

NEWSLETTER



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Editor: Reggie Knight

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY VERN WELDY

To all of the members that were not able to attend the Rally and Annual Meeting, you missed a great rally put on by Bob and Alta Daniels and Bill and Reggie Knight. Reggie will cover the things we did during this Rally in her newsletter.

The high lights were the auction, and the tour of the Stadium, the dinners, and the entertainment.

The auction was without a doubt a surprise to all of us. We raised from the members \$12,000.00 for the New Life Center. Many thanks to Bill Knight for the wooden bowls and platter that he made and put into the auction along with all the other items donated for the auction by all members. To refresh your memory, in 2012 we raised \$5,000 and in 2013 we raised \$9,000. Jack Kelly, Bill and Reggie Knight, Celine and I delivered the checks to the New Life Center on March 22, 2014. The Center was very surprised. You will see the picture in Reggie's newsletter. Thank-you from the New Life Center for your great donations to help this worthy cause.

I think all the members enjoyed the 4 days. We had a new member coach attend the rally. Their names are Mark and Sandee Kapellusch. We also had another Country Coach owner in the RV Park who came over and Vanessa immediately signed him up to join FMCA and RMCC. We covered the upcoming rallies starting with May 15-19 in Albuquerque, NM with Mary Granone and Dan Durham as Rally Masters. You will be hearing more on this rally, but put the date in your calendar and plan to attend. We will have a rolling start to Albuquerque stopping at Holbrook, AZ, Santa Fe, NM, and on to the rally; anyone can join in at either place. There will be more on this later.

There are many rallies planned in the Oregon area during this summer. I believe Reggie will cover them in her newsletter.

There was some discussion about the web site some people are still having problems. Vanessa Hays offered to help anyone who is having a problem. She offered that you could call her and she will walk you through any issues you are having. Jim Moreland would like to have all checks made out to RMCC and sent to him for rally registrations. The Rallies will continue to be posted on the website for you to register and then send a check to Jim. Vanessa has also posted a printable registration on the web site for your use if you cannot register on line. The problem this causes is that Jim will have to go on line and register you on the web site. We want to make it easy for you to register for rallies. Let us know if you have any other suggestions.

I want to thank everyone for all the help you put in to make this rally great. Next year the annual meeting will be in Yuma, AZ. There will be an election of officers at that rally. Please give your name to Reggie, the Nominating Committee Chair, if you can offer your help. We also need rally masters for Christmas in the Park in December and the annual meeting. If you need more information please let Jack Kelly or me know as we can work with you to make the rally a success.

We hope to see many of you in Albuquerque.

Vern Weldy
President
RMCC

BUSINESS MEETING RALLY
COTTON LANE RV RESORT - GOODYEAR, AZ
MARCH 6 - 10, 2014

Hosts - Bob & Alta Daniels, Co-hosts - Bill & Reggie Knight

While most of the country was still experiencing winter with snow (that white stuff that falls from the sky), freezing rain and temperatures not only below freezing, but often below 0, we had the perfect spring weather with sunny clear skies and the singing birds waking us at 4:30 am. Nineteen coaches attended and rally and most of them arrived the day before the rally began. After registration on Thursday, we had Happy Hour during which Tom Daugherty spoke to us for a short time. Tom is a representative from SkyMed, which is an Emergency Travel Service. The Service would be very important for some of us that travel with family members or to other countries. It is not limited to RV travel. It was so good to see Jean Grabman again accompanied by Snickers. Bill and Terri have a new "designer breed" puppy, Barney. He is an adorable little "mop" with eyelashes at least an inch long and an elevated hormone level. Teri took a video of his "loving ways" and sent it to their vet with instructions to have the surgical room ready when they arrived at home. It is always good to see old friends and meet new friends. Sandee and Mark Kapellusch are new members. Sandee and her daughter make and sell bling bracelets. Mark was suffering from a fall from the coach's roof - remember what Bob Lee said years ago - "If you can afford a Country Coach, you can afford to have someone else climb up on the roof."

Friday morning we ate a hardy breakfast of egg and sausage burritos to prepare us for the ninety minute tour of Cardinal Stadium. That is an amazing place! After the tour some members

went back to the RV Park while others had lunch and shopped at Tangers Outlet Mall and/or Cabela's. That evening during a light dinner with margaritas, the auction to benefit the New Life Center was held. The auction was a huge success to the extent of \$12,000. Many thanks to the members who contributed items to be auctioned and to the members who bid for them. Also, thank you to Jim Moreland, Darren Schmaltz and the Margarita Blender for keeping our glasses filled.

After a pancake breakfast on Saturday, a few of us attended an archaeology lecture in the classroom in the Nature Center at the White Tank Mountain Regional Park by Jessica, an archaeologist/ranger. Later in the, when more members join our group, she lead us on a walk to the waterfall. It was one mile to the waterfall and one mile back to the parking lot. Along the way, she pointed out native trees, bushes and petroglyphs. There wasn't any water falling from the cliff above, but there was water in the pool at the base of the cliff. We were tired when we got back to the RV Park and there were a few cases of mild sunburn. Other members went to the Litchfield Park's Fine Art and Culinary Festival. During Happy Hour, the ladies had an Easter Egg Hunt. A certain dog didn't want all the eggs to be found. He really rolled them under the coaches and they weren't found until the coaches left on departure day. That evening a delicious dinner was provided by RV Master Techs. The cherry cobbler with ice cream was the perfect ending to a busy day.

Before the Annual Business Meeting on Sunday, we had a scrumptious catered breakfast complete with flavored coffees. Donna and John Tanzi, who were the Club's secretary and FMCA representative, sold their coach and therefore didn't renew their membership so new nominees had to be presented to the membership and voted upon. Sharon Brandt is the current RMCC's secretary and Darren Schmaltz is the FMCA representative. Earlier in the rally, the Audit Committee consisting of Bill Smith, Paul Craig and Darren Schmaltz, reviewed the financial accounts of RMCC. They concurred that the financial accounts reflected the financial position of RMCC satisfactory. In the afternoon, many of us went to the Spring Training Baseball Game between the Brewers and the Indians. The Brewers didn't bring their new mascot, Hank, to the game. Hank is a little "moppy" homeless dog that wandered onto the field while they were practicing and captured everyone's heart, so they adopted him. Rescue animals rule! At the game we had our choice of sitting in the sun or in the shade. There were very few brave souls who endured the sun for most of the game. For dinner, we had catered authentic Mexican food. There were three sauces - hot, hotter and holy-moly hot! The sliced carrots were interesting and also surprising - some were mild tasting and others were extremely spicy hot. The evening ended with entertainment by Missouri Opry Entertainment - Jerry and Judy Prunty.

By 10 am on Monday, all but a very few of the coaches remained at the Cotton Lane RV Resort. Many of those who had traveled a few hundred miles wanted to get home before nightfall and the rest of us had things to do in the afternoon - I thought we were retired! Mary Granone and Dan Durham are planning visits to local town sites and short road trips to see the beautiful landscapes of New Mexico during the Albuquerque Rally in May.

THE CARDINAL STADIUM aka University of Phoenix Stadium

The tour of the Cardinal Stadium was very interesting and informative. Our guide, Ben, was very adapt at walking backwards while talking to us. The cost of the Stadium was \$455 Million, but the University of Phoenix covered most of that cost by purchasing naming rights and there are also hundreds of millions from other sources. Some of those sources are the renting of rooms around the interior of the stadium for conventions, graduations, proms, weddings and other events. While we were touring the building, there was a Home and Garden Show being held on the main floor. The field was outside and is there most of the time. The field comes in on railroad tracks and weighs 19,000 tons. The field goes out about an hour after a game and comes in three days before a game. While the outside night temperature is above 80 degrees, the field is sodded and seeded with Bermuda grass, otherwise rye in planted. In the spring, the rye sod is cut and given to the local high school football fields.

There are usually 62,000 seats in the stadium, but for the Super Bowl, the number is increased to 78,000 seats. The roof was closed when we were there. It opens from the middle to the ends and takes 12 minutes to open and 12 minutes to close. Kurt Warner is very superstitious and didn't want the roof open when he was playing as quarterback.

We visited many parts of the stadium complex. We went into the visitor's dressing rooms. There are usually 47 - 53 players on a team, but there are only 13 shower heads and two handicapped shower stalls for the visitors. Ben told us that often many players don't shower before their flight home - P - U! On TV we see many sports teams celebrating with popping champagne bottles in the locker rooms, but the NFL doesn't allow alcohol in the locker rooms.

Near the top of the Stadium is the Press Room and has space for usually 150 people, but for the Super Bowl there can be 300 people in that room. No one is allowed to talk or make any noise in that room. Larry Fitzgerald's father was in the Press Room watching a game and Larry made a touchdown and his father cheered; the father was told that it was not acceptable behavior. We also visited a Loft area (suites) where the average rental is \$150,000 per year with a three year commitment. That includes comfortable seating for about 12 - 14, private restroom and one free parking space. That does not include food, drink and service. (A good Polish wedding lasts three days, cost less and probably has better food with a few kegs of beer.) As usual with all tours, they end at the same place - the gift shop. All of us enjoyed the tour very much.

Rallies Ho!!!!

RMCC Pre-Rally to Albuquerque

May 12, 2014 - Holbrook KOA

May 13 & 14 - Santa Fe Skies RV Park

RMCC Albuquerque Rally - May 15 - 19 - American RV Park, 13500 Central Ave, Albuquerque, NM

RMCC Post-Rally from Albuquerque

May 19 - 21 - Hacienda RV Park, 740 Stern Dr, Las Cruces, NM

May 22 - 26 (leave 27th) - Rincon Country West RV Park, 4555 S Mission RD, Tucson, AZ

July 27 - Aug 1 - Diesel RV Club Rally, The Mill RV Park, Coos Bay, OR

August 3 - 8 - CCI Rally - 7 Feathers RV Park, Canyonville, OR

August 3 - ? - CCFI Rally - Albany, OR

August 13 - 16 - FMCA Rally - Redmond, OR

RMCC Rally - September 4 - 8 - Blackwell RV Park, 800 S Marine Dr, Coeur d'Alene, ID

Nov 2 - 9 - CCI Joint Clubs Rally - Tucson Trap and Skeet Club, Tucson, AZ

Nov 4 - 9 - Diesel RV Club Rally - Branson, MO

RMCC Campout Christmas in the Park - Dec 11 - 14 - Cotton Lane RV Park, Goodyear, AZ

2015

RMCC Annual Business Meeting Rally - March 19 - 23 - Yuma, AZ

RMCC Prescott Rally - Date TBA - Prescott, AZ

RMCC DONATES \$12,000 TO NEW LIFE CENTER



The proceeds of the auction held by RMCC at their Annual Business Meeting Rally amounted to \$12,000. Vern Weldy, RMCC President; Jack Kelly, RMCC Vice-President; Bill and Reggie Knight, RMCC members presented the check to the New Life Center.



Rocky Mountain Country Coaches Organized March 2003

The main purposes of the Rocky Mountain Country Coaches Club are to promote the aims and objectives of 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 Coaches area includes: Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Montana and Wyoming.

FROM THE EDITOR

It was a good rally, as all of them are, especially the tour of the Cardinal Stadium. I remembered the "conflict" about the location of the Stadium. A gentleman offered land in the West Valley at no cost, but "The Committee" rejected his offer because they wanted the Stadium in the West Valley in the Scottsdale area. "The Committee" couldn't find any suitable land in the East Valley at an acceptable price, so it was back to the West Valley. By this time, the generous gentleman rescinded his offer of the free land. Eventually, land was purchased along Route 101 and we watched the building of the stadium. The architect's concept of the Stadium was a snake coiled around a barrel cactus, but to the rest of us it looked like a toilet bowl, especially before the roof was added.

Sadly, I won't be able to attend the rallies in Albuquerque and Blackwell Island. Fear not! The Purple Pumpkin will be there. Hopefully a few reporters will provide me with information for the newsletter. At the Goodyear Rally, Vern listed the rallies that RMCC is planning to have in the next two years and asked for hosts and co-hosts for these rallies. Without these important people we can't have rallies. I know that I'm sounding like a broken record, but the same 1/3 of the member coaches who hold or who have held office or have been on committees are the same 1/3 who have been hosts and co-hosts for rallies. What about the other 2/3 member coaches?

I thanked you after the auction, but thank you again for generosity. \$12,000 is an amazing amount that we were able to give to the New Life Center. Kudos to Jim Moreland and Darren Schmaltz, our mixologists! My glass was never empty of margaritas during the auction. Still say that those margaritas have a lot to do with the success of the auction.