



Southeast Chapter Newsletter

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

Fun is Just Around the Corner-

An **action packed** rally season is lined up and ready to take off for the members of the Southeast American Coach Association.

The fun actually got underway with the joint Southeast and Northeast ACA pre-rally in Sanger, TX (Oct 18th through 21st) - Closely followed by the "Denim & Diamonds" fall National ACA Rally in Wichita Falls, TX (October 21st through 27th)

If you're at home, reading this month's newsletter, it is likely that you missed both. Bummer- but, not to worry as the 2004 rally season is just lining up.

Bay St. Louis, Mississippi- Casino Magic

November 4th through 7th will find the members relaxing and enjoying the entertainment and sights of the **Mississippi Gulf Coast**. Your rally hosts are George and Leona Bennett. We heard that the hurricane damage on **Interstate 10** has been repaired-- just in time for us all to zoom out and back- It's no fun plowing in the mud with those big RV's.

Holiday Rally- December 2nd - 5th

Registration form enclosed

The annual Holiday Rally will take place 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.

This is an event-packed rally with an agenda including a Poolside Luau with hors d'oeuvres on Thursday evening, complete with a Steel Drummer for your entertainment - A Ladies Luncheon at St. Armond's Circle and the ever present golf outing

on Friday with- an optional dinner cruise at Marina Jack's Friday night - All followed the next day by both a full catered breakfast, and a "sit-down" dinner -- along with lots of fun and fellowship.

There are a limited number of sites- the event registration form is enclosed in this newsletter- please take time to fill it out and submit it today- you won't want to miss this one.

Please note two additional things-

There will be a non-perishable food item collection taken for needy families in the Sarasota area, and Saturday night will feature a gift exchange- with a maximum of \$15/coach.

SE CHAPTER RALLY & ANNUAL MEETING Lazy Days' Rally Park January 13-16, 2005

This is the big one! This rally is our largest and sells out every year. This year will be no exception. We have site limitations, and yet we expect over 150 coaches. Sites will be assigned strictly in the order registrations are received.

Lazy Days will need a list of attendees by December 13th, so make preliminary plans now! The rally registration form will be included with next months SE Chapter Newsletter.

An executive of Lazy Days once told me that, "nobody throws a party like Lazy Days and the Southeast Chapter". Past January Rallies certainly have proved him right!

Highlights will include free driving lessons, free coach wash, factory and supplier's representatives present, seminars, and exhibitors.

All meals, every day, will be catered, breakfast, lunch, and supper. In addition there will be live

professional entertainment each night. Lots of music and dancing- and yes, the final night will feature the return of the New Dawn Singers, an all time SE Chapter favorite.

All this fun plus our annual meeting, as called for in the bylaws. This meeting will take place on Saturday morning, January 15. Now is the time to start thinking about it. All four officers' terms will expire on this day. Leadership is key to any organization's success. Think of offering yourself for service- in addition to perhaps suggesting others in the club.

If you need any added information between now and the rally, please feel free to contact me.

Hank Newman

January Rally Chairman
(352) 895-8475 or at: HankNewman@aol.com

Stone Mountain- Georgia

February 24th through 27th are set as the dates for a fun-filled event in Georgia.

The venue is **Stone Mountain Park Campground**- near the famous Stone Mountain Park- Georgia's #1 attraction, featuring 3200 acres of family fun, including 2 museums, riverboat, railroad, skylift to mountain top, a laser show, the worlds largest high relief carving and the all new "Crossroads"- an 1870's Antebellum Plantation. At press time, we are told that some of the attractions will not be open, due to time of year- details will follow.

The campground bills itself as "big rig" friendly- We are limited to 50 sites, so sign up early when you see the rally registration form. Ray and Jeannette Houle are currently working on specific details for this rally, and are looking for help- please give them a call or drop them an email if you would like to share in hosting this event.

March 31st through April 3rd-- Return to River Bend

This beautiful Class A RV Resort is located along the banks of the Caloosahatchee River on Highway 80, approximately 17 miles east of I-75. It sports wonderful facilities, to include an 8,000 square foot clubhouse, boat rentals, river outings, a heated

swimming pool, lighted tennis courts and all sites are beautifully paved.

Details to this event will be forthcoming, but it is one you won't want to miss.

Pre-Rally for Mobile spring National

As of this writing, plans are being solidified for a wonderful pre-rally in advance of the spring ACA National in Mobile, Alabama.

Tentative plans include staying at the Southwind RV Park in Foley, Alabama. The park is about 45 miles SE of Mobile, about 40 miles west of Pensacola, FL, and about 12 miles north of Gulf Shores, AL.

It is Trailer Life rated 6.5/9/9. We will have full hookups, including cable and 50 amp service. Restaurants, shopping, and golf are just 5 minutes away.

Spring National- Mobile, Alabama

Not much in the way of details are available at press time. However, we do have the dates so you can put them on your calendar: May 17th through 22nd.

The President's Corner:

By the time you read this, Jo-Anne and I will be Texas bound for the Wichita Falls Rally. Hopefully diesel fuel won't go any higher; it's now from \$2.20 to \$2.40 here in New York.

In early September we decided it would be a good idea to drive the car to Florida and check on the house. It had been almost 5 months since we had left for the Palm Dessert Rally and Charlie and Francis had affected our area. We had to wait to be sure Ivan was going to miss our home before we left New York for the quick trip to Florida.

We were very lucky and only found a few trees down when we got there, so we spent the week cleaning up in the yard. We left Florida to return back to the motor home in New York on Saturday and Jeanne hit that night.

You guessed it- a couple more trees are down and all the cleanup we did in the yard is needed again.

As you know Jeanne was a terrible hurricane coming ashore on Hutchinson Island on the east coast of Florida. Several of our members live there and Jeanne finished at least one of our members homes. I guess the rest of us who had some damage can at least be thankful we didn't lose everything.

I never had much fear about terrorism until 9/11 and felt the same way about hurricanes until 4 hit Florida this year. Lets all hope we never again see as bad a hurricane season as we've had this year.

Phil Cote had his home damaged and figured he could use his motor home, with its generator for electric. It wasn't meant to be- he had a bad fuel tank and was unable to get the replacement before Jeanne hit. He has been trying to get his own roof repaired and has been helping the Drinkard's who's home was destroyed.

With all this happening, Phil thought it was best if he resigned as Vice President as he had too much to do. I personally want to thank Phil for being Vice President and understand why he cannot continue.

With the agreement of the other officers I have asked Ray Houle to take over as Vice President until we have an election in January.

He has been working very hard with us, and we now have Rally's arranged for February, March, a Pre Rally for the May National and a tentative Key West Rally for the fall of 2005. Check this newsletter for an update on the rallies with dates and locations.

I must also thank Hank Newman for all his assistance with the rally planning.

If anyone is interested I believe there have been cancellations for both the Texas National and Casino Magic Rallies so there is space available.

Contact the Bennett's or McQuagg's who are hosting Casino Magic or Martha Zimmerman (830) 997-7895 for Wichita Falls, Texas.

American Coach Update:

As you probably know, Fleetwood has changed engine power in the new coaches, and Caterpillar

is now being exclusively used. The C-9 (400 hp) is in the 38, 40 & 42 foot Tradition and 40 foot Eagle. The C-13 (525 hp) will be used in the 42 foot Eagle and Heritage. There is also an option on the Heritage- the C-15 (600 hp with a 10 speed transmission).

The Spartan version of the Liberty chassis is the exclusive chassis of American Coach.

For those attending the Wichita Falls Rally be aware there will be three dealers as required by Texas law. Also they cannot sell on Sunday, so you'll need to make your deals early as we don't anticipate the dealers being there after Sunday.

One of the dealers contacted me and advised they will have special deals available on 2004 Eagles.

Don't forget to vote November 2nd -whoever is your choice let it be known by exercising your right to vote.

Vic Schneider, President SE chapter ACA

Be Thinking of Elections in January.....

First, in a very few days we will all have our chance to vote for President of our Country. Please don't forget the last presidential election being decided by about 534 votes- so your vote could make the difference.

You can still receive an absentee ballot if you're not going to be home. PLEASE VOTE!

Second it's that time of year when we nominate a slate of officers to run for the Southeast Chapter of ACA.

Mike Kidder will be accepting nominations for election until our January Annual Rally at Lazy Days. Those attending the rally will be asked to vote for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Any member in good standing in Southeast ACA is eligible to run or nominate another member- if they are willing to hold the position.

The term of office for president is limited to 2 years while all other officers have no time limit.

Please send your nominations to Mike Kidder- reach him at: E-mail (jklmk13@earthlink.com) or snail mail: 1313 Belleaire Circle, Orlando, FL 32804.

Welcome to our NEW MEMBERS:

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

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|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Larry Andersen | New Port Richey, FL |
| Harold & Leah Avery | Wellington, FL |
| Cass & Shirley Burch | Quitman, GA |
| Olen & Ruth Ann Burrage | Philadelphia, MS |
| Peter & Joy Drews | Oviedo, FL |
| Alice Enos | Estero, FL |
| James Enrietti | Silver Springs, FL |
| Bud & Joanne Gallagher | Parkland, FL |
| Edward Hanson | Stuart, FL |
| Howard & Betty Hathaway | Hilton Head IL, SC |
| Rebecca Hester | Taviner, FL |
| Sharon Howard/Cliff Koschnick | Jacksonville, FL |
| Clyde Johnson | Spring Hill, FL |
| Clifton & Barbara Jones | Gautier, MS |
| Paul Krenitsky | Leesburg, FL |
| Stephen Macari | Jupiter, FL |
| Max & Linda McCluskey | Guin, AL |
| Richard Moro | Palm Harbor, FL |
| Donald & Mitsiko Patterson | Zephyrhills, FL |
| Tom & Kathy Sanders | University Park, FL |
| Edwin Sinclair | Marco Island, FL |
| Len & Renee Staskelunas | Acworth, Ga |
| Larry & Carole Storey | Villa Rica, GA |
| Robert Thrasher | Columbiana, AL |
| Frederick Toynes | Stuart, FL |
| Gordon & Donna Toward | Pompano Bch, FL |
| Frederick Trainor | Oviedo, FL |
| Pat Tropeano/Troy Whitaker | W Palm Bch, FL |
| Ken Wells | Key West, FL |
| Gerald Wright | Naples, FL |

Think Pink !!

\$304.00 – That's the sum of money we've raised so far this year AND we still have 3 rallies to go. In January at The Lazy Days Rally we are planning a **Really Big Grand Finale** as we close our first year of the "Think Pink" campaign.

The festivities will include a silent auction featuring the fine art work of the Pink Ladies and much more! All monies received will be donated to HOPE LODGE in Tampa.

The lodge provides housing for patients and their families at The Moffitt Cancer Center.

Pink Lady Alice Allard has donated a beautiful crochet afghan she made this summer for the cause. We are selling raffle tickets for \$2.00 or 3 for \$5.00.

Tickets will be available at the National Rally in Texas and at the November, December and January Rallies.

The lucky winner will be chosen at the Lazy Days Rally. A big thank you to Alice for all the hours spent making this lovely quilt.

Committee Members:

Barbara Bowen
Marion Davis
Pat Evans
Margie Gallante
Carol Harrison
Cindy Hoffman
Barbara Ritzenthaler
Jo-Anne Schneider
Peggy Woods

Thank you and continue to think pink

Editors' note:

We are looking forward to the fall/spring rally season, and a chance to renew friendships and meet new people. As always, we are looking for suggestions, articles and ideas to share in this publication.....

Please send your thoughts to:

doug@rvzoomin.com
or, snail mail:

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727.709.0218

Keep those letters and emails a 'commin'....