t pay any attention to it if there was something written about MG. We do go to support group meetings once a quarter; it’s very helpful to hear how others with this disease are handling their symptoms. Most others have one or two symptoms, but I pigged out and have them all, but we’ve come a long way in the last 19 months.

We are working with an outstanding neurologist at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, who we see every couple of months. Part of my treatment has been: 29 - IVIG infusions, 14 - 3500ml plasma exchanges and now I’m on home infusion of a med called Solaris, this takes place every two weeks (17 so far).

After being diagnosed, while we were at our winter home in Texas, I have spent 88 days in 3 hospitals. I’ve told everyone, that this is my own fault. In April of 2017 I went in for hip replacement surgery. Unfortunately at that time I bragged that I was 80 years old and had never spent a night in a hospital. Open mouth insert foot!!!

We found out the best thing we can do is to keep our sense humor and play the hand we’ve been dealt. We still laugh a lot.

I thank God everyday for my nurse, chauffeur and wife of 63 years, my wonderful Carole.

We sincerely hope to see you all next spring. **May God Bless America!**

Gary & Carole Granat

FMCA

The year started out in February with Su and I in Tucson AZ at the FMCA INTO rally. 430 rigs, 40 chapters, 50 vendors and 3 RV Dealers with over 100 class A-B-C's and towables.

July found us at the FMCA's 98th International rally in Gillette WY.

At the Governing Board meeting the following Proposals were voted on - numbers 1 & 2 YES number 3 NO numbers 4, 5 & 6 YES number 7 & 8 NO.

There were 1559 rigs, 217 vendors and 497 1st timers of which 2/3rds were towables.

FMCA voted to accept towables why? Membership had decreased from over 100,00 to 70,00. Why? Age, Medical and death. Pick any club or organization and you will find the same thing happening, our club had 1,000 members 15 years ago. Today 144. The cheapest gas class A starts around \$125,00+ and then you need a toad. Today a couple with 2 kids can get in to a towable for less than \$100,00 including the truck to tow it with and then have something to drive each day. Now you need a place to store it, buy insurance and with luck you get to use it more than 30 days a year because of work or the kids being in school. That is why 2,500 of the 3,000 new members were towables as of July. I'm sure it higher now.

As your National Director that is my thoughts. I'm sure each of you has theirs.

On a lighter note go to FMCA.org and check out all the benefits. If you have any questions or comments let me know.

Sonny Hodge
FMCA National Director, Monaco America

Monaco America Personalized T-Shirts

Show the Monaco America logo on your personalized T-shirt. These blue shirts are cotton and will have your name on the right front.

T-shirts are \$25 each with shipping included in the price. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery.

Use the order form on the member info page at MonacoAmerica.com to order T-shirts:



Attention Crafters

There are no classes set up yet. Anyone who would like to help out by teaching us your favorite crafty thing, let Suellen know and we'll put it on the schedule.

Suellen will have an informal knit/crochet session one afternoon. Time and location to be announced. If you have a pattern/project that is giving you fits, bring it along and the Knitty Professor will help you get it back on track.

Ladies Tea

Hosted by Linda Hughes

Linda Hughes (and husband JW) joined Monaco America at the Hiawassee rally. Linda is so enthusiastic, she volunteered to host the Ladies Tea! Thank you Linda. A charity has not been chosen yet, but we will let you know who it is and what they need in the January newsletter.

We expect to see all our ladies there!!!





FROLIC IN THE SUN & SAND OF GULF SHORES, AL

Hosted by Monaco America

SPRING 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

*Questions concerning the rally should be addressed to the
 Rally Master: Allen Jackson
 7151 Watkins Rd. SW • Pataskala, OH 43062
 (740) 739-0019 • wagonmaster@monacoamerica.com*

Registration Deadline: April 15, 2019

For more details, visit MonacoAmerica.com

WEBSITE

MAY 6-9, 2019 GULF BREEZE RV RESORT

19800 Oak Rd W, Gulf Shores, AL 36542

THE FOLLOWING RALLY FEES INCLUDE
 4 Nights Camping with 50 Amp/Full Hookups
 3 Breakfasts • 3 Dinners & More

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

<input type="radio"/> 2 Members/Coach	\$425
<input type="radio"/> 1 Member/Coach	\$375
<input type="radio"/> Registration for 2 (no camping)	\$320
<input type="radio"/> Non-Monaco America Members (add an extra)	+\$25
<input type="radio"/> Monaco America Plaque	\$30
TOTAL \$ _____	

Make check payable to Monaco America
 Mail to: Monaco America c/o John Connell
 2829 West Grand River • Howell, MI 48843



Please read the Cancellation Policy on the Monaco America website <http://www.MonacoAmerica.com>



**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.

Monaco America Board



President: Carl "Sonny" Hodge, hodgeus@yahoo.com
1st VP/Rally Master: Allen Jackson, allenjksn125@gmail.com
2nd VP/Security: Floyd Cook, fwcook1@gmail.com
Secretary: Suellen Hodge, HodgeSuellen@aol.com
Treasurer: Jack Connell, jconnell@jconnellassoc.com
Nat'l. FMCA Dir.: Carl "Sonny" Hodge, hodgeus@yahoo.com
Alt. Nat'l. FMCA Dir.: Bert Garcia, Bert Garcia73@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor: Suellen Hodge, HodgeSuellen@aol.com
Webmaster: Bert Garcia, www.monacoamerica.com, or
Bert Garcia73@gmail.com

Past Presidents:

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

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

Monaco America
422 Inverness
Howell, MI 48843
586-817-7584
jconnell@jconnellassoc.com

Questions on Club Membership?

Contact Jack Connell
Monaco America
422 Inverness
Howell, MI 48843
586-817-7584
jconnell@jconnellassoc.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 Chapter of the
Family Motor Coach Association
An International club for the
owners of *All RVs as defined by FMCA*

Treasurers's Message

If you haven't yet, please send 2019 dues to me.

Thanks,

Jack Connell, Treasurer



**Monaco America
News**
Suellen Hodge, Editor
8045 Yolanda Ave
Reseda, CA 91335-1258

TO:

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

Spring 2019



Monaco America Spring Rally

May 6–9, 2019

Gulf Breeze RV Resort

19800 Oak Road West

Gulf Shores, AL 36542

