



Monaco America News



VOL. 14, NO. 1

SPRING 2016

Our Spring 2016 rally will be in Rayne, Louisiana.
Frog Capital of the World *and* Louisiana City of Murals



Murals like these are all over the city



And frog statues are all over town.

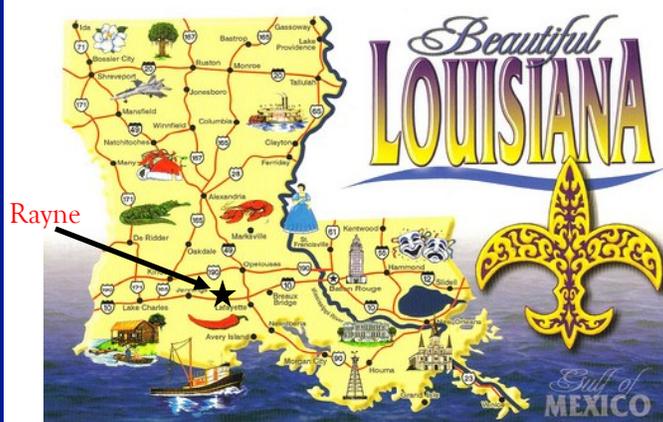
See more at

<http://www.rayne.org/photo-gallery.php>



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Hope to see y'all there!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Members who joined at our Fall 2015 rally in Shawnee OK

Cecil and Pat Campbell, Point Blank, TX
Roger and Pat Dobbins, Winfield, KS
Deb Heen, Box Elder, SD
Jim and Sherrie Kent, Huntsville, TX
Chuck and Doris Monson, Spokane, WA

Members who recently joined!

Danny and Barbara Borne, Marrero, LA
Greg and Mary Yapple, Crestview, FL
Rob and Janice Woolley, Fresno, CA
Bruce and Kathy Bowsby, Redding, CA
Steve and Janelle Kappler, College Station, TX
John and Debbie Nielsen, Hayward, CA
Steve and Kathy Acton, Key Largo, FL
Tom and Donna Gibbens, Raytown, MO
Rudy and Barbara Grun, Garland, TX
Josana Bernzinski and Frank Arsenault, Summerfield, FL
Jim and Ann Phifer, Millville, NJ
Phil and Cathy Schirtzinger, Crossville, TN
John and Jenna Erickson, San Jose, CA
Mike and Sandi Scheafer, Costa Mesa, CA
Dan and Rusty Burgener, Mansfield, OH
Roger and Martha Smith, The Villages, FL
Joe Monroe, Madison, SD
Ron and Ava Stefancyk, Northbridge, MA
Wanda VonDerLieth, Vincennes, IN
Basil and Liz Wisner, Ocean View, DE
Fred and Beth Miller, Chowchilla, CA



Gary and Carole Granat
gegranat@gmail.com

A Note From the President

I write this article as Carole and I are wrapping up our winter in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. It's almost spring and time to head north to our, what has become our part time home, in Indiana. The time just goes by too quickly.

And speaking of too quickly, Monaco America's Spring 2016 Rally in Rayne, LA will be the 28th Monaco America rally that Carole and I have attended and will be my last as an officer of what I truly believe to be the Premier Motor Coach Club. Rayne ends the fun time we had as Monaco America's Wagon Master for 13 rallies and President during the past 12 rallies. As we enter our 80th year, it really is time to give the reins to someone else. Your Nominating Committee has put together an exceptional slate for you, our members, to consider and vote upon at Rayne. But, as always, additional nominees will be solicited from the floor during our election process. If you are interested in taking on some of the challenges, fun and rewards of being an officer of our great club, it's not too late to get your name in the hat.

As you may have heard, there have been changes at Monaco RV. Mike Snell, the former president of Monaco RV who spent some time with us during two recent rallies, is no longer part of Monaco RV. Monaco RV's support for all their clubs is being reviewed, but we still have their commitment for onsite support at our 15th anniversary rally next October in Goshen, IN. They will, also, attempt to have dealers provide display coaches at all our rallies. We'll wait and see to what extent Monaco RV chooses to be a part of our rallies. They most certainly recognize that their participation is mutually beneficial.

Our Wagon Master, Allen Jackson and his wife Sharon are hard at work putting together the Rayne rally and have just recently visited the rally site to help in finalizing the activities. At our 15th anniversary rally in Goshen, we'll probably do some the neat things we did during our 2009 Goshen rally. If you haven't been to the Goshen site, you will be pleasantly surprised as to what's available in the general area. Again being in an Amish area, there will be that influence on our activities and the catering.

Let's all be proud members of Monaco America and have one our new

plaques displayed on your coach. These plaques are available for sale at all Monaco America rallies and online at www.monacoamerica.com. Monaco America patches are also available. Show your pride.

Monaco Americans, we need to see **all** of you at our rallies, if you're not there, we **really** miss you. We will expect to see you in Rayne and/or Goshen. As always, let's keep Monaco Americans and family members struggling with health issues, in our thoughts and prayers.

As I write this last article as Monaco America's president, we thank all of you for your support and friendship over the years.

God Bless you and God Bless America

Gary Granat



**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!



Allen and Sharon Jackson

A Note from the Wagon Master

To Our Monaco America Family and Guests,

As I prepare this article, the month of March will soon appear in our rear view mirrors. Thus, the camping season is fast approaching and time to get the Motorhome out of mothballs and on the road. Unless, you are a snowbird and you have spent the winter in a warmer climate. Also, it means that our spring rally in Rayne, LA is just a couple of months away. If you are planning on attending, be sure to register that is if you have not done so already.

As usual, we have planned a fun filled 4 days including food, entertainment, seminars, the Lady's Tea, the men's ROMEO luncheon, washer toss, pet show, round tables and more. The overall theme for this rally is freedom in celebration of Memorial Day (i.e., red, white, blue.) However, Wednesday evening's theme will be Mardi Gras. So bring your beads and masks. In addition and given that we are in Cajun country, we are offering a Cajun dance class. For those arriving prior to lunch on Saturday May 21st, I have arranged a lunch at Kelly's Island. Kelly is a crawdad farmer who presents information on the relationship between rice farming and crawdads. Watch for more information in your rally confirmation packet which will be e-mail the end of April or the first part of May. **A special note: Bring extra sewer hose and power cords with you to Rayne.**

Over the past four months I have contacted 15 – 20 vendors. As of this writing, I have 2 firm commitments (i.e., RV Wash and Detailing, and Mobil RV Lube.) I am open to any suggestions that you might have for additional vendors and how we might encourage vendors to attend our rallies.

Rayne is the frog capitol of the US and it is holding its Frog Festival May 11-14. The festival is held at the Rayne City RV Park and Civic Center. As a result, I do not recommend anyone trying to arrive prior to Tuesday May 17th. If you are planning to arrive prior to this date I recommend finding another RV park. To reiterate an earlier email message for early arrivals: **DO NOT** pay Rayne City directly unless you are willing to pay \$30 a night vs the rally rate of \$15 a night. If you are interested on staying in the Louisiana beyond the rally, you may want to look into one or more of the following:

Mudbug Madness Festival, May 26, 2016, Shreveport, LA
Crawfish Craze 5-D Barrel Run May 27th-29th, West Monroe, LA
Bayou Country Superfest May 27th-29th, Baton Rouge, LA
ALR Freedom Fest May 27th-29th, 2016, Morgan City, LA
Little Walter Music Festival, May 28, 2016, Alexandria, LA
Arts Market of New Orleans, May 28, 2016, New Orleans, LA

It takes many members to make our chapter work and continue to be one of the best in FMCA. In addition, the Wagon Master must rely on everyone attending to make a rally successful. Our appreciation goes to everyone who volunteered their time to make this happen during the rally and throughout the year. Not to miss naming an individual I have elected to thank all our

members who have volunteered to conduct/teach/chair/help with all that must come together to have a successful rally. In addition, I am always looking for suggestions on how to make our rallies more attractive to all and where to hold rallies.

Sharon and I would like to wish all our friends of Monaco America, their families, and friends a Happy Easter.

Looking forward to seeing all of you In Rayne.
Allen and Sharon Jackson



Monaco America Website

MONACO AMERICA IS IN YOUR POCKET

Did you know you probably have Monaco America with you every day in your pocket or purse? If you have a Smartphone, you can connect to the Monaco America website using your Internet app. Type in monacoamerica.com and the website home page will appear.

You have access to the latest club information, our rally schedule, the membership roster with everyone's name, address and phone number, all of the newsletters, and all of our photos. You need to know the user name and password to see the roster. (User name is monaco, and password is america.)

You may find that your Smartphone functions differently from a computer when you browse the website. For example, you may need to double-tap links to open them. Items such as the membership roster, rally applications and newsletters will download as a file rather than opening in a new window. Swipe down from the top of your screen to see a list of files you have downloaded, then tap on the file to view. Your Smartphone may operate differently to view files. Experiment with a few taps and swipes and you'll become an expert.

You will find many useful apps for your Smartphone to help you while RVing. There are apps to find your favorite businesses and services, locate fuel stops, display maps and a compass, find campgrounds, aim your TV satellite antenna, get a weather forecast and find discount coupons to save you a few pennies. There will be a seminar at the next rally to demonstrate many such apps.

Do you have a Kindle Fire or Nook HD? If so, you have access to the Monaco America website too. You can read all of our newsletters just like reading a book. Use the Silk app on Kindle. Use the Chrome app on the Nook. Read our newsletters in brilliant color as originally written! Have every club member's phone number at your fingertips!

RVing means travelling. Use your Smartphone or eReader to keep in touch on the go.

Bert Garcia

Monaco America Webmaster

Attention Crafters

Carole Granat
Craft Coordinator



Ladies' Tea News

Our next Ladies' Tea will be in Rayne, LA this coming May. A vote to sponsor two charities was decided. We will make a \$75.00 donation for a brick, with Monaco America Ladies' Tea's name on it, to be placed in a walk for a Veterans Memorial that the city of Rayne is building. We also voted to help the Daily Manor; which is a food pantry and store for the needy of the community. They can use anything for a household and clothing that can be new or gently used.



Crafts:

I'm doing a card stitching project. Maybe someone else has an idea for something like a show and tell. Please let me know if you would be willing to do this.

See you in Rayne,
Carole Granat
Ladies' Tea & Craft Coordinator

Monaco America Spring Rally

May 23—May 26, 2016

Fun in the Bayou
 City of Rayne RV Park
 206 Frog Festival Dr.
 Rayne, LA 70578



Visit our website for more information and updates.

www.monacoamerica.com

We welcome all motorhome owners who are in good standing with FMCA. Towables are welcome as guests of attending members at the non-member rate of \$400.00

Rally Fee Includes
 4 nights camping w/50A/Water/Shared Sewer
 Monday Welcome Gathering
 3 Breakfasts, 4 Evening Dinners
 Entertainment, Vendors, Seminars, Social Hours, Ladies Tea, Craft Classes, Fun, and more Fun.

RALLY REGISTRATION FORM											
Last Name _____											
First Person _____	Spouse Name _____										
Address _____											
City _____	State _____ Zip _____										
E-mail _____											
Cell Phone _____											
Coach Model _____	FMCA# _____										
Handicapped <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	First Timer <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No										
<input type="checkbox"/> E-Mail rally confirmation packet or	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold rally packet at Information Center										
Make check payable to: Monaco America	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>2 Members/Coach full hookups</td> <td>\$375.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Member/Coach full hookups</td> <td>\$325.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Registration for 2 (no camping)</td> <td>\$295.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non-Monaco America Members Add extra</td> <td>\$25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> </table>	2 Members/Coach full hookups	\$375.00	1 Member/Coach full hookups	\$325.00	Registration for 2 (no camping)	\$295.00	Non-Monaco America Members Add extra	\$25.00	Total	_____
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Non-Monaco America Members Add extra	\$25.00										
Total	_____										
Mail to: Monaco America 7956 Vaughn Rd., Box 174 Montgomery, AL 36116											

Questions concerning the rally should be addressed to Wagon Master
 Allen Jackson
 7151 Watkins Rd SW
 Pataskala, OH 43062
 (740) 739-0019
 Allenjcksn125@gmail.com

Early arrivals and stays past the rally will be responsible for making any necessary reservations. The phone numbers for the RV Park are:
 (337) 334-3121 or
 (337) 334-6607

Monaco America Board



President: Gary Granat, gegranat@gmail.com
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2nd Vice President/Security: Floyd Cook, fwcook1@cox.net
Secretary: Suellen Hodge, HodgeSuellen@aol.com
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n8nn@earthlink.net

Questions on Club Membership?

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Montgomery, AL 36116
334-546-6618
bobandsallyq@aol.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 either by email at:

HodgeSuellen@aol.com, (**Please identify any e-mail with the subject line of Monaco America**) or by regular mail to: Suellen Hodge, 8045 Yolanda Ave, Reseda, CA 91335-1258

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

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Email: bobandsallyq@aol.com

A Chapter of the
Family Motor Coach Association
An International club for the
owners of All Motorized Coaches

From the Editor

Thanks to all of you for your prayers, good will and cards during my hospitalizations. I am on the mend, but doctor recommends I not cross the vast empty spaces, just in case. So, I will not be seeing you in Rayne. I do plan to see you all in Goshen.

Suellen



Monaco America News

Suellen Hodge, Editor

8045 Yolanda Ave

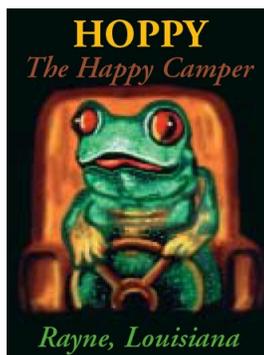
Reseda, CA 91335-1258

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

Spring 2016

Monaco America Spring Rally

May 23—May 26, 2016



Fun in the Bayou City of Rayne

RV Park

206 Frog Festival Dr.

Rayne, LA 70578