

Rocky Mountain Country Coachers

Spring Newsletter 5/1/2021



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Headline Special

What's happening here? It appears our past President, Bill Smith, is being arrested! Why is Susan Hetteema trying to bribe the police? **Read more on page 7.**





RMCCoachers President

Rick Reiss

Presidents Message

RMCCoachers met in Ft. McDowell April 13-17, shaking off the COVID cobwebs and renewing our friendships – in person! Many of us were also working bugs out of our coaches or experiencing the depressing effects of major equipment failures. There is nothing like getting the rig out after a long period in storage!

It was big time hosted by the Rod & Betty Woods and Paul Craig and Charlotte Phalen. The Music Instrument Museum, the Medieval Times Dinner and show, breakfasts and Happy Hours were fun. We had a Tech Talk with Eric Olstrom who answered our questions and elaborated on everything going on in the industry. Our final event, dinner at the “Woods Cantina” next to the pool with views to the golf course, was the icing on the cake.

We really appreciate the effort of our hosts to bring us all together again!

Our Annual Business meeting was productive as well. We elected officers and conducted a breakout session that gathered information from our members to help guide our future Rallies. We elected the following officers:

President – Rick Reiss

VP – Communications – Rod Woods

VP – Rallies - Gary Hays

We also set up our nominating committee who will help get out the word about upcoming officer positions (Secretary, Treasurer) next year and the following year (2023) when the terms of the President and both VP’s will end. Please consider a future role in the Chapter. Consider being a Rally Host as well!

Continued next page

Our breakout sessions proved to provide good information and some humorous comments as well. In three surveys gathered from 4 small groups, we gained information about activities to pursue at our Branson rally (there are still a few spaces available), ranking of activities the Chapter thinks are important to have at rallies and finally, identification of rally locations and potential Rally Hosts!

The information provided support for selecting activities and shows for Branson. The surveys spoke volumes and I believe the Branson Rally will be great based on the results of the survey.

It was interesting to see that fellowship with our members remains very high on the list of important activities at rallies. Happy Hour and socializing ranked number 1. Food/restaurants/group breakfasts ranked number 2. Group attendance at local attractions, historical sites and museums rounded out the top 3 most important activities. "Eat, Drink and Play Together" seems to be the theme.

19 rally locations were identified, some where we have been before and others we have all heard about but not ventured to for a rally. The locations stretched from San Diego, CA to Winchester Bay, OR to Nova Scotia, Canada to Kerrville, TX with lots of places in between. We have proposed rally sites through the end of 2022!

Finally, there are always funny items presented by our members. The surveys produced a few that I would like to share. These came from the survey on activities that are important at a rally:

In the vein of "live entertainment" two important activities were noted
"watching people park their coach"
and
"participating in coach repair"

Rick Reiss, President RMCCoachers

RALLY ADVENTURES



Tis the season to travel!

Forget the fact that you invested in your coaches to travel and see the country, rallies are also the opportunity to get together with likeminded people and enjoy living. You were made to socialize and if 2020 had any value, it showed us the importance of just that.

Yellowstone (September), our only 2020 rally, capped off what was a dismal year for doing anything. It was also a grand way to test the idea of pre-rallies. Many of us gathered at Ennis for our pre-rally and then traveled together to Yellowstone, for what turned out to be an amazing time together. “Not enough time there” was the report back, so perhaps we can get back there and make it a trifecta. Yellowstone, Glacier and Coeur d’ Alene? Anyone interested in putting that together, let me know.

2021

This year started off much better. Our annual business meeting and spring rally was held at Ft McDowell. The Woods hosted a great time for all. Thank you Rod and Betty!

The pre-rally, held at the brand-new Verde Ranch RV Resort at Camp Verde, was home to 12 coaches for a few days on our way to Ft McDowell. Great time of sightseeing, cooking, and socializing.

Many of us continued to Tucson after Ft McDowell, to join up with the CCFI group for their spring meeting. Great time, great opportunity to meet new friends and get caught up with old ones.

Continued next page

Rallies continued

Our grand finale is yet to come. In September, we will be meeting in Branson, MS at America's Best Campground to enjoy the sights, sounds and foods of this extremely popular place. We have been planning this one for two years and the hosts have a great time planned for those attending. This one has become so popular, that we added 5 sites and one extra day to the agenda. Currently, we have 3 sites left, so do not hesitate to go to RMCcoachers.com and register by June 1st.



The hosts have put together a great schedule of entertainment as well as some free time to venture on your own. The current plan for shows include a Hillbilly Party right there at the resort. We have a lunch planned on the Showboat Branson Belle as well as SIX and our grand finale, the Dolly Pardon Stampede.





2022

So far, we have two great rallies planned for 2022. We are planning our spring rally for San Diego, at the new Chula Vista RV resort. Paul Craig will be our host for this one.

Our fall rally is being planned for Kerrville, TX. A new one for us and is being hosted by the Hettema's.

Two great spots to either begin or start your traveling events.

That is it for now. Be sure and get out and keep the wheels round and enjoy traveling. If you have ideas for future rally locations, drop us a line.

Safe travels,
Gary Hays,
VP of Rallies

Continued from Page 1 (Bill Smith)

We had our excellent reporter look into the Bill Smith activity with the Police and Susan's potential bribery situation. Here's what we found out. Both activities are not related and there is no potential crime being investigated!

The police were walking with Bill to have a meeting with the Park Manager due to a problem in departure dates. The Police were called in by the office manager who has very poor people skills. In the meeting the Park manager refused to hear Bill's Inputs of what happened to create the problem. The police were very polite and were there just to listen. Bill was forced to move out of his RV spot where he had a contract for additional days.

In addition Jamie Erickson, President of RMMA and National VP of the Rocky Mountain Area who attended our rally, heard other issues our club had at this rally due to the office manager as well as from other clubs in his region and has now directed all FMCA clubs in the Rocky Mountain area not to schedule any rallies at this RV park until they make changes to correct these types of problems.

In Susan's case she was thanking the Police for their great service with a delicious piece of cake! Great job Susan!

So there you have it. Pictures can have many different meanings if they stand alone. In this case it is a great example of how poor people skills can harm a business in ways they didn't think about.

Rod Woods

Editor

Help!

The RMCCoachers needs some help for our committees. They provide information to our rally hosts to assist them in setting up their rallies., information to our Board to make decisions, and a newsletter to communicate with our members. Following are some positions where we need help:

- 1) Newsletter Editor– We generally write three newsletters a year. The articles are mostly written by the President, VP of Rallies, and VP of Communications. The editor, using Publisher tools ,will place these articles in a newsletter format. The editor can also enter other articles of interest. I will gladly teach the editor how to use Publisher tools which greatly simplifies the job.
- 2) Marketing Committee– Paul Craig would like to add 1 or 2 members to his committee. . They are looking at ways to grow our membership and keep rally cost down. This includes club sponsors and advertisers, auctions, and other items.
- 3) Betty Woods can use some help with the Membership Committee. It is a fun committee to be on as you meet and get to know all the members. It includes inputting data for members into the web site, directory and scrap books and helping new members at their first rally.

Please contact Rod Woods for any areas you would like to assist your club.. These jobs are part time in nature and are fun to do!

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Phone 480-575-9740.

RMCCoachers Fort McDowell Rally

April 13-16th 2021



Rod Woods, Rally Host

We finally had our business rally after so many attempts including Palm Springs, Williams, Benson, and finally Ft McDowell. It was a fun rally for all in attendance (23 coaches)!



Tuesday, the rally started off with registration in the afternoon and our first social hour that evening. We had many great appetizers provided by our members and the rally host.



Wednesday we started the day off with Breakfast at near by Denny's. We then proceeded onward to the MIM's museum. This is a new museum that focuses on musical instruments and has instruments from all over the world. My favorite was the John Denver exhibit. I had forgotten how beautiful his voice was.



There are over 16,000 musical instruments available for you to see. Several of our members revisited the site on a second day and still didn't see everything. For our members that didn't see it we encourage you add it to your agenda the next time you visit Phoenix.

After the Mim’s Museum visit we returned to the RV site for a BBQ. This is where everyone bought their own steaks, hamburgers, fish, chicken and did their own BBQ. Some liked it almost raw (Rare), or medium , well done or burnt!



At the cookout Rick Reiss Introduced Larry Erickson, our Regional President for FMCA, and Rett Porter who is a candidate for the FMCA National President. In addition Will Stewart played and sang some music for our group. It was a fun evening for all our group



Thursday was our big day . It started with breakfast at Denny's then followed by our business meeting. Rick Reiss lead the meeting which discussed a treasures up-date and discussion of future rallies. These are discussed further in the President's message and VP of Rallies article. Gary Hays gave us an update on future rallies and Rick Reiss set up tables for a breakout discussions for selecting future rallies and potential rally hosts.



Next Rod Woods discussed the need for members to sign up for some committee work. We have openings in several committees (please see the Help message on page 8.

Rod then honored two of his committee members . It was done with the medieval theater and dinner show in mind. In the old days a king would reward either a male or female with a special title. They had to be land owners and do at least two things that pleased the king. Their titles are “My Lady”, and “My Lord”.

My Lady Betty pleased RMCCoachers with being President 1 1/2 terms and her great activity on getting New Members to join our club. She was rewarded with now owning actual land in Scotland and now officially holds the title “My Lady.

Rob Brown was the second to receive an official title, “My Lord”. His two accomplishments were Rally Host for the Yellowstone rally and his web site management. Unfortunately Rob’s motorhome broke down and he had to return home. His coach is now under repair for a broken turbo in Phoenix.

Both Betty and Rob are now property owners in Scotland and in Scotland officially addressed as My Lady and My Lord.. You may also address them in the US with their title..

The size of the land parcel for each is 1 SQ Foot.



After the business meeting Eric Olstrom gave a talk on coach care. He answered all questions from the floor our members had on maintain and operating our coaches.

In the evening we attend the Scottsdale Medieval theater where we had dinner and saw their show on horses, jousting, and doing battle with different weapons.



Friday was a free day. In the evening we had a catered Mexican dinner at our home. It was a fun time for all our members. We were alone socializing with our friends. We had two great bar tenders, Jim Moreland and Ron Brandt.

We took pictures of our members sitting on the Baron of France throne sofa and chair. If anyone would like their picture send me an e-mail to azrod444@gmail.com and I will return the letter with the photograph attached.

Reggie and Bill Knight were our special guest for the evening. They were the original members of the club Reggie was best known for her “No Sniveling” comments.

We also saw some golf by our home and the feeding of the birds (quail)

Thank you for attending our home and I hope you enjoyed the rally as much as we did.

Your Hosts, Betty and Rod Woods

Note: Following are some additional pictures of the rally













