



Southeast Chapter Newsletter

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

Bay St Louis/ Casino Magic

This month's newsletter is being written, at least partially, at the Bay St. Louis Rally. We have a strong contingent with 44 coaches in attendance. The weather is absolutely beautiful with daytime temperatures in the low 70's and evenings in the 50's. There is lots to do and see in the area, and we're all making the best of the time we have here to do it. Our hosts, George and Leona Bennett, and Sam and Joy McQuagg have left no stone unturned to make this an enjoyable event. If you weren't here- you really missed a great rally.

Holiday/ 'Sun-N-Fun' Rally- Dec 2nd-5th

Our next event is the traditional Holiday Rally, to be held at the beautiful 'Sun-N-Fun' RV Resort in Sarasota. Your rally hosts are Dan & Renee Lee, Tony & Lorraine Licalsi, Gary & Courtney Webb and Ron & Barbara Wilkinson. At press time, there were still a few spaces yet to be spoken for. For your convenience, a Rally registration form is enclosed with this newsletter- time's a 'wastin'.

Please note two additional things regarding the Holiday Rally- First, there will be a non-perishable food item collection taken for needy families in the Sarasota area, and there will be a gift exchange on Saturday night (with a \$15 per coach maximum set.)

Southeast Chapter Rally & Annual Meeting Lazy Days' - Rally Park - January 13-16, 2005

Article by Hank Newman:

Almost all plans have been completed; only the surprises are yet to be finalized! The SE Chapter Super Show Rally at Lazy Days will run from January 13- 16, 2005. There is a reason that this rally each year is our largest. This year we have 150 sites, with little hope for more. It WILL sell OUT; so send in the enclosed registration NOW! This rally will run concurrently with one of the nation's largest RV shows, The Tampa Super Show, which will be held at the nearby Fairgrounds.

In addition, Lazy Days will be hosting their own super show right on the premises.

Randy and his great repair crew from Decatur will be with us at Rally Park to service our coaches. All three nights of the rally will feature great catered meals followed by live entertainment. Whether you are a listener, a dancer, a laugher, or just want to be entertained, you will enjoy these shows! Of course, each morning we will have a full catered breakfast and a continental breakfast on Sunday, "getaway day."

We will have many seminars, plus each coach gets a free wash, driving lessons for those that would like them, and many great surprises! The rally fee for all of the above including all taxes is \$188.00.

On Saturday morning we will have our annual chapter meeting as mandated in our bylaws. It should be a short one and our main order of business will be election of chapter officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer, & Secretary) for the coming year. Please consider offering yourself for service. It is so very important to get new people involved. Nominations will be accepted at any time prior to the vote. Please.... Get involved!

You will find it a great way to meet and enjoy your fellow RVers.

If you have any questions re: the rally please do not hesitate to contact me..... *Sincerely, Hank Newman...*

The 2005 Rally Schedule:

Following the Lazy Days' Extravaganza in January, there is still lots more fun to come....

Stone Mountain Georgia (Tentative venue)

February 24th through 27th - Are the dates for a fun-filled rally event in Georgia. The campground is "big rig" friendly, with lots to do in the area. Ray and Jeannette Houle are currently working the details. We hope to have more specifics in our next newsletter.

River Bend Resort (re-visited) March 31st to April 3rd

This beautiful "Class A" Resort is located along the banks of the Caloosahatchee River on Highway 80, approximately 17 miles east of I-75. Its facilities include an 8,000 square foot clubhouse, boat rentals, river outings, a heated pool and lighted tennis courts.

Details and a registration form will follow in a future newsletter.

Pre-Rally for Mobile- May 14-17 Southwind RV Park- Foley, Alabama

The Southwind RV Park prides itself on its beautifully landscaped club and rally accommodations-- complete with dedicated group sites, 2 clubhouses, spacious level RV sites, cable TV and lots of restaurants, shopping and golf nearby.

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

There is much to do and see in Mobile- a bustling and Gentile southern city, with a flair for water related activities. A great write-up on this event is in the November/December issue of the American Coach Association newsletter. Suffice it to say that you won't want to miss this one. They are quickly recovering from the ravages of hurricane Ivan, and are striving to be in the "pink of health" for our impending visit in May.

Welcome to our New Members:

Please join us in welcoming the new members of the Southeast American Coach Association Chapter since our last newsletter:

David & Patricia Brown	Freeport, FL
Kelvin & Louann Crews	Glen St. Mary, FL
Ernest Eldridge	Florence, MS
Geroge & Marguerite Glitzer	Weeki Wachee, FL
Ernest & Joanna Hewett	Arcadia, FL
Henry Majors	Florence, MS
Tony & Jane McKeegan	Johnson City, TN
Charles Medcraft	Parkland, FL
Doug & Nancy Mosson	Spring Hill, FL
Randy Perkins	Cleveland, TN
Rick Treworgy	Punta Gorda, FL
Robert & Willie Vick	Summit, MS

We hope to see everyone at the January Rally in Tampa- if not before- Welcome to all...

Put Your Thinking Cap On.....

Steve (The Sheriff) and Mary Sue Southerland-

Are asking that you think about the potential for the establishment of a Disaster Relief Team from the Southeast Chapter- American Coach Association.

This team would be dispatched in the event of storms, hurricanes or other disasters to travel to the site and render assistance as directed by the convening governmental bodies in charge of operations in a given situation.

Steve and Mary Sue are asking for input and thoughts as to if this idea has potential, and how we should get it started. The long term goal would be to make this a national project of ACA, giving us the ability to put a team "on the ground" in virtually any locality.

There will be a "brain storming" session at the January rally- to determine how/if we can do this- In the mean time: Please direct your thoughts and ideas to:

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

Munchable of the Month:

(editor's note: This is the first in what is hoped to be a monthly article. We all enjoy good things to eat- and if we share- who knows- you might be able to enjoy it yourself without having to prepare it yourself..... just a thought)

This wonderful dish was served at the Bay St. Louis Rally in Mississippi- It was so good, we hunted down the chef, and asked if it was OK to publish the recipe.

Jezebel Sauce:

- 1 1.2 oz. can dry mustard
- 1 4 oz. jar horseradish
- 1 16 oz. jar pineapple preserve
- 1 16 oz. apple jelly
- 2 Tbsp. coarsely ground black pepper

Make a paste of mustard and horseradish. Add pineapple preserve, apple jelly and pepper. Stir until mixed. Serve this over cream cheese as an appetizer. It is guaranteed to make you smile.

Contributed by Chef Leona Bennett

Puttin' on the Pink- an event to remember!

Here is your opportunity to wear pink - with a purpose!

During the Thursday evening event- at the January Rally- and after the welcome- there will be a silent auction- be sure to check out the information and literature that accompanies your check-in and Rally information for specific details to this event.

We need volunteers to make wonderful home-made (no store-bought stuff) desserts and tasty things for this event. We also need items for the silent auction as well.

Donated items and your tasty things need to be registered with a member of the committee prior to the event. Please step forward and contact:

Barbara Bowen
Pat Evans
Carol Harrison
Barbara Ritzenthaler
or

Marion Davis
Margie Gallante
Cindy Hoffman
Jo-Anne Schneider
Peggy Woods

President's Corner:

Halloween and the election have come and gone and it's time for an update of the last month. We had to stay in upstate New York for a wedding on October 9th and finally hit the road for Wichita Falls on the eleventh. It's been 20 years since I lived there, and I'd forgotten what the term "frost on the pumpkins" meant- but I now know it again.

We met up with the Gallante's in Pennsylvania and drove to the Rally together. We fueled up with cheap diesel in Virginia (\$1.99 per gallon) The trip to the pre-rally at Sanger, Texas was fun with stops in Memphis (Graceland) and Hot Springs, Arkansas. We had to ask why it was named "are Kansas" -- I never understood the name.

Elaine & John Dufour had done their homework and the pre-rally park was excellent- with good food to boot. We went to dinner in Sanger at a restaurant we'll certainly return to whenever we're in Texas.

The trip to Wichita Falls was uneventful; we arrived with no problems except for one group which decided to use their GPS instead of the directions we were given...

The Rally facilities were excellent, with display coaches inside and plenty of room for everything. At mealtimes, the tables were arranged so that 50 of us could eat together. The rally lasted almost a week- which I personally think is too long for any rally. The food was

good, and after a glitch or two the first night, the service was excellent.

All who attended (over 275 coaches) had a good time and quite a few new coaches were sold. The Southeast chapter won second place at the Chili Cook-off.

While we were there, the announcer saw Jo-Anne in her Pink Outfit and asked what it was all about. She explained The Pink Ladies went to lunch at each rally and raised money for Cancer. She said they had raised over \$300 and were planning a Silent Auction at our January Rally.

He agreed that this was a good thing, and that we should pass the hat to see if we could raise another \$300 for the cause.

When Jo-Anne took off her hat and started passing it around, someone dropped in a \$100 bill, and we ended up with over \$600 in new donations. In keeping with this theme Alice Allard has made a beautiful afghan, and has graciously donated it to the club. The club is selling chances on it until the Lazy Days Rally in January.

The Gallante's purchased a new coach at The Rally and true to form, the Southeast members (about 20) formed a bucket brigade moving them from the old coach to the new one.

I attended meetings of the Board of Directors, First timers, the General meeting, Quality control, Nominating committee and planning meetings for next May's Rally in Mobile.

I have been nominated to run for National Vice President but would also like to continue as Southeast President again next year. There have been several Area Presidents who have done this in the past and the duties of VP National should not compete with my duties as President of Southeast.

After leaving the National, several of us proceeded to New Orleans and had a 70th birthday Party for Andy Gallante on October 30th. The Party was at "The House of The Rising Sun" in the French Quarter and then all of us proceeded on a tour of the French Quarter.

I will be heading east to Mobile on Friday to review the State Fair Grounds so I can plan for Vendors & Seminars for next May's National Rally.

Then on Sunday we head home 7 months and 20,000+ miles later. It's been an exciting summer, but we'll both be glad to get home.

Vic Schneider, President Southeast Chapter ACA

Correction - Mike Kidder's Email Address

The email address published in last month's newsletter for January officer nominations was in error. Please make note- the correct email address is: **jkImk13@earthlink.net** (not .com) - To recast- Mike will be accepting nominations for officers until the January Rally.

Those in attendance at the annual meeting will be asked to vote for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. If you wish to nominate a member, or throw your own hat in the ring, let Mike know by either emailing the above address, or snail mailing to: Mike Kidder, 1313 Belleaire Circle, Orlando, FL 32804.

Congratulations to Fred Soto:

The following is an excerpt from interesting article about Fred Soto, one of our long standing members. The article originally appeared in a Sarasota area publication on October 30th:

Fred Soto was recently nominated to be inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Prestigious Thomas Jefferson High School Alumni Association. To give you a brief overview of Fred's successful life, he has been a resident of Sarasota since 1959. Fred recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with his lovely wife Sylvia.

They are the proud parents of Dr. Fred Soto, Jr., an optometrist, and Ron Soto, an optician.

As a rare native of Florida, Fred moved here from Tampa. Prior to his retirement, he owned and managed nine retail optical stores all the way from Bradenton to Punta Gorda.

Fred served on the City of Sarasota Planning board from 1967 to 1969 before being elected to the Sarasota City Commission in 1969, serving a record twelve years on the Commission. He also served three terms as the Mayor of Sarasota.

The success doesn't stop there either. In 1971, Fred was awarded the Silver Pelican Award by the Save our Bays Association for his plentiful contributions to the environment. In addition, he was one of twelve founders of the Sarasota Boys and Girls Club, and served four years as chairman on the Florida State Board of Dispensing Opticians.

From 1972-73, Fred served on the Sarasota/Manatee Airport authority, and in 1977 was appointed as a member of the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee for the

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council by the late Governor Ruben Askew. In 1979, Fred received the "Good Government Award" and in 1969 the "Young Man of the Year" award from the Sarasota Jaycees.

In 1981, the Sarasota County Chamber of Commerce elected him "Businessman of the Year". From 1979 to 1981, he served as Crusade Chairman for the American Cancer Society.

For Fred, these highlights are just occurrences he has experienced along the path of a very busy and triumphant life. Mr. Soto is to be inducted into the Thomas Jefferson High School Alumni Association Hall of Fame on November 12th, 2004 at the TECO Square Atrium in Tampa.

We are proud of his many accomplishments, and are very happy to have him as a member of Southeast Chapter, ACA.

Adobe PDF- format-

During 2004, the day following mailing of the newsletter, we have uploaded a copy of the newsletter in the Adobe PDF format to the chapter website. This is because it can be read by virtually any type of computer from a MAC or PC to Linux. Several people have commented that they only see one page. There are a pair of arrows at the bottom of the display- and a box that tells how many pages there are. "Clicking" the right or left arrow will display what ever page you desire to see.

Editors' Note:

With the Holiday's fast approaching, we are looking forward to the coming Southeast Chapter events.... to seeing friends we haven't see all summer, and catching up on all of our travels far and wide.

From our house to yours- may you have a safe and wonderful Holiday Season.

Always looking for articles and ideas for this publication-

Send your thoughts to:

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snail mail:

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