



# Monaco America News

VOL. 15, No. 2

SUMMER



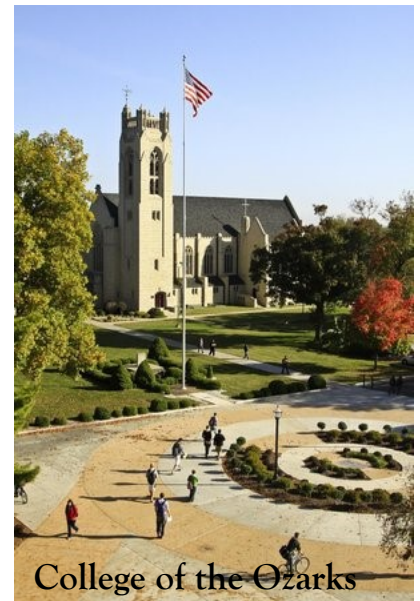
Our Fall rally will be in Branson, MO, a favorite of mine. There are so many things to do there, we will certainly wish we were there longer. Allen has lined up lots of activities. For anyone who has never been there, you are in for a great time! Plus, LOTS of SHOPPING. Tanger Outlet, several malls and my favorite, Branson Mill, “a one-of-a-kind craft mall with a dedicated and talented group of artisans and master crafters who both demonstrate and sell their works.”



There’s The Ralph Foster Museum at College of the Ozarks.



Veterans Memorial Museum



College of the Ozarks



Expect to see y’all there—Suellen



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# WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

## Members who recently joined!

Terry & Deborah Benn, Pensacola, FL

Buck and Suz Emerson, Gulf Breeze, FL

Barbara Brand, Montgomery, TX

Rick & Yolanda Rutel, New Port Richy, FL

Ward and Jill Johnson, Simpsonville, SC

Jock & Jeanie Hattie, Statesboro, GA

## From the President

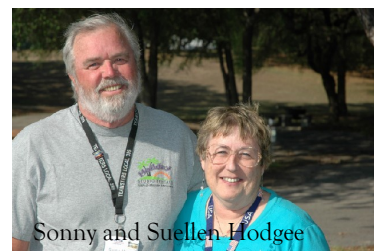
I hope everyone is enjoying their summer vacations, family outings and the like. I for one could use a little cooler weather, triple digits is not my cup or glass of \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in your favorite liquid).

Looking to the future it's less than ten 10 weeks to our October rally (9th thru 12th) in Branson. Allen has worked very hard in making all the arrangements that we as members like and have come to expect. Deadline for registration is September 17th. The reason is the bus company, transporting us to the shows and college of the Ozarks, need to know the number of people so they can be prepared. More info is in the Rally Master newsletter.

As I have stated before, if the members don't show, no rally so if you haven't already sent you registration form in, down load it from the web site, [monacoamerica.com](http://monacoamerica.com) now and send it to Jack. Branson has as many shows, if not more, than Las Vegas but without the sin.

At the 2018 spring rally in Mineola, TX May 7th-10th there will be election of officers for 2018-2020. All office positions are open but President. If you are interested in running for an office please let Steve Acton or Terry Walker of the nominating committee know.

Hope to see everyone in Branson.  
Sonny





Allen and Sharon Jackson

## From the Wagon Master

### To Our Monaco America Family and Guests,

We hope all is well with each of you.

As Sharon and I sit here in Victoria British Columbia, we realize that the summer is passing by very quickly. On our trip, we have seen many magnificent sites and places and met some great people. I am always amazed at how small the world is. When we were in St Mary, Montana, the people parked two sites from us live approximately 10 miles from our home.

Enough about me. As you all know, the Branson rally is fast approaching. At the current time, we have received **only 10** registrations. We are striving to make this a fun time and a great experience for all. Given that we are in Branson, the rally focus is more toward enjoying the area and the shows. **If you plan on attending, your registration must be to Jack before September 17<sup>th</sup>**

.A couple points of clarification/interest:

Your rally fee only covers 3 dinners (i.e., Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday). The Thursday evening dinner (Grand Country Buffet) is packaged with the Grand Jubilee (<http://www.grandcountry.com/grand-jubilee>)

The college of the Ozarks is a tuition free college. Given that we will travel by motor coach, a narrator will board and give us a tour of the campus. See <http://www.cofo.edu/> for more details about the college. On the campus is a great museum which has the Beverly Hillbillies car.

The planning for our 2018 rallies is underway. The 2018 Spring rally will be at the Civic Center (<https://mineolaciviccenterandrvpark.com/>) in Mineola, TX May 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> and the 2018 Fall rally will be at the Bald Mountain Camping Resort (<http://www.baldmountainpark.com/>) in Hiawassee GA, September 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>.

At the present time, we are hopeful of being in Branson. This is dependent on how well Sharon is recovering from foot surgery. If anyone is interested in being the local rally master for this rally please contact me.

Have safe travels and we hope to see all of you in Branson.

Allen and Sharon Jackson

# FMCA

## Results of the FMCA Governing Board Meeting on July 12, 2017

The Family Motor Coach Association is a volunteer owned and volunteer managed not-for-profit corporation. The FMCA leadership structure consists of an Executive Board that conducts the day to day operations, a Governing Board that provides direction to the Executive Board and submits proposals for the Members to approve or disapprove. Ultimately, the Membership controls FMCA by electing National Directors to serve on the Governing Board. Any changes to the FMCA Articles of Incorporation and the Constitution must be approved by the Membership.

Monaco America is represented on the Governing Board by our National Director, Sonny Hodge, and our Alternate National Director, Bert Garcia. The FMCA Governing Board met on July 12, 2017 at the 96<sup>th</sup> International Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. Bert Garcia attended the Indianapolis convention to represent Monaco America.

The GB approved a proposal to change all references in the Articles of Incorporation, the Constitution, and By-Laws, from “motor coaches” and similar terms to “recreational vehicles.” The intent of this change is to allow towable RVs to join FMCA as full members. A towable was defined as a self-contained wheeled vehicle that includes permanently installed cooking, sleeping, and sanitary facilities.

The GB did not take the decision to allow towable RVs to join FMCA lightly. There was considerable discussion that FMCA is on a trajectory of decline. The average age of FMCA members is 73 and the average age of towable RV owners is 39. Sales of towable RVs outnumber motor homes approximately four to one. FMCA membership has been declining at a steady rate of about 5,000 per year, though this trend has slowed recently due to a significant membership recruiting effort. Adding towable RVs to the membership roll is expected to bring additional revenue from membership dues, increase convention and rally attendance, bring more advertising revenue from the FMCA magazine, and increase manufacturer and vendor participation in FMCA.

The FMCA Membership must approved the proposal to allow towable RVs into FMCA with 65% of the Membership voting in the affirmative. The Executive Board will conduct the voting, which is anticipated to occur by written ballots mailed directly to the voting Members. Voting is expected to happen starting in December 2017 after a proper notice period of at least 120 days.

The GB considered two other proposals. One would prohibit two family members from concurrently holding an elected position on the Executive Board. This proposal was rejected, and the GB recognized that in many instances family members act as a team to the betterment of FMCA. The second proposal would change the non-discrimination language in FMCA documents by expanding the definition to include gender expression, sex, sexual orientation, religion, color, marital or family status, age nationality, disability or political beliefs. The GB rejected this proposal as an attempt to inject politically correct language to the detriment of FMCA. The GB allowed the existing non-discrimination language to remain as “race, age, gender, national origin, or disability.”

The GB elected the following people to the Executive Board: Jon Walker, President; Rett Porter, Senior Vice President; Gaye Young, National Secretary; and John Reynolds, Treasurer. Their two-year terms began on July 15, 2017.

A written report of all GB actions will be submitted to the Monaco America Executive Board at their October 2017 meeting and a verbal report will be given to the membership at the Fall rally in Branson, MO in October.

I was honored to represent Monaco America as your Alternate National Director. FMCA provides considerable support and benefits to our membership. Our participation on the Governing Board is our opportunity to inform FMCA of our opinions through our vote.

Bert Garcia  
FMCA Alternate National Director

# Attention Crafters

We will not be having any classes at this rally. Branson has so much to do our teachers want to participate in all the activities. I will be available (between all the fun, by appointment) for knit/crochet help.



We will be having the Ladies' Tea, probably Tuesday, time will be in your registration packet. I hope everyone will be in attendance.

Our Charity is The Crisis Center of Taney County. It is the mission of the center to provide quality residential and non-residential services to victims, of domestic and sexual violence, and their children.

In addition to cash donations, in-kind donations are also welcome. These include: food, clothing, diapers, personal hygiene supplies, cleaning supplies, household appliances, office equipment and furniture to name a few. Their website is [taneycrisiscenter.org](http://taneycrisiscenter.org)  
See their wish list on page 6

See you there.  
Suellen



## WISH LIST FOR DONATIONS

### Cleaning Supplies/Household

Bathroom/Kitchen Cleaner  
Disinfectant Wipes  
Dish Cloths, Garbage Bags  
Paper Towels, Paper plates  
\*13 g Size Garbage Cans  
Spray bottles  
\*Air Deodorizers  
Cleaning Buckets, Mr. Clean Erasers  
Laundry Soap, Dryer Sheets  
Clear Storage Bins  
Bleach

### Personal Hygiene

Body Wash, Shampoo, Conditioner  
Body Lotion, \*Hair Spray  
Make-up, Nail Polish  
Deodorant  
Cotton Balls/Q-tips, Kleenex  
Razors  
Toilet Paper  
Curling Irons, Hair ties  
\*Brushes  
Underwear-All Sizes

### Children Needs

Diapers, Baby Wipes  
\*Play Pen, Baby-gates

### Office

Copy Paper, Envelopes, Folders, Labels Desk supplies  
Office Furniture  
Computers w/current programs  
Printers/Accessories, Etc.  
Telephones/Cell phones

### Building/Maintenance

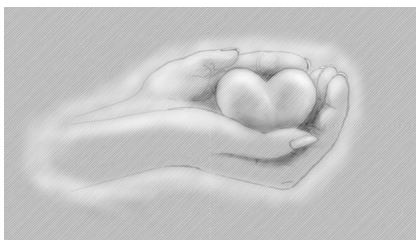
Plywood, Misc. Lumber, Liquid Nail  
Work gloves, Facemasks  
Leatherman  
Tool Kit (2) Staple gun/Staples  
Heavy Duty Wagon  
Convertible Hand Truck, Utility Cart  
Extension Cords, Surge Protectors  
Lawn Mower, Weed-eater, Chain-Saw  
Paint Supplies, Snow Shovels, Salt  
Step Ladder, 6ft Ladder  
\*Patio table, \*BBQ Grill (Gas)  
Golf Cart, \*Truck  
Kwikset (**Smart Code 909 Keyless Entry**)  
\*Garden Hoses

### Household

Mini/Small Microwaves  
Small Coffee Pots (4cup)  
\*Pots and Pans, Deep Fryer  
Small Refrigerators  
Washer/Dryer (1 ea.)  
Laundry Baskets  
Room Darkening Window Shades  
Sturdy Bar Curtain Rods  
Can Openers

### Bedding

Rollaway Beds with sheets  
Twin Sheets, Bed Bug Covers Q and F  
Blankets (all sizes except throw)  
Pillows, Large Area Rugs



## The Crisis Center

P.O. Box 282  
Branson, MO. 65615  
417-561-5105



# MONACO AMERICA FALL RALLY

OCTOBER 9-12, 2017 • BRANSON, MO  
America's Best Campground • 499 Buena Vista Road • Branson, MO 65616

**WE WELCOME ALL COACHES  
IN GOOD STANDING WITH FMCA**  
Towables are welcome as guests of attending members  
at the non-member rate of \$450.

**FEE INCLUDES**  
4 Nights Camping with 50 Amps/Water/Sewer  
Monday Welcome Gathering • 3 Breakfasts  
4 Evening Meals • Shows • Vendors • Seminars  
Social Hour • Ladies Tea • Craft Classes  
(additional cost may apply) • FUN and more  
**AND WILL TRAVEL BY TOUR BUS  
TO SHOWS & COLLEGE TOURS.**

Early arrivals and late departures must make  
arrangements directly with the RV Park. Please  
contact Michelle Ward at (800) 671-4399.

## 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

**RESERVATIONS DUE BY SEPTEMBER 17**

Visit our website for more information and updates.  
**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
  - College of the Ozarks Tour FREE
  - #1 Hits of the 60s – 2 p.m. \$42 per/person x \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Grand Country Buffet & Jubilee Show – 6 p.m. \$47 per/person x \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Make check payable to Monaco America**  
**Mail to:** Monaco America - John Connell  
 2829 W Grand River • Howell, MI 48843

**Got questions about the rally?**  
**Contact Wagon Master** – Allen Jackson,  
 7151 Watkins Rd. SW, Pataskala, OH 43062;  
 wagonmaster@monacoamerica.com Website



## MORE BRANSON SIGHTS



Gary and Karen Mann passed through Kerrville, TX and stopped to visit Dale and Ann Lemons. Dale is wheelchair bound, but they are both doing well.





# 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@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, 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

**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

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

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

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 Motorized Coaches*



**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!

**Proudly show your Monaco America membership!**



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

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

**Fall 2017**



**Monaco America Fall Rally  
October 9–12, 2017**

**America's Best Campground  
499 Buena Vista Road  
Branson, MO 65616**