



Southeast Chapter Newsletter

... News of upcoming events and chapter chatter for December, 2004 ...

Seasons Greetings!!! - This edition of the newsletter is being written as the Holiday Rally comes to a close at "Sun N Fun" RV Resort in Sarasota.

Forty-Two coaches had signed up to enjoy the rally, which was hosted by Dan and Renee Lee, Tony and Lorraine Licalsi, Gary and Courtney Webb and Ron and Barbara Wilkinson.

Hats off to our rally hosts- they pulled all the stops to ensure that we all had a wonderful time. "Sun N Fun" is an incredible campus, and we had the run of all facilities. We have already made reservations for next year at this site, and are looking forward to another memorable event for our annual Holiday Rally.

Southeast Chapter Rally and Annual Meeting at Lazy Days Rally Park-

Here's an Update from our Rally Chairman:

Our Lazy Days Rally & Annual Meeting, January 13-16, as always, will be our largest rally of the year. Plans are progressing nicely, including some special added surprises. One includes the SE Chapter Pink Ladies event on Thursday evening... (Enough said?)

Randy Hendricks has told me that a few of you are not using the service request forms that were sent to you with your confirmation. Please use the proper form. If you have misplaced it and need another please let me know. I can get you another!

Rally Park has requested that you not call them looking for sites prior to the rally. They are just not available.

Please plan to arrive at Rally Park on the 13th between 1:00PM and 4:00PM. We would greatly appreciate it if you would follow the directions of the parking committee as how to proceed on your arrival.

As of this writing we have a near sellout. We have 150 sites reserved for the rally and 139 sites have been "spoken for" at this time.

If you have not registered and want to attend, all may not be lost. The call to Lazy Days has gone out for additional sites. Nothing positive yet, however, they have not said "no" either.

If you are interested in attending or have any questions about the rally please contact me promptly. The rally registration form has gone out with this newsletter again-preparing ahead of time for folks who have decided to be with us in January

HANK NEWMAN, Rally Host
(352) 895-8475 or e-mail: HankNewman@aol.com

Donations Continue to Mount! - "Puttin' On the Pink"...

As you are no doubt aware, a huge effort is under way to gather donations for the Hope Lodge at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa.

With everyone's generous contributions and effort, we have reached the first brick. Each brick indicates an achievement level of \$1,000 in contributions. We are hoping to reach our second brick in January.

At the Lazy Days Rally, on Thursday evening, we will hold a silent auction- details will be in your rally packet at check-in time.

We will need volunteers to make home-made desserts for this event. We can also use items for the silent auction as well. Items and desserts need to be registered with a member of the committee prior to the event. Please contact:

Barbara Bowen
Pat Evans
Carol Harrison
Barbara Ritzenhaler
or Peggy Woods.

Marion Davis
Margie Gallante
Cindy Hoffman
Jo-Anne Schneider

Everyone remember- Thursday evening, everyone is requested to wear pink.....

Upward and onward --with more great rallies in 2005...

February- 17th - 20th - Changes have been made.....both in the dates and the location... Last month, we reported that our tentative choice for February was Stone Mountain RV Resort in west central Georgia.

As part of the planning process, we consulted the ground hog society of central Georgia- who readily agreed that- the potential for unusual weather (translate to cold and nasty) was high for these dates- So, we moved south- 346.7 miles south to be exact.

We're now set to enjoy the Florida beaches near Santa Rosa Beach- at the **Topsail Hill State Preserve**. This destination is consistently rated by Trailer Life as one of the very very few "10-10-10" parks in the entire United States.

There are some specifics associated with going there. Unfortunately, group registrations are not available. So, please make notes of the following information- and, if you are interested in attending this rally- please act on it right away.

The number of sites are limited- and, if we don't reserve right away, the campground will release these tentative reservations.

Every coach must sign up on its own- So, either call the central reservations office- at 800-326-3521 and make your own reservations- or on the web, you can contact www.reserveamerica.com, and complete your own campsite reservations.

Note: in either event, make sure to reserve on sites 101 through 168 to make sure we are all parked together- These are the "premo" spots.

You will need to arrange for three nights camping- Thursday through Saturday- the 17th to 19th. As of this writing, we have arranged for up to 50 sites to be held for this event. We only have a few days to solidify these reservations- so please make your calls or visit the website as soon as possible.

The intent here is to have an accurate count of the number of people desiring to attend, and then we can wrap the other costs around that number and arrive at a total cost for the rally.

Please note- If a member is 65 years or older, and they call the central registrations office, there is a substantial discount available- that is not extended on the website.

If you qualify, please be sure to call rather than secure reservations on the website.

This is certainly a departure from our "normal" method of making rally arrangements- but, this is also one of the most beautiful locations on the planet- so it is absolutely worth the extra effort.

Please fill out your reservation form and mail it in today- Also, make your call or website visit to ensure that you have reserved your place for this event individually with the state park system.

Your rally coordinator is Pat Leszewski, the rally hosts are: Myra and Jack Hirschhorn, Louise and Wayne Smith, and Pat and John Leszewski.

March 31st to April 3rd - Has been designated as our return to River Bend Resort -

Rambling along the banks of the beautiful Caloosahatchee River, this beautiful Class-A resort has it all. It is located on Highway 80, close to 17 miles east of Interstate 75. Facilities include an 8,000 square foot clubhouse, boat rentals, heated pool and tennis courts.

Full details and the registration form will follow in our next newsletter. We are looking for rally hosts for this one- please contact Vic if you are interested.

As spring bounds into full swing, our thoughts turn to the spring national rally. The Southeast Chapter pre-rally will take place at the:

Southwind RV Park- Foley, Alabama May 14th through 17th-

The Southwind RV Park comes complete with beautifully landscaped club and rally accommodations, dedicated group sites, 2 clubhouses, spacious level sites, cable TV, and loads of restaurants, shopping and golf nearby. Full details will follow as we get closer to the event. We are looking for rally hosts for this one- please contact Vic if you are interested.

National Rally- Mobile, Alabama May 17th through 22nd-

Just think- Spring in Mobile- the city by the bay- tours to the USS Alabama in battleship park- maybe a side trip to Fairhope- lots of things to see and do at the national rally- plus all of those seminars and tons of fun.

More to follow on this- also, check for full details in the ACA national magazine.

Don't forget- in order to qualify for the discounted rally rate- your application must be postmarked before December 31st, 2004.

The trip to Mobile completes the 2004-05 rally season- lots of terrific events and wonderful memories. Just to let you know- your club officers and rally planning team have been working really hard, and have great things in store for you- once the fall 2005 rally season gets under way.

We have some upcoming new and unusual places picked for you to enjoy, and have a nearly full rally schedule planned and ready to go through the spring of 2006.

Overview/partial rally schedule-

Fall 2005:

**Sept (TBD) - SouthEast Chapter Pre-Rally-
near Columbus, Ohio**

Sept 14th - 19th - ACA National, Columbus, Ohio

October (TBD) - Stone Mountain, Georgia

November (TBD) - Blue Water, Key West, Florida

December (TBD) - Sun N Fun- Holiday Rally

Spring 2006:

January, 2006 - SouthEast Annual - Lazy Days

**February, 2006 - Disney's Fort Wilderness Camp-
ground, Orlando, Florida.**

**March, 2006 - Kennedy Space Center -
Cape Canaveral, Florida**

President's Corner:

Well December is here and it's time for me to let everybody know Jo-Anne & I have finally arrived home.

After The Wichita Falls Rally we proceeded to New Orleans and could not find space at any Campground. It was Halloween, and there was a motorcycle rally going on, so all the campgrounds were full.

We drove on to my Son & Daughter-in laws in Mississippi as we had installed two hookups there last year. We stayed there until the Casino Magic Rally traveling the 55miles into New Orleans almost every day.

The Casino Magic Rally was overwhelmingly successful- thanks to the Bennett's and McQuagg's efforts and planning. Ken Ware from Lazy Day's had two "Eagles" on display- a 40 footer and a new 42 footer.

When he wasn't busy fixing problems on other coaches, he had time to sell several coaches- and even let some of us drive a Liberty Chassis Coach. Lazy Days supplied our breakfast buffet on Sunday morning and the Crown Club put on a wine and cheese cocktail hour.

We had 40+ coaches in attendance and I'm sure a good time was had by all. We even found a wonderful new restaurant nearby, and about 30 of us had dinner there on our free night.

After the rally, we spent a night with the Graham's near Mobile. Jo-Anne had to check out arrangements for the Pink Lady's Luncheon at the Mobile Rally next May.

I had to check out the fairgrounds for locations for Vendors and Seminars all of which will be inside- and air conditioned. The Mobile rally should be excellent- and, if you register before December 31- the fee is only \$249.

We just returned home on Sunday from The Holiday Rally at Sun & Fun in Sarasota.

Dan & Renee Lee and the group that assisted them are to be commended for a super job. To everyone's surprise, the appetizers the first night turned into dinner. The Boat Ride and lunch was attended by nearly 60 of us... complete with perfect Sarasota weather.

The dinner and gift exchange was tons of fun. The dance floor was full until the close of the evening, and on Sunday we were all sad about having to leave.

We decided everything worked out so well that we have already booked Sun & Fun for next December. If you missed this one- you'll have another chance next year.

It's now been a year since I became President and I want to thank all of you. I am running again for President, and hope we can spend the next year together.

In addition, I have been nominated to run as Vice President of ACA National. In the past few years several Chapter Presidents have held National offices. Upon checking both the Southeast and National By-Laws- holding two positions simultaneously is not a violation.

I don't feel it will intrude upon my duties as Southeast President, and it surely will not hurt us to have a member on the Executive Board. I can tell you if I ever have to choose only one- it would be to remain as your Southeast President.

Wishing all of you a Happy Holiday Season and may the New Year bring you all good health.

Vic Schneider,
President Southeast Chapter ACA

Annual Election of Officers- Proposed Slate of Officers- Report of the Nominating Committee:

The bylaws of the organization provide for an election of officers to be held in January of each year. The following names are the proposed slate of officers for the 2005 calendar year:

President	Vic Schneider
Vice President	Doug Thompson
Treasurer	Dan Lee
Secretary	Janice Thompson
Rally Coordinator	Pat Leszewski
Membership Chairman	Ron Wilkinson

Note: The offices of Rally Coordinator and Membership Chairman are authorized in our bylaws, but have not been previously elected. Continued growth of the chapter allows for a division of duties to assist in spreading responsibilities.

We will vote on this slate of officers, as well as any additional nominees during the business meeting on Saturday. If you are interested in being an officer and would like to run for an office, please contact a member of the nominating committee. Mike Kidder - 407-841-7909, Reggie Hedrick - 863-318-9102 or Jeannine Mosher - 321-757-6766.

Save Money? - Renew your membership...

At this point, we don't know how long this special is in effect- but, just in case you missed it in the national newsletter, there is a discounted renewal offer on at the national level if you use the ACA national website to renew.

To qualify, you must sign up for an additional 3 year renewal- once this is done, you will receive two \$30 discount coupons to ACA national rally events. One must be used on the next national, the other must be used before July 1st, 2007.

(editor's note: - It works- just got my certificates in the mail...)

Disaster Relief Team for the Southeast Chapter?

During the rally next month, there will be a meeting held to determine the level of interest in a plan for the establishment of a Disaster Relief Team. Steve and Mary Sue Southerland are championing this effort, and will be asking for input and thoughts as to if this idea has potential, and how we could go about establishing this team.

The long term goal would be to make this a national project of ACA, thus giving us the ability to put a team "on the ground" in a matter of hours- anywhere in the United States.

Please make plans to attend this "brain storming" session. In the mean time, direct your thoughts and ideas to:

Steve and Mary Sue Southerland
2303 N. Harbour Drive
Lynn Haven, FL 32444
or: marysuesouth@knology.net

Welcome to our New Members....

The following people have joined our chapter since our last newsletter. Please join with us in welcoming them to membership in the SouthEast ACA:

Donald & Doris Edmunds	Lake Wales, FL
Tom & Nancy Mosson	Spring Hill, FL
John Shealy	Mims, FL
Jerry & Mary Sivin	Georgetown, TX
Dave & Lynda Workman	Melbourne, FL
Arlie W. Young	Ormond Beach, FL

Editor's Note:

The Holidays and New Years is just around the corner, from our house to yours- may you have the very best of the season. We're looking forward to being with our ACA friends as this rally season continues.

As always, story ideas, articles and fun things to share are always welcome.... Please send them to:

doug@rvzoomin.com

or

snail mail:

Doug Thompson
P O Box 677
Elfers, FL 34680