



## ***Southeast Chapter Newsletter***

***... News of upcoming events and chapter chatter for July, 2005 ...***

[www.southeastaca.org](http://www.southeastaca.org)

**In our last newsletter...** which seems like years ago, but was really only April- we wrote about the upcoming national rally in Mobile. 270 American Coaches enjoyed the festivities, and were blessed with spectacular weather for the week. Well, it is now history, was a ton of fun, and we're looking at the next national event in Columbus, Ohio.

Included in this newsletter are registration forms for the post-national-rally at the blue-grass festival in Tennessee, and the "Do-Nothing" rally at Rally Park in Tampa. Check out the details later on in this publication.

We are looking at a fast-paced and exciting rally season this year, with 9 events planned between our club efforts and national events.

### **Season Details:**

The national rally takes place September 14th through 19th in Columbus, Ohio. It is the 15th anniversary of American Coach, and is sponsored by the Great Lakes Chapter. This rally is shaping up to be a great event- hope to see you there.

**River Plantation, Sevierville, Tennessee-** Our first SEACA rally for the 2005 season takes place right after the national in Ohio- September 22nd through the 25th. There is a bluegrass festival in Sevierville during this time, which promises to provide a venue for lots of entertainment and fun. Your hosts are Pat and John Leszewski and Debbie and Pat Brannigan.

Sevierville is right above the Smokey Mountains, Cades Cove and lots of outlet shopping. Don't miss this opportunity. Fill out the registration form today and send it in.

**Friends Rally / Do Nothing Rally** - October 13th - 16th - What ever you choose to call it, it should be fun. This rally takes place at Rally Park, Lazy Days, Tampa. It is an "extra" event for the year, and is not an "official" SEACA event. Feel free to bring a friend- (As in someone who currently ventures about in some other brand- if you can imagine that level of sanity ??) We'll all camp together, check out the newly remodeled Lazy Days

facilities- and enjoy some low-tech pot luck and tube steaks.

While we're there, we'll be sure to take a bicycle tour of the new 2006 American Coaches over at Crown Club. Who knows what may develop.

Please note, the registration form for the rally is in this newsletter- we have to committ for a specific number of sites with Rally Park by September 10th. If you are planning on attending, please take a moment to fill out the form and send it in, along with your check.

Your hosts are Janice and Doug Thompson.

Just three weeks later, November 11th through 14th- the primo fall event will take place at **Blue Water Key RV Resort** in the Florida Keys. We are limited in the number of sites- so, make sure you send in your registration form as soon as you see it.

Please Note- check these dates carefully- you'll see the normal rally model has been altered to gain the most spaces for us. This rally takes place one day later than our standard time frame (**Fri-Mon not Thur-Sun**)

The registration form will be in the next newsletter. Your event hosts are Jo-Anne and Vic Schneider, Debbie and Pat Brannigan and Joyce and Chet Bennett. There is some talk about roast Possum- to keep the price down, but this remains to be seen.

**The Holiday Rally** - is to be held again at the **Sun 'N' Fun RV Resort in Sarasota**, December 1st through 4th.

We are extremely happy to have our same hosts back again- Cortney and Gary Webb, Renee and Dan Lee, Barbara and Ron Wilkinson and Lorraine and Tony LiCalsi.

Be sure to bring as many lights and Holiday Decorations as you can find- last year, in order to win the competition, you had to get creative - this year, the effort has extended to the next level.

### **Lazy Days- Annual Meeting- January 19th - 22nd, 2006**

The season continues with our annual giant get-together at Lazy Days. This event includes lots of food, entertainment, our annual meeting for Southeast American Coach Association, and the annual election of officers.

Our club generally plays host to over 150 couples at this event. It will be tons of fun- and the Chamber of Commerce has agreed to provide the very finest of weather.

Your rally hosts are Pat and John Leszewski and Janice and Doug Thompson.

**February- Fort Wilderness, Disney World** - It has been several years since we've been to Fort Wilderness, but we're up to speed and looking forward to a great time there.

Your rally team includes Pat and John Leszewski, Phyllis and Harold Watson and Jackie and Mark Belcher.

March, '06.... is **Blueberry Hill** - details to follow...

**Rally Hosts....** You'll note that many of the same names appear often in the list of rallies you just read. Being in the club affords members a chance to meet- and get to know other people who like to travel and have fun on the road.

Serving in the capacity of Rally Hosts certainly amplifies that opportunity. Think seriously about contacting an officer to volunteer to host or co-host an upcoming rally- you'll have fun- and get to know more members. Win - win as it were. If you are new to the club, or to rallies in general, there is a guideline on the website that will give you a good idea about what is expected of hosts, and certainly, any officer would be glad to work with you in getting up to speed.

We are looking for volunteers for several rallies for the 05-06 season. Please call or email Pat Leszewski or Doug Thompson if you wish to help.

**Notes about the website(s)** - The site we had at Yahoo has been shut down. All of the current information regarding club operations is posted to our new site: [www.southeastaca.org](http://www.southeastaca.org) - please bookmark it right away.

There are two new features which you might want to take a peek at. First is the **"Caravan Corner"** - where you can post details regarding an upcoming trip so that other club members traveling can potentially "hook up" for a mini-impromptu caravan. Let us know if this is of value or worth while.

The other new feature is **"Breaking News"** - which should prove quite helpful in keeping everyone in touch

with club events and activities. Webmasters can post items of general interest to the club in between newsletters. Check here for the latest information about what is happening with Southeast ACA. Note: Not much yet behind "members only" - we are working at providing logins and individual passwords. In the mean time: User: seaca, password: american.

### **Officers Corner:**

#### **Vic Schneider, Chapter President-**

Well July 4th has come and gone, and as I write this in Scotia, New York diesel is over \$2.50. I'm watching Dennis on TV as he heads for the pan handle, while I sit in rainy New York weather again this year. Jo-Anne & I decided that we'll be staying out West next year- and hopefully enjoying better weather.

The Mobile Rally was attended by over 270 member coaches- Sixty+ of these were South East members. The tours, vendors and seminars complimented another great ACA Rally. All who attended especially enjoyed that all activities, meals, display coaches, vendors & seminars were in the same building- with Air Conditioning. I heard 35 coaches were sold, so the new coaches are going well. There was a Heritage with a rear bath neat idea and the 42-foot Tradition... American Coach and the 3 dealers had over 30 display coaches with 24 inside the building. Over 100 Pink Ladies attended the most successful luncheon ever. There now are plans for Pink Lady Luncheons at the next three National Rallies.

The Columbus, Ohio Rally will also be located at a facility with a large building and even the display coaches will be inside so why not plan to attend??? I headed north from Mobile to the 500 Race in Indianapolis. It was a very close race, not decided until the last lap- and led by- and almost won by a young lady rookie. I was surprised to learn with over 400,000 attending they still had 70,000 seats unsold the week before the race.

I spent the first week of June @ Camp Decatur for the Dreams annual R & R, and as always was pleasantly surprised with how quick the service team worked. I was also pleased when they decided to use the Dream for the prototype new headlight wiring harness w/ relays.

Yes it works- my headlights are about twice as bright as they were, which makes night driving when necessary much easier. They hope to have the new harnesses available possibly by The Columbus Rally and Randy's Crew will be installing them at future rallies and in Decatur. If you have a 2001 or later motor home, it is a "must have" for driving safety.

Since leaving Florida in May, most of the weather we've had so far this summer has been VERY HOT. The AC sure has gotten a workout. I must say full body paint looks nice— but our old “basic white” coaches were much easier to cool.

Just a few updates- Pat Leszewski has been doing an excellent job as Rally Chairman but she needs more members to help as Rally Wagonmasters. Jo-Anne and I will be doing the November Rally in Key West, how about some of you joining in and giving Pat some help.

Doug Thompson, our Vice President, attended the Board of Directors meetings in Mobile with me. He will be our SE representative at the Board Meetings in Columbus, as I will be attending as Vice President. I want to thank all of you for your assistance in my election as National Vice President.

Andy Gallante has been in the hospital quite a bit recently- first in Mobile, Alabama then Decatur & Fort Wayne, Indiana and now Poughkeepsie, New York. Lets all say a prayer that he soon is improving. Hope to see many of you in Columbus in September.

***Vic Schneider, President***

**Ron Wilkinson, Membership Chairman-**

**Please note:** Membership delinquency has become an item of concern. As this newsletter goes to press, we have **213 members delinquent in their SEACA dues.**

Additionally, we have 139 members who are delinquent in their ACA National dues as well. Please check your due dates. Remember, if you are delinquent in your dues you are not to receive the news letter OR, attend our rallies, according to the ACA by-laws.

You can check your national due date on the ACA web site. I am trying to adjust all SEACA due dates to January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year. (Hint: Put it on your Christmas list.) It also makes it easier to remember. For now, renew your membership for July by sending in a check for \$18. This gives you the balance of 2005 and all of 2006 on just one stamp- what a deal!!!

**.... Editors note: When I printed the labels for this newsletter... I took the liberty to print your expiration month in red on your mailing label- Please check to see if your membership has expired, or is soon to expire- get in the game- send Ron \$\$\$ - If you don't have a renewal form- it is on the website.**

thanks..... **Doug Thompson**

**A parting note from Bob and Marion Davis:**

*Time To Hang It Up.....*

After 33 years of RVing, Marion and I have decided to give it up. We have sold our Tradition, and will spend more time at home. We both agree that the last 9 years, being a member and officer of the Southeast Chapter- were the best of the 33 years. We have made a lot of friends, and hope to keep in touch with them. I want to thank the members for giving me the opportunity to be their Vice President, and President for 4 years. It was a Great Honor. We will always have fond memories of this period of time.....

**Bob and Marion Davis**  
**BDJD30@allvantage.com**

**The Pink Ladies Go National**

In Mobile the SE Pink Ladies worked very hard at our Puttin' on the Pink Booth. The booth was full of goodies for everyone to admire and purchase. At the pre-rally we decorated pink hats that we sold along with pink boas, swingers, and many donated items such as pink dish clothes, pink bears, and pink dog scarves. Dressed in pretty pink outfits, we had the prettiest booth in town and we made over \$500.00.

We also hosted the Dixie Chick Luncheon, attended by 103 very pink ladies. The luncheon was a smashing success. The lunch was good- the dessert was great, we laughed a lot and received \$600.00 in donations. Just when I thought it could not get any better, it did. Faye and Gerald McCormick gave a very generous donation of \$1000. A BIG Thank You— to all- for your time and generosity.

The Mobile Rally Pink Lady Luncheon was sooo good and we had sooo much fun, we have been asked by the chapters hosting the next three national rallies to continue our good work, and take our show on the road. In Ohio we will have a booth. If you would like to donate items we can sell at the booth, just bring them with you. We will also need people to work the booth. You can sign up at the pre-rally or at the rally.

Don't forget to send in your money for the luncheon AND of course bring your pink, lots of pink. The luncheon theme will be Shangri-La (Imaginary Utopia). We will be going to one of Columbus Ohio's finest restaurants. Think Chinese.

**Things to know or at least think about:**

Lazy Days will once again be the Grand Finale for the Pink Lady Fund Raising. Please start to think what you can donate for the auction. We also need volunteers to work the auction and food areas, if you are willing, please let me know.

Ohio Rally - Bring all your t-shirts and hats from past rallies and wear them at the 15th Anniversary Rally. The last night is dress-up night —Let's have fun with this- maybe we can make Pink Cumberbunds and Bow Ties for all the men to wear, with their white shirts and black shorts??? Ladies, this is a good reason to go to Goodwill and pick up a nice, fancy, dress for a buck or two. Shopping- isn't that what a pre-rally is for!

**Think Pink I miss you Jo-Anne**

