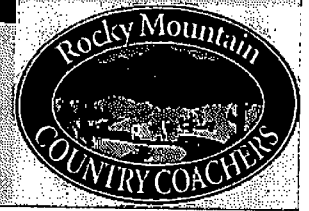


# Rocky Mountain Country Coachers

# NEWSLETTER



Volume VII, Issue II

Editor: Reggie Knight

March 2009

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## **TOMBSTONE RALLY TOMBSTONE TERRITORIES RV PARK HUACHUCA CITY, AZ**

The drive from Tucson to Tombstone Territories RV Park was about an hour. It didn't take us long to hook-up since we are all pros doing that job. We registered and had a few minutes to peruse the brochures that John and June provided. Then it was game time. The ladies, in teams of three, putted to nine flag pins. Some players took it more seriously than others. The men, in teams of four, played discus golf – trying to throw a Frisbee through a circular opening suspended from a tree branch; oh, it was extremely windy. During Happy Hour we played "Show and Tell". There were some strange items, but Paul Craig seemed to know what each item was, that was even stranger. After a catered dinner we played a card game and then watched the duck horse race – it's difficult to explain and you had to be there.

Tuesday morning we carpoled to Bisbee and toured the Mining and Historical Museum, which was the first museum in the southwest to become part of the Smithsonian Institution's Affiliations Program. Our tour guide, Anna Garcia, grew up in the community and her father, husband and many other male relatives worked in the copper mines, and so she has been involved with the community since her childhood. Bisbee was once known as "The Queen of the Copper Camps". It is nestled among the Mule Mountains and is world renowned for its diverse minerals and wealth of cooper. Copper mining began in Bisbee around 1880, the city was incorporated in 1902 and by 1910 the population was 25,000. The mines closed in 1970, but there is speculation that work might begin

**We are on the Web**

[www.rmccusa.com](http://www.rmccusa.com)

### OFFICERS 2009-2011

President—Tanna Flomer  
Vice-President—Betty Woods  
Secretary—Donna Tanzi  
Treasurer—George Anderson

## Tombstone con't

again on a limited basis. Anna told us that during the peak the wages were about \$4.00 a day and there were at least 60 bars and "ladies of the evening" to take those wages. The town's legacy has been preserved by the museum, its architecture and mining landscape. Back at the park, we rested until it was time for "heavy hors d'oeuvre" and entertainment by Will Stewart on banjo and little (as in size) trumpet, Bill Smith on keyboard, Don and Loudean Barr on uke and singing and Carl Lusckwitz on banjo accompanied by John Mastor on a home made bass fiddle. Thanks to Betty Wilcox, we now have songbooks to have songfests.

Wednesday morning with a hearty catered breakfast to give us nutrition for a busy day. One group went looking for birds, one group played golf and the third group went on a ghost town jeep tour. The birding group, led by John Mastor, first went to the Coronado Memorial and Visitor's Center. The center is home to a museum featuring the life of Francisco Vasquez de Coronado. Coronado's expedition took him through Mexico to the Grand Canyon and east to present day Salina, Kansas. His goals were to find the seven cities of gold, convert the Indians to Catholicism and claim the land for Spain. He did not meet any of his goals and considered himself a failure. That group didn't find any gold or any birds. Then the group followed John to the Fort Huachuca Museum, but John wasn't sure where it was so they had a tour of the military base until they found it. Fort Huachuca was and is still an active Army base. In its early days, its purpose was to protect the settlers from the Indians and was staffed by African-Americans escaping from slavery and called Buffalo Soldiers. During the World Wars, this same ethnic group distinguished themselves as being extremely brave and strong. Nine of our golfers played at the Turquoise Hills Family Golf Executive Course. Mel Sapp had the lowest score for the men and Susan Frost had the lowest score for the ladies, also both Mel and Susan had birdies. The third group did visit an old gold mining camp, but little remained and they didn't see any gold or ghosts. Betty Woods lead us to her childhood weekend and summer home property in the same region. The house had been bulldozed many years ago, but Betty was able to find a door hinge, drapery rods, a part of the fireplace and two bricks. Her father did find some gold in the surrounding hills, but not of great worth. We appreciated that Betty shared part of her childhood with us. We then had a lesson in how to change a flat tire, two worked and ten watched. It was time for us to put on our western finery and be entertained by the Dragoon Mountain Boys and singer. The music was good and the dancing was entertaining. The band judged Betty Wilcox as being the best lady western dancer. They picked Pam Anderson as the best western dressed lady and "Marshall" Carl Lusckwitz as the best western dressed gentleman; he even had a handle bar mustache.

## Tombstone con't

After breakfast on Thursday, we had a "Town Hall Meeting". The following subjects were discussed:

### **Country Coach, LLC, CCI and RMCC**

Country Coach, LLC with financial help from Wells Fargo et al has been allowed, by judicial decision, to complete the 43 coaches on the production line. Country Coach will sell these coaches and future judicial decisions concerning bankruptcy will be addressed after the sale of these coaches. CCI, which is independent of Country Coach, LLC, says that they are financially stable, working on a new website and are planning rallies. Our members are not as optimistic about CCI and there might come a time when we will have to affiliate with FMCA for liability insurance purposes. Affiliating with FMCA will be more expensive for our club and we will need two FMCA delegates to attend FMCA Board of Directors' meetings at their own expense. Currently, we are going to take a wait and see attitude.

### **Rally Expenses**

Rally expenses are increasing and stipends given by Country Coach and Beaudry are diminishing and even drying up. The following were suggested to reduce costs:

\*Betty Woods has printed a letter and business card that we could give to Country Coach drivers that we meet on our travels to promote our club and recruit new members. These can be printed from RMCC's website.

\*Members will bring all their beverages to the rally. The club will no longer supply wine, beer, soda, water, coffee, tea or juices.

\*High expense activities will be optional and not part of the rally fee for members.

\*Reduce number of evening catered meals. These may be replaced by picnic fare or various theme potlucks, such as Italian night with various pasta dishes and garlic bread.

\*Eliminate catered breakfasts.

### **Tech Talk**

\*There is a Yahoo chat room for Country Coach owners.

\*For the RMCC website

If you know of a tech who has helped you while traveling or a tech in your area who makes "house calls" send Rod Woods their name and telephone number.

Send coach questions and problems to Rod to put on the website and perhaps another member can answer your question or it can be discussed at the next rally.

## Tombstone con't

Thursday night we headed into Tombstone City to be fed and entertained at the Six Gun City. The food was good but some of us had to wait for them to catch the chicken and the fish. The singers and the elderly dude were entertaining in more than one way; we may have laughed when it wasn't expected. When we left the building and got out on the main street, it was spooky. It was only 8:00, but the street was deserted and the wind can make strange noises.

Friday morning departure times varied from 6ish to midmorning. We wish all of our friends "Travel Safe and we'll see you in Williams."

## RALLY HO!

Grand Canyon Rally, Railside RV Park, Williams, AZ

June 1 - 5, 2009

At the Grand Canyon Rally, a representative from Cummins will present a seminar on engines. The members will have a choice of taking the train to the Canyon or car-pooling there and stopping at the IMAX Theater to see a film. We will spend a day in Flagstaff touring the city, museums and the Lowell's Observatory where Pluto was discovered. There are other things to do along the famous Route 66 that goes through Flagstaff and there are many golf courses in the area.

Creede, Colorado

September 9 - 12, 2009

The Silver Thread Highway goes through Creede. It was a silver mining town in the past and there is a mine tour that may be taken. It is perfect terrain for jeeping and hilly golf courses. For more information about Creede, "Goggle" Creede, CO. We may have to limit the number of coaches for this rally so as soon as the registration form is available on our website [www.RMCCUSA.com](http://www.RMCCUSA.com), send in your registration!

## Mike and Kay Stokes Co-hosts at Tombstone

Mike Stokes was born in San Antonio, Texas, into an Air Force family and spent his youth living in Texas, Germany, Massachusetts and Colorado, before enlisting in the U.S. Navy after high school. For the next 30 years he spent tours of duty aboard the USS Kitty Hawk, USS Ticonderoga and USS Ranger as an avionics technician before changing rates and being transferred to the long-range patrol and Antisubmarine Warfare branch of the U.S. Navy. He retired after 30 years in the Navy as a Master Chief Petty Officer and went into the world of Big Boy Toys working for several major hobby distributors. He traveled repeatedly to China, Japan and Taiwan, seeking new products for the discriminating hobbyist. While working for a distributor in Higginsville, Missouri, Mike met Kay Stuffings and the two have been together ever since, now going on 10 years.

Kay Stokes was born in Kansas City, Missouri. Her natural father was killed on the beaches of Normandy on D-Day. Her stepfather was a Navy Lieutenant Commander with tours of duty in Ogden, Utah and Midway Island. Kay started her own business in sales recruiting (head hunter) specializing in the medical field. After 30 plus years in the business, she retired from it when she and Mike moved to Champaign, Illinois where he had accepted a position with a major hobby distributor.

Mike and Kay have a 2003 Country Coach Allure 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, which they purchased new and put on the road full time in April of 2004. Since then they have put over 64,000 miles on their coach towing first a Jeep Grand Cherokee and now a Jeep Wrangler. They have covered most of the "Lower 48", Alaska, the Maritimes, Baja, Mexico, Alberta, British Columbia, and the Yukon Territories. They now base their coach out of Las Vegas, Nevada, where they have place to store all of Kay's shoes. When not in their coach they enjoy spending time in Aruba, Cabo San Lucas, Puerto Vallarta and Mazatlan. Their favorite places to visit in their coach are Yuma, Arizona (Algodones and the Yuma Flea Market are fantastic), San Felipe, Mexico, Virginia Beach, Virginia, and Wal-Marts nationwide!!

## Grand Canyon Adventure Rally

Monday June 1st to June 5th are our dates for the Grand Canyon Adventures Rally in Williams, Arizona. We will be staying at the Railside RV Park in downtown Williams, Arizona. There is plenty of excitement for all !!!

Per the request of many members we will have a free day Tuesday. This will allow those that wish to play golf, see the route 66 shops and museums, travel to some of the surrounding area sights, or attend a seminar on diesel engines being held at our RV Park by Rocky Mountain Cummins. This is your chance to ask all kinds of questions about your diesel engines, Cummins or Cat!

Wednesday we will go to the Grand Canyon South Rim. Many members expressed a desire to do this by train. Also several members wanted to drive so they could also see the IMAX Theater. As a result of member inputs we are offering both ways to enjoy the Grand Canyon.

Thursday RMCC Cummins is sponsoring a day in Flagstaff where we will see the Lowell Observatory as well as the world famous Arboretum at Flagstaff. You won't want to miss this!

There will be lots of good food and social gatherings as well to round out the rally. And of course Reggie is helping us with some fun activities to make this a complete agenda for all.

The registration forms are available on the web site [www.rmccusa.com](http://www.rmccusa.com) Please register early so we can get the proper discounts for the train ride if that is your choice for going to the Grand Canyon.

We look forward to seeing all of you there and please feel free to invite non members to also attend this fun packed rally. If you have any questions please send them to [rod@cavecreeksQftware.com](mailto:rod@cavecreeksQftware.com)

The Rally Hosts are Rod Woods, John Tanzi and Bill Holmesley.

## CREEDE SILVER MINING RALLY

Well, friends, it is time to focus some serious attention on the coming Silver Mining Rally in Creede, Colorado, September 9-13, 2009. It promises to be a fantastic time learning more about - and indeed experiencing - this beautiful area. Creede's story began well over a hundred years ago as a silver mining extravaganza, playing host to such historical luminaries as Soapy Smith, Poker Alice, Bob Ford (purportedly the killer of Jesse James), and even Bat Masterson. Creede is the only town in Mineral County, and there are fewer than 900 full-time residents in the entire county. Yes, it is small. But it is small ONLY in terms of population. 96% of the land area in the county is in public ownership, and much of the remaining 4% is in rather large land holdings.

A very small part of the remaining land area has been developed into Mountain Views at River's Edge RV Resort and Park, the site of our rally. It occupies a gorgeous location along the Rio Grande River and it draws folks from all over the country during its long summer season. Summer begins to wane in September as the Aspen-covered hillsides think about their coming color. Wow, what a sight it can be! The valley floor is close to 9,000 feet (a bit of a challenge for anyone who has health problems with altitude - so beware of this issue), but some of the higher mountain roads can offer majestic views of Fall colors even this early in the Fall.

Plans for our time together include four nights at Mountain Views, three catered evening meals in the Mountain Views Bear Lodge, a docent-guided tour of the Creede Underground Mining Museum (where the docents, retired Creede miners, patiently and cleverly explain the mining process in a "mine" carefully carved out of the rock at "street" level), and evening at the renown (Yes, truly!) Creede Repertory Theater where we will experience a musical adaptation of the familiar Swiss Family Robinson story, at least two opportunities to get INTO the surrounding mountains on 4-wheel drive treks (not too tough, but exhilarating nevertheless), and so much more. Our last night will be at an "undisclosed" location where you will be treated to good food as you overlook the Rio Grande River, along with phenomenal musical entertainment provided by members of the Creede Repertory Theater company. You WILL be impressed with their offerings!

We had contemplated limiting the attendance to 20 coaches, primarily because the last-night's activities will take place where the seating will be tight - at best. However, we don't want folks to miss this opportunity to learn about Creede. So, if we have more than 20 coaches, some folks may have to listen to the music from the next room. If you need more enticement, spend a little time visiting some highly-relevant websites: [www.creede.com](http://www.creede.com), [www.creederep.org](http://www.creederep.org), and [www.mountainviewsvr.com](http://www.mountainviewsvr.com). Follow the links on any of these websites to learn more about what Creede has to offer. The, come join us to see it all in person!!! Much more information will follow when you register for this rally, including travel advice. The Registration form is not yet on the RMCCUSA website because we still have a few pricing issues to finalize. However, that will be completed soon. In the meantime, however, mark your calendars for a memorable time in the gorgeous San Juan Mountains in September, 2009.

## HELP WANTED / NEEDED

WHAT? - RALLY HOSTS

WHERE? - THE COUNTRY'S MOST BEAUTIFUL RV AREAS

WHEN? - 2010 AND 2011

WHO? - ANYONE WHO WANTS TO SHARE A FAVORITE DESTINATION AREA WITH THEIR FRIENDS

WHY? - SILLY QUESTION - IF YOU HAVE BEEN TO AN RMCC RALLY!!!

If you want to continue to have RMCC club rallies, we need members to volunteer to be Rally Hosts. Without such volunteers there will be no rallies and, eventually, there will be no RMCC. So, PLEASE recognize the need and take advantage of this opportunity to share your love of a specific area or resort with your fellow CCers. Take us all to someplace new and exciting!

The hosting process can be great fun as you plan details for sharing your favorite area. It does require some advance planning to tie down the right RV facility, so do not think that 2011 (or even 2010) is too far out to start the process. You will not have to do it alone, either. Your club's Rally Coordinator is available to help and other members always offer to help.

Want more information? Visit the website at [www.rmccusa.com](http://www.rmccusa.com) and click on Rallies - then on one of the listed links. Or, contact our Rally Coordinator, Bill Smith, at [Bill@rmccusa.com](mailto:Bill@rmccusa.com) or by telephone at 719-658-0717.



## Pat Anderson—Scrapebook

Pat was born and raised in San Diego, CA. She lived in the same house until she and George married. They met in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, but didn't pay much attention to each other until they were seniors in high school. In the 7<sup>th</sup> grade she borrowed two cents from George to attend a junior high afternoon sock hop and he is still trying to collect his two cents. Pat always knew that she would marry a white-collar worker, have two children (boy first, girl next) and live happily ever after. While their two children were growing up, she worked as a school secretary. Later, she had a real estate career in California and Arizona, which George classified as a "great tax write off". She never thought that she would have the opportunity to travel the world, own 21 houses, all at different times, but she's not the gypsy in the family and last, but not least own a motor home. Traveling in their motor home 2-3 weeks at a time has been great fun.

## June & John Mastor—Co-Hosts

June and John met in high school in Fredonia, NY and married in 1951. This summer they will celebrate their 58th anniversary. In 1953 they moved to California and lived in the San Fernando Valley for 30 years. John worked in the aerospace industry for 15 years and then ventured on his own into construction and real estate; June joined him in the real estate business. Their raised their three children in California and once they "flew the nest", June and John moved to Arizona and opened a business selling building materials. Now they just oversee the business and leave the daily operation to managers. Their hobbies consisted of building houses, camping and water skiing with their children. They had many different campers and moved up to a motor home in 1975. They have been able to travel to many part of the world and for their 50th anniversary they took a seven week world cruise. They currently have three healthy children, 11 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren who live in different locations, so they are busy traveling to visit them all.

## Teri Smith – Scrape Book Custodian

Teri was introduced into this world in the City of Angeles (Los Angeles) and three years later moved to Nixon's ol'stumping grounds (Whittier). She went to his high school alma mater and was crushed when he didn't show up for homecoming. Throughout school she developed a love for "all things art" and decided to major in art and acquire her teaching credentials at the University of Redlands. She was introduced to Bill by their Ceramics professor while she was "throwing pots". It was love at first sight when she saw his new car - a Stingray. She really wanted a ride, but was too embarrassed to ask, but Bill anticipated her every desire and offered her a ride. They were married the September after she graduated and it was a "hot" wedding. Southern California can get very hot in mid-September and she wore a white velvet dress. Their former ceramic professor made Bill's wedding ring.

For five years she tried to teach the youth of southern California how to draw a straight line. Then she got her dream job of being "Mom" to her two sons full time in Mission Viejo where they lived for 30 years. Their older son is an aquatic ecologist, lives in San Antonio, Texas and is the father of precious two year Hannah. The younger son still lives in southern California and is a musician, singer, songwriter, worship leader and works in the marketing department of a religious affiliated credit union.

She and Bill left southern California for Colorado and are very thankful that they made the right decision even though they live at 9,000 feet in the middle of one of the largest calderas in the U.S. She continues to keep busy by walking, jeeping, photography, entertaining company, church work and enjoying the beauty of the mountains and the Rio Grande River. They do most of their RVing in the winter and in the past have covered the western half of the U.S., but currently, their favorite destination is "Hannahville," TX. She has been married to Bill for almost 42 years, but the Stingray was sold 40 years ago.

Many thanks to Norma Holmesley and Carol Lawrence-Sapp for being reporters for this newsletter. Truck loads of flowers couldn't show my appreciation.

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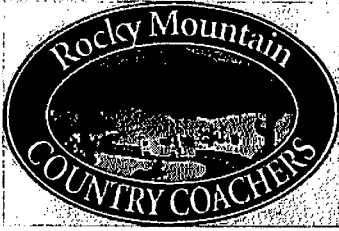
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## Rocky Mountain Country Coachers Organized March 2003

*The main purposes of the Rocky Mountain Country Coachers Club are to promote the aims and objectives of CCI and FMCA and, through creative activities, to further the fellowship and enjoyment in the Club, to provide a forum for the free exchange of ideas and experiences of motorhoming, and to represent ourselves as good, careful and responsible motorhome owners and operators.*

*The specific purposes shall be to: Promote and further good fellowship and cooperation among our Club members, promote periodic rallies that will effectively provide for the exchange of information for the common good, and carry on such business activities as deemed necessary on behalf of members at periodic meetings.*

*Rocky Mountain Country Coachers area includes: Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, and Wyoming.*

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### FROM THE EDITOR

I hope by this time you have read the Tucson Rally Newsletter and have enjoyed it. There are a few changes in the format of this newsletter. All the articles are in block format because it is easier than column format. In the Tucson Rally newsletter, the print size was 14, but in this newsletter the print size is 12, except for RMCC Purpose article. Which do you prefer?

A comment or two about Bill Smith's article entitled, "Help Wanted!" There are about 151 members of RMCC and 47 of these members have been hosts of rallies once or more. What about the other 104 members? Many of you come to the rallies and just sit and want to be fed and entertained and then some have the nerve to complain. Don't you think it is time for you to step-up and host a rally? I don't want to hear your excuses. Yes, being a rally host is a lot of work, but if 2 - 3 of you get together, select a site, do some research about the area and put together a rally with Bill Smith's guidance, you can do it! What else so you have to do? You'll feel good when people comment what a good time they had at your rally. Think about it and better yet, do something about it!

**No Sniveling!**