



Wheels

Volume 8

Issue 1

March 2006

Active Members – 203

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A special thanks is given to the Monaco Coach Corporation for their financial support of each of our caravans. Please let Sara Spicer know you appreciate her expert guidance and support.

Presidential Ponderings

First, my sincere apology for the tardiness of this issue of Wheels. We have been extremely busy since the Lancaster Rally, and having way too much fun.

Our semi annual meeting in Lancaster, California was very well attended and from all reports it was informative and entertaining. We were entertained with slide shows of the most recent caravans and it was good seeing the members having a great time. Caravans shown included Virginia History, Sherman's March to the Sea, Colorado 4 Wheel Drive, and Canadian Maritimes. Great Caravans, Great Times.

We have a change in officers and we owe a great debt of gratitude to Jack Sangalli for 3 years as Treasurer, and Wade Myers for 8 years as National Director and Alternate. Jack has moved to National Director of MIM, and Wade is now Vice President of Monaco International. Thanks guys.

We have a disturbing

situation in our chapter, and that is a lack of participation in our caravans. The Maritimes Caravan had 10 coaches, the Virginia History Caravan went with 10 coaches, and the Fall Festivals Caravan has been canceled because there was only 5 coaches signed up. What are we doing wrong? We would love to hear from you. A great way would be the feedback button on the club website at www.Monacosinmotion.org.

Another problem, there are no caravans scheduled for 2007. If you have been planning a caravan, now is the time to come forward and announce it.

The New Mexico "Land of Enchantment" Caravan is full but there is a waiting list for anyone interested. Full information and application is posted on the club website. Don't delay. Sign up today.

We hope to see you at our next meeting in Greensboro, North Carolina during the Monaco International pre rally, or on one of the upcoming Caravans.

John

LAND OF ENCHANTMENT CARAVAN

*Caravan Leaders: Kim &
Shelly Pollock and Wayne &
Barbara McCray*

*September 26, 2006 thru
October 15, 2006*

***Application on line at
monacosinmotion.org***

Come join us in the Land of Enchantment for a Scenic, Cultural, Historic and Adventure tour of our 47th state, New Mexico. We will be starting our adventure in Santa Fe. Santa Fe, along with Taos, have evolved to become the second largest art market in the US - only New York City sells more artwork than these two cities. We have several tours and events planned for Santa Fe before we leave to explore Bandelier. We will have a trolley tour of the city, will be visiting several museums and will have optional tours of the Shidoni Bronze Foundry and Sculpture Gardens and Tent Rocks National Park. We will be driving over beautiful mountain back roads to the site of the Bandelier Cliff Dwellings. These historic and well preserved cliff dwellings are unique in the southwest for their setting and beauty. On to Taos, an ancient pueblo over 1000 years old. While there, we will tour the pueblo and see

and experience some of the sights in this beautiful art community. We will then motor on to Chama for a full day ride on the historic Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad - the longest and highest narrow gauge railroad in the country. Traversing over more beautiful mountain roads will take us to the Chaco Canyon ruins - the ancient center of the ancestral Puebloan culture. On to Gallup for several days of adventure and quality shopping. It has been said that 80% of all native jewelry passes through Gallup on its way to the other markets. It is a town of over one hundred trading posts and pawn shops where most of the Native American cottage craftsmen sell and trade their wares. And for those adventurous sorts, we have made special arrangements for an optional hot air balloon ride over the spectacular Red Rock Canyon area during our stay in Gallup. The next few days will find us in the El Moro National Monument. We will tour the monument, spend an afternoon at the Wild Spirit Wolf Sanctuary and then head to the town of Zuni, home of the Zuni Pueblo. While there, we will have a private tour of their famous church, which has been recently renovated. We will also be privileged to visit the homes of a local award-winning potter and a talented silversmith. They will demonstrate for us their crafts and will answer any questions we might have. On the way to

Albuquerque, we will have a individualized guided tour of the oldest, continually inhabited city in North America – Acoma Pueblo (Sky City).

We will land in Albuquerque just in time for the Tricentennial celebration of this fascinating city. We will spend four days in Balloon Park witnessing the most photographed event in the world - the Albuquerque Balloon Festival. If you have not seen this spectacular event, you are in for a real treat. Where else in the world can you find 60,000 people out on a grassy field at 6 am in the morning long before sun rise eating breakfast burritos and drinking steaming hot coffee? Only at the Balloon Fiesta!

During the days when the balloons are not rising, we will take a couple of side trips to further explore the surrounding areas. One day, we will take the world's longest tramway to the top of 10,300 foot Sandia Peak for lunch and a spectacular view of the 11,000 square mile panorama stretching before us. If you are not yet convinced that this is a trip of a lifetime, check out our planned route and more information on the Chapter's web site at www.monacosinmotion.org.

This caravan will be a wonderful opportunity to learn about the history, culture, geology and crafts of this true Land of Enchantment! While

we will have plenty of free time for shopping, hiking, trekking, relaxing and socializing, this will be an active tour. We have many tours planned and the days are filled with activities. Much of our time will be spent at altitudes between 5000 and 8000 feet. All of the roads have been pre-run by the leaders and are suitable for large coaches but many of the routes are scenic mountain two lane roads. There will be some days when we will be driving our toads on dirt roads to reach some of the remote locations.

While the drawing has been completed, and the trip is full, a waiting list is being compiled to fill any cancellations. We hope to see you on this unique trip.

Club Website

We have a fabulous chapter web site located at www.MonacosInMotion.org. Stop by and check it out.

This issue of Wheels is on the web site and you can view it, or even print it out, in full color. There is even a less formatted web version for those folks with dial up modems. Sign up now for electronic delivery of your newsletter, you will get it much earlier and save the chapter the cost of printing and mailing.

Kim Pollock is our web master and doing a great

job. Kim has an abundance of talent and is putting it to our advantage. Please thank him when you have a chance.

With Sadness

This is to let all our members know that John Kendall passed away April 26, 2006, in Crystal River, Florida. Services were held in Crystal River and burial in Michigan. John and JoAnne were instrumental in the organization of our chapter. JoAnne was the chapter's first president and John the first National Director. They were active in the chapter until about five years ago when they purchased a home in Crystal River and then sold their coach. John decided to try politics and was elected a city councilman in Crystal River and he thoroughly enjoyed serving his community. JoAnne's address is 816 S.E. 1st Court, Crystal River, FL 34428

Minutes

Monacos in Motion Business Meeting Thursday, March 17, 2006

President John Ham called the general membership meeting to order at 12:25 p.m. John led the pledge of allegiance, and then recognized new members and guests. Sue Haught

agreed to serve as parliamentarian.

Members of the Executive Board in attendance were: President – John Ham
Treasurer – Jack Sangalli
National Director – Wade Myers
Alternate National Director – Dick Tucker
Vice President - Ed Tilman
and Secretary Barbara McCray were absent.

Wade Myers stated that the National Director's report would be published in the upcoming issue of *Wheels*.

Minutes for the previous general membership meeting were approved as published in the most recent issue of *Wheels*.

Treasurer Jack Sangalli reported:

Beginning Balance	8,689.11
Income	2,104.00
Expenses	1,181.31
Ending Balance	9,611.80

The report was accepted for file.

There were no reports from standing committees.

A change to Standing Rule #1, which was tabled at the last meeting, was approved by the Executive Board, and brought to the membership for a vote. Standing Rule #1 concerns eligibility for membership, and the

proposed change would made eligibility for membership in Monacos In Motion the same as for Monaco International. The current Standing Rule #1 reads as follows:

“Limit membership to owners of Diplomat, Camelot, Windsor, Dynasty, Executive and Signature coaches manufactured by Monaco Coach Corporation, Royale Coach, coaches manufactured by Executive Industries, and all Monaco coaches manufactured prior to 1992.”

The proposed Standing Rule #1 is:

“Limit membership to owners of Monaco motorized brand models manufactured by Monaco Coach Corporation, Royale Coach, coaches manufactured by Executive Industries and all Monaco coaches manufactured prior to 1992.”

Jack Sangalli moved acceptance of the proposed change. There was a second, and the motion to accept the change to Standing Rule #1 passed unanimously.

The Nominating Committee for next year was selected as follows:

Ellen Johnson was nominated by Tina Sangalli
Joe Monk was nominated by Les Alexander
Kim Pollock was nominated by Les Alexander

All agreed to serve. Shirley Hanson moved to accept the nominations by acclamation. This was seconded, and the motion passed.

Webmaster Kim Pollock gave a demonstration of the Monacos in Motion web site, which is linked to FMCA’s web site. A full-color version of *Wheels* is available through the site. John Ham encouraged members to sign up to use the electronic version rather than having it mailed. Information on upcoming caravans is also available through the site, which is www.monacosinmotion.org.

Don Preston described the Virginia History Caravan, which is scheduled for April 18 through May 2, and will be led by Connie and Ed Tilman. Since the caravan is not full, it may be possible to sign up.

The Fall Festivals Caravan, led by Les and Wilma Jean Alexander, is scheduled for September 22 through October 17. Wilma Jean outlined the activities planned, and noted that spaces are still available.

Don Preston gave a report on the Maritimes caravan to Nova Scotia. Although the caravan was small, a great time was had by all.

Several people who had participated in the Colorado High Country talked about

their experiences on the caravan. This was the second running of the caravan, and the Hams and Myers have been asked to do this one again.

Throughout the meeting, an ongoing slide show depicted events in several of the most recent caravans.

The Nominating Committee for this year consisted of three members: Larry Byrd, Wilt Greenwood, and Wayne McCray. Wilt, being the only member of the Committee in attendance, conducted the election of officers.

President, John Ham, was willing to run for his third year.

Vice President, Ed Tilman, will serve his second term, and does not need to be elected.

Bill Miller was the nominating committee’s selection for Treasurer. Secretary, Barbara McCray was willing to run for her third year.

Jack Sangalli was the Nominating Committee’s selection for National Director.

Alternate National Director, Dick Tucker, was willing to run again.

Gene Hunzeker moved to accept the slate by acclamation. There was a second, and the motion was passed unanimously.

John Ham thanked Jack Sangalli, who served three years as Treasurer, and Wade Myers, who has served as National Director and Alternate National Director for eight years, for their service to the club.

John Ham announced that Jack Sangalli would be accepting dues, selling shirts, and accepting applications for membership.

Kim Pollock solicited ideas for future caravans.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Greenwood, Acting Secretary

Change to Standing Rule #1

At the Business Meeting in Lancaster, California on March 17, 2006, the membership voted unanimously to change Standing Rule #1 to include all Monaco owners eligible for membership.

“FMCA membership and ownership of Monaco motorized brand models manufactured by Monaco Coach Corporation, Royale Coach, coaches manufactured by Executive Industries and all Monaco coaches manufactured prior to 1992”

NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

March 15, 2006

The next Governing Board meeting will be held in Charlotte, NC, August 14-17, 2006.

The major items to be discussed by the Governing Board are the recommendations from the Long Range Planning Committee.

The establishment of term limits for National Director, the limit of six years in a lifetime.

Effective August 2008, a Board of Area Representatives which will be called the “BAR”, made up of four officers from each area. They are the Area Vice President, Area Senior Vice President, Area Secretary and Area Treasurer. The BAR will be made up of 44 people.

The elimination of the Alternate National Director

These are only highlights of changes in the governance of FMCA. If you have any questions, get with me or your new National Director for more information.

Upcoming FMCA Conventions:

FMCA 75th
International Convention –
March 20-23, 2006 in
Pomona, CA

FMCA 76th
International Convention –
August 14-17, 2006 in
Charlotte, NC

FMCA 77th
International Convention –
March 19-22, 2007 in Perry,
GA

FMCA 78th
International Convention -
August 13-16, 2007 in
Redmond, OR

FMCA 79th
International Convention –
February 25-28, 2008 in
Pomona, CA

FMCA 80th
International Convention –
July 14-17, 2008 in St. Paul,
MN

The International Area of FMCA (INTO) will hold a rally in Gillette, WY June 30-July 3, 2006

Wade Myers
National Director

Newsletter

We are putting each issue of Wheels on the chapter's web site in two versions. One is in full color and an exact copy of the mailed Wheels. The other is less formatted, lacks some graphics, and is much, much smaller for those folks with dial-up modems but it still has the photos in color.

In either case, the mailed version is black & white.

Those with the ability to view the newsletter on-line get a much improved version.

A survey proved that both formats were needed and we will continue to put both formats on the web site.

Now the question. Who would like to download their own copy of Wheels? Who would like to read their copy of Wheels on-line in full color rather than waiting for the black and white mailed copy?

This would save the club the cost of printing and

mailing and give you a full color copy instead of the mailed black and white. Just drop me a note at: John@Johnham.us and I'll add you to the list. If you are not on the e-mail notification list I will add you to that also so you will receive an e-mail when new issues of the Wheels are posted.

Chapter Officers

President

John Ham
P. O. Box 246
Snowmass, CO 81654
Tel & Cell: 970-927-3273
E-mail: John@JohnHam.us

Vice-President

Ed Tilman
3566 Old River Trail
Powhatan, VA 23139
Tel: 804-598-3068
Email:
connietilman@pocketmail.com

Secretary

Barbara McCray
PMB 215903
3590 Round Bottom Road
Cincinnati, OH 45244
Cell: (409) 200-1748
E-mail: campin@direcway.com

Treasurer

Bill Miller
11085 Big Canoe
Big Canoe, GA 30143
Tel: 706-579-1213
Cell: 678-617-8855
E-mail: jeanann01@alltel.net

National Director

Jack Sangalli
1461 Valle Vista #26
Pekin, IL 61554
Cell: 309-453-1205
Cell: 863-465-5261
E-mail: jssangalli@yahoo.com

Alt National Director

Dick Tucker
4488 Drum Castle Ct.
Virginia Beach, VA 23455
Tel: 757-460-2601
Cell: 801-209-9628
E-mail: tucker4488@aol.com

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Send to Jack Sangalli, Treasurer.
1461 Valle Vista #26
Pekin, IL 61554