



Rocky Mountain Country Coachers

Newsletter

9/25/2019 Issue

President's Message



President
Bill Smith

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Bob Hope - Remember him? - sang "Thanks For The Memories" and it became his theme song, more or less. Well, folks, I think that could be the theme song for RMCC as well. Creating memories has been our club's "business" for many years and we have become quite good at making memories. I was reminded about this when Teri and I received Thank You notes from so many of the RMCCers who attended the "Breathtaking" Colorado rally that we were privileged to host in Creede. We want to THANK YOU for giving us this privilege! You might think it is a bit strange for me to thank you for allowing us to host a rally. You might think hosting is a lot of work with little reward. Well folks, you would be wrong. Surely, some work is involved but it is vastly overshadowed by the sight of joy on so many faces as they soak up rally activities. And, yes, the food also. (Perhaps the song should be titled "Thanks For The Calories"!!!)

President's Message (continued)

So, as we move into 2020 and beyond, let's all pay close attention to the rally planning that Rod has led. Let's also recognize that Rod does not do this alone. Many of you have offered to stand - and work - with him to assure that we continue to make memories as we gather together at special locations across our rally territory and we all are grateful for those commitments. If you share my views about the importance of fellowship, food and fun - and memory making - please give serious consideration to contacting Rod to offer your thoughts and services to the rally planning / hosting process. Please do not wait for him to tap you on the shoulder to ask if you would consider helping with rallies. Instead, please take the initiative and give him a call. Who knows, you may have the best-ever idea for a future rally!

Now, to "fuel your fire" about rallying in general, take careful note of Rod's description of plans for future rallies as contained in this Newsletter. As you may have heard already, Rob Brown is maintaining a waiting list for the Yellowstone rally next year. Yes, this rally (with limited space availability due to the demand for RV sites in that area) was filled by those who attended the Coos Bay and Creede rallies. We all need to plan well-ahead and that includes early registration for our future rallies. So, watch the club website to see when the registration process opens for the rallies in which you have interest (hopefully that will be all of them) and register early.

First Timers



Bob and Cheryl Gill



Dave and Val Brush



David and Sussan Hetteema

I encourage you to carefully read through this entire Newsletter. Doing so will help you to catch the RMCC fever so you can join the memory making activities that will soon arrive. We have SO much "new blood" in RMCC and the future has never looked brighter. Be a part of it!!! Better yet, BE that future!

Bill Smith, President RMCCoachers

Future Rallies

Before I discuss our future Rallies, I would like to say a few words about our most recent Rally in Creede. For you members that were not there, you missed one of the best rallies I have attended in all my years as a member of Rocky Mountain Country Coachers!

First, the surroundings of Creede itself located in the high Rocky Mountains, was breathtaking. Both our car tours and Jeep tours took us thru the higher mountains showing its beauty and animal life. Next a play in Creed's Repertory Theater, also a first-class chef for all our breakfast and dinners, then our meetings at Bill's most beautiful home located at the head waters of the Rio Grande River.

It is the time we spent at Bill's home that made this rally so memorable. Bill played his piano for us, had a known musician, Danny Byram, who is an amazingly talented singer, pianist and guitarist. Danny started in clubs and bars many years ago but his main focus for the past 30+ years has been a music-focused ministry to our country's military installations over much of the world. He sang a special song he wrote for servicemen, Away for Christmas.

The last day was Bill, under popular demand from his audience, to sing for us. It was great! Bill has such a great musical talent that most of us don't get the chance to see or hear him sing and play.

Now lets talk about some of our exciting rallies coming up. For the year 2020 we have three rallies scheduled, the "Movie Memories" in the Palm Springs Area, The Grand Canyon Rally in Williams Arizona, and the Yellowstone Edge Rally

First Timers



Don and Dorene Foster



Hambone Hamblet and son Adam



John Norris



Stan and Gerre Glasgow

March 25th to 29th 2020 Palm Springs “Movie Memories” Rally

Registration is now open for this rally at our web site

www.RMCCoachers.com

The Palm Springs rally is focused around the movie Industry and other fun events located in the Palm Springs area. It will be a fun Rally to attend focusing on events, food, fellowship and fun for all. We will also hold our required annual business meeting during this Rally.

The rally includes a tram ride to the top of San Jacinto Peak, a guided tour on a bus to many of the movie star's homes, dinner at the famous Jackalope restaurant built for Marie Calendar, catered dinners and breakfasts.

We hope to see you there and encourage you to sign up asp. This helps us reserve the correct number of sites and reservations where required.

Contact: Jill Andrews ph 602-228-9233 or

Rod Woods Ph 480-575-9740 for questions about this rally.

June 10th to 13th 2020 Williams Arizona “Grand Canyon Rally”

Registration will be open at the Palm Springs Rally.

Going to the Grand Canyon is the highlight of this rally, especially when you do it on the Grand Canyon Railroad which is included in the rally fees. This is a full day event which allows you to take some guided tours or visit the grand Canyon village or both.

We will also be touring Bearizona which is both a natural wildlife park showing many of the North American animals in their wild habitat as well as a walking tour to see the animals up close

Lowell Observatory is next on our schedule. We will tour their facilities and see the giant telescope that found Pluto. We are also checking into the possibility for Lowell Observatory to bring a telescope to our RV park so we can view the planets live.

In addition, Cummings Rocky Mountain has signed up to give us a seminar on coach care. They will be discussing your diesel engines, generators, and general chassis and coach care as well as answering your questions. Their Coach Care facilities are located in most of the Rocky Mountain and Pacific States.

As in all our rallies dinners and breakfast are provided in your rally registration fees.

Contact: Marcel Malenfant (520-303-1508 or cell 520-609-3008) or

Rod Woods 480-575-9740 for any questions about this Rally.

September 8th to 12th 2020

Yellowstone Edge RV Park "Yellowstone Adventures"

The Yellowstone Edge rv park required a list of names by this year end that would be attending this rally. To accomplish this we offered an early registration to hold your spot until final registration is available. This was announced at both the Coos Bay Rally and Creede Rally. The rally is completely full, and a wait list has been set up. If you wish to attend this rally we encourage you to sign up for the wait list. History has shown we have some cancellations as we near the rally time due to medical issues or coach issues. To sign up contact:

RMCC Host: Rob and Gerri Brown Phone 208-477-4701

2021 Rallies

We are now starting to select rally sites for 2021. If you have any suggestions please forward them to :

Rod Woods azrod444@gmail.com

Please add some comments about location, things to do, and rv parks able to host a rally in the area you suggested. Also if you would like to host or co-host a rally please let me know. Hosting or co-hosting a rally is fun, allows you to meet all the club members and establish new friends in the club, and it gives you a great feeling of self achievement for your rally. Remember you are not alone in setting up a rally. We have a great support staff to help you in all areas of hosting a rally.

Web Site Change

The RMCCoachers board has approved changing our website from Club Express to Wild Apricot. The date of availability will be in the December time frame which will be announced to all members with instructions on how to use it.

The major reason for this change is to allow our web site to assist us in finding new members. Today most of our new members come to us via FMCA's new members list. We plan to increase our membership some by using the Internet as an additional source for finding new members. This requires our web site to be open to the Google search engines in which Wild Apricot is an ideal product for this.

Other benefits of this is Wild Apricot is designed to allow different administrators to manage specific areas of the site such as Membership, Rallies, Newsletter's, Financial, Marketing, and development of new features. This takes away the need to have a super star that does all the areas mentioned. The maintaining of each area requires no coding capability. Instead it uses mostly multiple choices which is easy for the administrators to learn.

Rick Reiss is our new web Master in which all administrators will take guidance from. Following are the new administrators:

Betty Woods- Membership Administrator

Rod Woods – Rallies administrator

Mark Kapellusch- Finance Administrator

Rick Reiss- Web Master, Marketing and Developmental activities

Newsletter – Need a volunteer. Contact Gary Hayes if interested

Coos Bay Rally Recap Thoughts by Rob and Gerri Brown

First and probably most important was our chance to really get to know our Rally masters Ron and Sharon Brandt. It is a real plus to have an experienced rally master live in the area you are planning to visit. Ron and Sharon came to stay with us in Nampa Idaho for 3 days and work on the rally schedule and event timings. We had 22 coaches signed up and we were the first rally ever held in this brand new park which turned out to be head and shoulders above all the others in the area. The challenge was if the Event Center was going to be finished in time. The spaces were all large, designed for 45 foot rigs with toads. We had the entire loop except for one space on the end that was rented monthly.

We stayed with Ron and Sharon at their lovely home about 2 miles from the RV Park. We arrived in 60 degree temps with rain threatening and lots of wind. Oregon in June can be nasty. Part of the plan for our early time was to go fishing to provide fish for the first night's Fish Fry and Pot Luck. The wind was so bad that we were unable to get out of the harbor due to small craft warnings along the coast. Fortunately, Ron had been able to go out one day in the previous 10 and thought we had enough fillets. Turned out to be just enough! We both moved over to the Park on Sunday to join some of the early birds that were arriving. The weather was improving and we saw the sun again for a bit. Still the wind was significant so we decided to hold off on setting up the pop-up until the night of the Fish Fry. Wednesday afternoon was really nice so we set up the canopy and organized for the Fish Fry. Two of our travelers with sick motorhomes came for dinner. One rented a park owned Airstream trailer and was able to attend the entire rally. The other drove over from Eugene, Oregon just so they could at least meet the group. They were new members and this was to be their first rally. We really liked them and appreciated the 150 mile round trip just to have dinner with the club. Out came the propane burners and the margarita machine and "Relax by the Bay" had a great first dinner with Ron's local fish fillets cooked to perfection by Mark and Jim while Daren kept the ice flowing in the margarita machine. All was going great, the weather was co-operating, people were renewing old friendships and suddenly, one of our master fish chefs disappeared. He had just had the coach washed and the cleaners had shut off the water to use the external water faucet. Since our fish needed cooking, he was not there when the cleaners finished up and turned the water back on. Unfortunately, one of the interior faucets had been left on and, of course, his tank valves were shut.



Coos bay (continued)

So, guess what happens when the gray water holding tank over flows. It comes out your shower drain. The good news was that the washer company also was a carpet care company. They brought out dryers and dehumidifiers so restoration began immediately.

Thursday breakfast was a catered breakfast burrito, with coffee, tea and juice. We took over the brand new Event Center with beautiful view of the bay which was only feet away. Sharon passed out maps for the day's trip to The Animal Safari in Bandon to which we carpooled with Ron in the lead. Everyone seemed to enjoy the trip and interacting with the animals with lots of photos being taken. Then we returned with stops at Misty Meadows, a gift shop featuring jams and other goodies made from local produce. Then on to Face Rock Creamery for cheese tasting, lunch and ice cream. Dinner that evening, after a social hour, was a Catered Lasagna Dinner. After dinner, the group was given a sheet of foolscap and crayons and was asked to draw something they encountered that day that was inspiring.

Friday breakfast was a casserole of eggs, sausage, potatoes and cheese. Fresh fruit, coffee, tea and juice completed the menu. This was a free morning. Early in the afternoon we carpooled to downtown Coos Bay to participate in a wine walk sponsored by the local Rotary club. We walked to a several local businesses for a taste of wine in our new RMCC logo wine glass. The Chamber of Commerce welcome sign flashed greetings to the Rocky Mountain Country Coaches. That evening we walked (some stumbled) into The Blue Heron restaurant where we had a great "German" dinner.



Saturday breakfast was again catered, but this time biscuit, egg, ham or sausage sandwiches were available along with fresh fruit coffee, tea and juice. Sharon explained the day's events and passed out maps to Shore Acres, a historical site and gardens right on the cliffs overlooking the Oregon coast. Afterwards many of us stopped for lunch at a restaurant right on the bay before going to the Marine Museum. Dinner was back in our Private meeting room with the incredible view and this time it was Prime Rib, again catered, an expertly carved by Master meat cutter Ron Brandt. 7 winners of the previous Art contest were announced. Their masterpieces were displayed and prizes awarded.

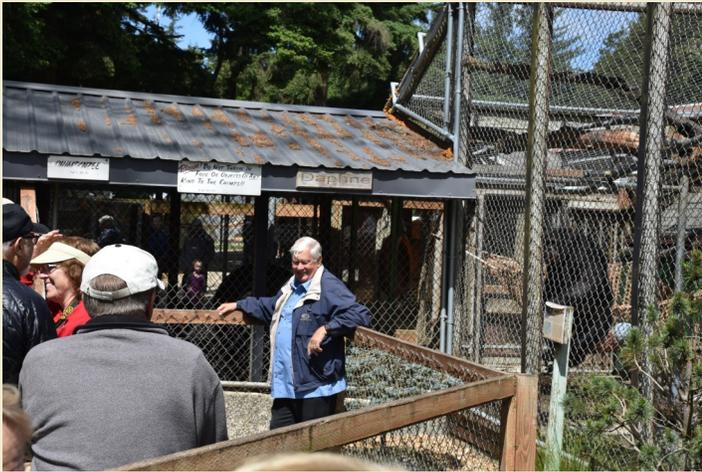
Coos Bay (continued)



Sunday arrived all too quickly. We said our good byes while we dined on our last catered meal of fresh fruit, yogurt, rolls and the required coffee and tea. In retrospect, while we did get one morning to “Relax by the Bay”, we could probably have named the Rally “Eat by the Bay”. The weather was perfect and the gathering a successful one. We can’t wait for the next one and hope to see you in Creede this September Indio, CA Williams, AZ and at Yellowstone next year.



Coos Bay Pictures



Creede Rally Recap

Well, folks, another great RMCC rally is “in the books”! 23 coaches - 44 people - gathered in Creede, Colorado, shortly after Labor Day for a truly “Breathtaking” experience in the San Juan Mountains of southern Colorado. Three FULL days and four nights left little time for sleeping, but plenty of time for eating and having fun - and we did a lot of both.



We were delighted to have seven “first-timer” coaches join us for this rally and we anxiously look forward to times when all RMCC members can get to know our newest rally participants. The “newbies” are Dave and Val Brush (Nebraska), Don and Dorene Foster (Oregon), Bob and Cheryl Gill (New Mexico), Hambone Hamblet - accompanied by his son, Adam (New Mexico), David and Susan Hetteema (New Mexico), John Norris (Arizona) and Stan Wright and Jerre Glasgow (California). Welcome to RMCC - see y’all down the road.

[Editors note: their pictures are displayed in the newsletter.](#)

Creede Rally continued

We ate! Oh, yes, we truly ate well! John Arp and Rhonda Brown, the proprietors of Arp's at Creede Hotel, were our superb caterers and they kept us energized with four breakfasts and three catered dinners. John, who had entertained many as an actor at Creede Repertory Theatre before opening Arp's, regaled us after his last dinner with a "taste" of his theatrical singing. Thanks, John and Rhonda, for everything!



We were treated to a water color painting demonstration by Stephen Quiller, a long-time Creede resident and a recipient of the extremely prestigious Gold and Silver Medals of Honor from The American Watercolor Society. All were greatly impressed with his willingness to share his "secrets" with us in this special time together. Thanks, Steve. (Learn more about Steve at www.quillergallery.com.)



We were entertained by a production of "Pride and Prejudice" at Creede Repertory Theatre. CRT celebrated its 54th season this year. It certainly is a magnificent story about how a highly unlikely plan to deliver theater to a tiny town in the distant mountains of Colorado can lead to almost countless years of theatrical magic for those who visit Creede each summer. Thanks, CRT.



After Teri's Taco Salad dinner at the Smiths' home on the Rio, we were treated - indeed! - to an evening of entertainment by Danny Byram, an astoundingly gifted singer, pianist and guitarist from Loveland, Colorado. Thank you, Danny. (Learn more about Danny at www.dannybyram.com.)



Creede Rally Continued

We “Jeeped”. Yes, we did manage to work in some “Jeepin’”, although not all of it was pure rock-climbing. We toured the beautiful countryside around Creede and visited North Clear Creek Falls, the site of the 2013 photograph of RMCC rally attendees that was featured in the August edition of the FMCA Family RVing Magazine. We decided to try to replicate that earlier photo with a new one with everyone standing on the same rocks, more or less. The second trip was more adventurous as some of us “Jeeped” over San Luis Pass (over 12,000 feet) above Creede and “survived” a Colorado hail storm before returning to the welcoming arms of Mountain Views RV Park where we “lived” for four nights. Thanks, Mountain Views.



Creede Rally Continued

RMCCers who joined us in Creede had some “extra” time to visit the shops and other venues to learn more about how this tiny mountain town managed to survive and thrive after the Silver mines of its glory days shut down many years ago.

So, let me ask - When should we plan the fourth “Breathtaking” RMCC Rally in Creede?!?!? Y’all come, knowing that you do NOT need to wait until we rally-anew in Creede to visit this gorgeous part of the Rocky Mountains that we celebrate in the very name of our club. Rocky Mountain Coachers, thanks for soaking up a bit of our Country.

