

# Explorations

Monaco Northeast Explorers  
www.monaconortheastexplorers.com

## President's Message



Spring is here and after the long winter we've already had a taste of summer-like weather here in the northeast. Before we know it June will arrive and with it the first MNE rally of 2010. Joe and Rose D'Errico have put together a really appealing package. Alexis and I hope to see many of you there. You'll find details and the reservation form in this newsletter and on the web site.

Additional rally plans are in the works so please watch for information to become available on the web site, via email, and in upcoming newsletters. We are in need of additional volunteers to host later 2010 and 2011 rallies. Contact me or any officer if you are interested or if you are thinking about it but want to understand more about what is involved.

Concurrent with publication of this newsletter we have posted the full text of proposed MNE by-law revisions on the MNE web site (and mailed hardcopy to those without internet access). A summary of the changes is also included in this newsletter. The changes were developed by a committee whose members were Jim Arpaia, Roy Black and myself, in consultation with Carol Williams. They were then reviewed by the executive board which recommends approval.

Please review the changes and expect to receive within the next couple of weeks by mail a ballot to vote on this proposal and also a ballot for election of officers for the 2010 - 2011 term. Each adult member of a membership family unit may vote. Please mark and return your ballots promptly.

Voting will be closed and the returned ballots tallied on the date indicated in the mailing. (Our by-laws require that revisions be published for 30 days before closing the voting. Adoption of the changes requires a 66% affirmative vote of those voting.) If you would like to receive your mailed ballot at an address other than your primary address as listed in our membership records please contact me, Betsey Smith, or Carol Williams ASAP.

As you'll see in Betsey's report, our membership has declined. To some extent this is a sign of the times but please be an active ambassador and advocate for our chapter with your friends and those you see in campgrounds with Monaco (assuming approval of the by-laws change, ANY Monaco produced) brand coaches. Also read in this newsletter about FMCA's "A Dozen Does It" initiative to recruit new FMCA members and at the same time reap benefits for yourself and the chapter.

Enjoy the Spring weather and sign up now for the June Bug Rally. Hope to see you there and in the meantime happy and safe travels.

Rich

May/June, 2010  
Volume 14  
Issue 1

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## Monaco Northeast Explorers' Officers



**President: Richard Grega**  
**Vice President: Jeffrey Sweet**  
**Treasurer: Barbara Rostek**  
**Secretary: Carol Williams**  
**Membership Chairperson: Betsey Smith**  
**National Director: Henry Snyder**  
**Alternate National Director: Phil Forst**  
**Newsletter Editor: Rita Arpaia**



**President: Charlie Schrenkel**  
**Senior Vice President: Judy Barsty**  
**Secretary: Joanne Durbin**  
**Treasurer: Wil Young**  
**Immediate Past President Connie Pool**

## I'm HOME!!! I'm HOME!!!



Well, once again in the Spring Newsletter I have good news.... One year ago I told you I had my dream job in Pittsburgh. Well, this year I really have my dream job. April 1<sup>st</sup> I started what I hope to be my last job until I retire. My job is working for another bank but out of my house. It's really great to get up out of bed in the morning and walk 100 feet to my computer and start working. Yeah, I am home!!!! Yes, I am back in Rexford NY. This means I will be able to go to rallies this year and everything.

On the MNE side of my job, things aren't so good. But they will get better. I will have a whole lot more time to spend and get things done. However, our membership is declining. We are down to 80 members. I will still be following up with a few of the members that never replied but for the most part that is where we are at this time.

I look forward to this year's rallies. Skip and I will be available to help anyone that wants to host a rally. We will also be going to them all!!! I have missed it so much. However, one thing I have learned over this last year is that I do know how to survive full time in the RV.

See you all ssssssoooooonnnnnn.

Please mail your dues to me @ 8 Clute Circle;  
Rexford, NY 12148

E-mail = [basmith-rv@nycap.rr.com](mailto:basmith-rv@nycap.rr.com)

Cell Phone number = 518-878-4374

**Thanks, Betsey**

## Rally Coordinator

**The Executive Board will  
assume responsibility  
for this position at this time.  
Please contact any board  
member if you are considering  
hosting a rally.**

## Promotional Offer for 20% Discount

**Oasis RV Resort & Service Center**  
**2715 Arnot Rd**  
**Amarillo, TX 79124**  
**888-789-9697**

Oasis is on Interstate 40 in Amarillo. Amarillo may not be a destination but is "on the way" for many heading elsewhere.

Go to: [www.myrvoasis.com](http://www.myrvoasis.com)  
to sign up for an Oasis VIP card.

Good thru 2010 for 20% OFF  
nightly stays and on RV repair, RV Wash, RV carpet  
cleaning, RV storage, and The Oasis Bar & Grille.

## MNE Rally Season for 2010 Opens with June Bugs!



June 10-13, 2010: June Bug Getaway at Aces High RV Park, East Lyme, CT. See pages 5-6.

## FMCA Rally Schedule for 2010



**August 11 - 14, 2010. FMCA's 84th International Convention Redmond, Oregon.**

FMCA returns to the Deschutes County Fair and Expo Center in Redmond. At this convention, FMCA will be breaking new ground with a Wednesday "preview" day, and convention days of Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The Deschutes County Fair and Expo Center is a premier exhibition facility in the northwestern United States that is a perfect fit for this convention of motorhome owners. FMCA's Northwest Area will be the host for this event.

<http://www.fmca.com/index.php/conventions/redmond/3056-family-registration>

**July 2—5th, 2010. Northeast Area Rally. Two Nations — One Family. Champlain Valley Exposition, Essex Junction, VT. See more information in April Issue of FMCA magazine. See page 9 for letter from Paul DuBois, VP of NE Area. Register Online**

<http://www.fmca.com/index.php/chapters/area-rallies/326>

## Monaco International Rallies 2010



**August 3—7th, 2010. Back to the Fabulous 50s. Oregon State Fair & Expo Center Salem, OR.**

**October 6—10th, 2010. Monaco International Balloon Festival Rally. Hosted by David and Kay Piper, and Ricky and Peggy Rahkola. Albuquerque, NM.**

<http://monacointernationalrvclub.com/Rally%20Information/2010BalloonFiestaApplication.pdf>

**May 1, 2011-May 8, 2011. Monaco International Presents "America's Musicshow Capital" Rally — A New "Landing" for Fun, City of Branson Lakeside RV Park, Branson, Missouri, See page 11 for application.**

The Monaco Coach Lifestyles Online, the online magazine, is now available online.

Use the following link to Monaco's Website to subscribe online.

<http://www.lifestyles-mag.com/index.php>

## Proposal to Amend the Monaco Northeast Explorers By-Laws

The Executive Board recommends that the membership approve amendments to the by-laws which are described below and which are available for review on the MNE web site. On the web site you will find the full text of the proposed by-laws with both old and new wording included for the sections proposed to be amended.

The sections with proposed amendments are marked by change bars on the left of the text. The new wording for the changed sections is in ***bold italic*** print following the wording to be replaced which is in *regular italic*.

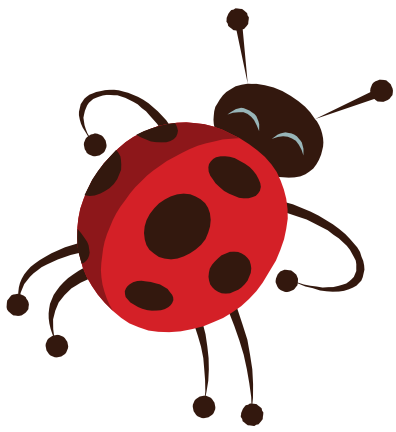
Please review the amendments and vote on the changes in their entirety via the paper ballots which will be mailed shortly. Ballots must be returned at least by the date that will be indicated so your vote will be counted.

The changes are intended to accomplish the following:

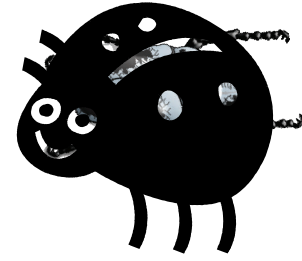
1. Redefine and open our field of membership to include all brands built or acquired by the former Monaco Coach Corporation or the new Monaco RV LLC (Navistar). The by-laws specifically referenced Monaco Coach Corporation which no longer is in business. Also, this change will allow owners of Holiday Rambler, Beaver, and Safari coaches (not towables) to join MNE.
2. Allow annual dues to be specified in the Standing Rules vs needing to be set annually via resolution at a general meeting. This simplifies the administration by avoiding the need to vote annually on the dues amount. A vote will still be required to change the amount specified in the Standing Rules.
3. Reduce the annual business meeting requirement from two to one. This conforms with a change FMCA recently made to reduce the requirement for chapter meetings.
4. Clarify voting procedures for the Executive Board as recommended by FMCA. FMCA asked us to eliminate use of written proxies. We are replacing that with provision for telephone conferencing and/or email when a quorum of Executive Board members cannot be physically present.
5. Clarify wording regarding the annual election to be consistent with other changes.
6. Clarify that mail ballots may be used if a required vote was not possible at a meeting due to lack of a quorum. While this has always been the interpretation recent difficulties in achieving a quorum at rallies makes it desirable to be explicit.
7. Clarify the requirements for floor nominations by referencing FMCA and Chapter by-laws.
8. Clarify wording regarding who may be nominated for Newsletter Editor and Rally Coordinator to avoid using the no longer current "non-Monaco owners" terminology.

The Executive Board thanks the committee members who reviewed the by-laws and brought forward these proposed amendments: Jim Arpaia, Roy Black, and Rich Grega as well as Carol Williams who the committee used as a consultant and sounding board.

***Rich Grega***



# JUNE BUG GETAWAY



June 10-13, 2010  
Aces High RV Park

## RALLY RATES

Coach with Two people \$330.00  
Coach with One person \$235.00  
Additional Person in coach \$100.00  
Additional \$30.00 for nonmember  
coach

### Rally Fee Includes

3 nights camping with full hookups  
Luncheon at Steak Loft  
Buffet Luncheon at Flanders Fish Market  
and Restaurant  
Admission to Mystic Aquarium  
Admission to Mystic Seaport  
Cocktail Reception  
Morning Breakfast

### Tax and Gratuity is included in the Rally Fee

This is a gated campground, you will be given a card to enter and you will have to leave a \$5.00 deposit for card and will be returned to you when you leave.

## SCHEDULE

### Wednesday June 9, 2010

Optional early arrival day fee: \$49.50  
Call Aces High in advance.

### Thursday — June 10, 2010

Afternoon — 5:00 P.M. Informal  
Welcome Cocktail Party. Beer &  
Wine Only. Beer Wine & Soda will  
be provided by Club. Please bring  
something we can all pick on.

### Business Meeting

### Friday — June 11, 2010

Morning Breakfast — 8:00 A.M.  
10:00 A.M. Mystic Aquarium  
12:30 P.M. Steak Loft — Lunch  
2:30 P.M. Mystic Village Shopping  
Balance of your day at leisure

### Saturday — June 12, 2010

Morning Breakfast — 8:00 A.M.  
10:00 A.M. Mystic Seaport  
2:30 P.M. Flanders Fish Market

### Sunday — June 13, 2010

Goodbye Breakfast



### Directions from New Haven

Take I-95 north to exit 74. Go north on RT. 161 for approximately 3 miles. Aces High is located on your right.

### Direction from Boston

Take I-95 south to exit 74. Go north on RT 161 for approximately 3 miles. Aces High is located on your right.

### Directions from Hartford

Take RT 2 East to RT 11 toward New London. Take Exit 4 to RT 82. Turn left onto RT 82 and proceed 1 mile to light at intersection with RT 85. Turn right onto RT 85 South. Proceed approximately 4 miles on RT 85 until turn for RT 161 South. Turn onto RT 161. Aces High is located on approximately 3 miles on your left.

**Aces High RV Park • 301 Chesterfield Rd • East Lyme, CT • 860-739-8858**





### Menu for Steak Loft

*(Please pick one for you and one your spouse)*

- ▶ **Chicken Teriyaki** with stuffed potato  
(baked boneless breast of chicken)
- ▶ **Baked Stuffed Shrimp** with stuffed potato  
(specialty of the house — seafood stuffing)
- ▶ **Junior Sirloin** with stuffed potato  
(9 oz. char-broiled steak)

Included with your meal is salad bar,  
coffee or tea.

ALL beverages are not included with  
your meal.

### Menu for Flanders Fish Market

#### Salad

Tossed Green Salad with balsamic vinaigrette

#### Entrees

*(Please pick one for you and one your spouse)*

- ▶ **Roast Chicken**, on the bone  
Seasoned to perfection
- ▶ **Stuffed Cod**
- ▶ **London Broil** — Plain, Teriyaki or  
Gorgonzola Mushroom

Entrees come with roasted Yukon Gold  
potatoes and steamed broccoli with olive  
oil and lemon.

**Desert** — Seasonal Fruit Crisp



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address City State Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Meal Choices: Please write name of entrée shown above in boldface.**

**Steak Loft:** You \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

**Flanders Fish Market:** You \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

**Reservations must be in by May 7.**

Please clip this form. Keep top of this page to mark your order choices for your records. Thank you!

Make checks out to Joseph F. D'Errico and send to

50 Corey Road

North Haven, CT 06473



### Honorary MNE Membership Conferred on Jeffrey Sweet

The MNE executive board has conferred honorary membership on Jeffrey Sweet in accordance with our by-laws which state that such an honor may be extended by the board to any person who has rendered a significant service to the chapter.

Jeff made a very significant contribution by bringing the chapter's web site to fruition and then by continually serving as our Web Master, even after he sold his coach last year. Jeff also was our Vice-President for the 2008-2009 term up until he no longer owned a coach.

Jeff has very graciously agreed to continue supporting the MNE web site, at least until someone else is fully trained and able to take on the job.

Jeff was pleased to receive the honorary membership and looks forward to staying in touch with the chapter and with his many friends among the membership. Jeff's new home in the Orlando area has an RV port, so who knows, he might eventually decide to fill it and return to full, active MNE membership!

Thank you Jeff for all you have done for us and congratulations on your honorary membership.

**Rich Grega, President**

### Celebration of Father's Day

Mrs. John B. Dodd, of Washington, first proposed the idea of a "father's day" in 1909. She wanted a special day to honor her father, William Smart, who was widowed when his wife died in childbirth with their sixth child. Mr. Smart raised the newborn and his other five children by himself on a rural farm in eastern Washington state. The first Father's Day was observed on June 19, 1910 in Spokane Washington.

At about the same time in various towns and cities across American other people were beginning to celebrate a "father's day." In 1924 President Calvin Coolidge supported the idea of a national Father's Day, and finally in 1966 President Lyndon Johnson signed a presidential proclamation declaring the 3rd Sunday of June as Father's Day. Father's Day has become a day to not only honor your father, but all men who act as a father figure. Stepfathers, uncles, grandfathers, and adult male friends are all honored on Father's Day.

### Update from the Gregas

2010 hasn't been off to the most auspicious start for Alexis and me but we are looking forward to better days and are anxious to get back on the road this year as soon as we can.

Alexis developed some heart problems late last year. She had a pace maker implanted on December 30 and then had her aortic valve replaced on March 5. She is doing well now but it is a very slow recovery and it will take a little more time before she is strong enough to travel in the motor home. Also, my mother, who had Alzheimer's for quite some time, passed away the day after Easter.

We had planned to be in Florida in February and to attend the MI rally in Tucson in March but of course had to put those plans aside. This turned out to be a blessing of sorts since our not being on the road allowed me to be with my sister at Mom's bedside during her last days as well as when she passed away.

Many thanks to all who sent us good wishes regarding both Alexis' medical issues and our bereavement.

Now we are focusing on better days ahead: the MNE rally season, some possible summertime "wanderings", and also on returning in October to Albuquerque for the Balloon Fiesta and planning some western explorations around that trip. If we can we may also squeeze in a few weeks away in May.

Some of you know that last summer and fall I was thinking about trading our coach and looking for an '06 or '07 Dynasty. Well, I ended up in December deciding to buy an '06 Signature. I bought it in Texas from Motor Home Specialist and (for better or worse) did it all remotely since Alexis' situation prevented us from traveling. Mike and Katy Klepfer, who formerly owned several Monaco coaches and were MNE members, helped us tremendously by delivering our trade to Texas and bringing home our new "big girl". We were very happy with our '05 Knight and are now looking forward to many years of enjoyment in this new (to us) coach...that is, if I can ever figure out all the new "bells and whistles"!

**Rich**

## RV LOT FOR SALE IN ESTERO BETWEEN NAPLES & FORT MYERS ON THE WEST COAST OF FL

LOT # M40 IS IN CYPRESS BEND RV RESORT. CEMENT PAD AREA IS 20X60, OVER ALL LOT SIZE IS 40X70. 20/30/50 AMP ELECTRIC, CABLE TV, WATER AND SEWER. INCLUDES SMALL SHED. CLOSE TO BEACHES ETC. LOWEST MAINTENANCE FEE (INCLUDES CABLE) IN FLORIDA. **SELLING FOR \$49,000.**

Contact **BOB DESLAURIERS** 774-254-7377.

## RECOMMENDED REPAIR FACILITY

For any of you travelers who experience mechanical problems when in the Augusta, Georgia area may we recommend AUGUSTA RV repair facility. We called them at 8 am about our furnace failure in our coach. They had us come right over to their location, took us right in and had us repaired and on our way by 12 noon. Granted, it was not a major repair but they were so helpful and sensitive to our situation. **Carol Williams**

AUGUSTA RV  
801 INDUSTRIAL PARK DRIVE  
EVANS, GEORGIA 30809  
706-855-5220

## Greeting fellow MNE'rs

After a lot of shivering and shoveling Riley and I finally surrendered and packed the coach and headed south on February 14<sup>th</sup>. We had opted to leave later than usual due to some medical appointments and a dear friend's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Actually we had planned to leave NJ on the 12<sup>th</sup> but because of the previous weekend blizzard (22 inches) our friend's century celebration had to be postponed a week. So on Valentine's Day we left snowy NJ and traveled south. Finally in Georgia we were free of any traces of snow but by no means into warm weather. And as fate would have it our heater failed in Georgia so we had to spend a night without heat, heading to the nearest repair facility in the morning. Certainly makes for getting cozy! Even in Gulf Shores, Alabama, the weather was still quite cool.

After snow in Bandera, Texas, we finally encountered warm weather in Big Bend National Park (in Texas). What a relief! After two days in Big Bend National Park, which was spectacular, we traveled west on SR 90 where we encountered a dust storm. Fortunately we had stopped in a picnic area so we stayed where we were and waited for it to pass through....a very unique experience. I am still finding gritty surfaces in the coach.

**Carol Williams**

## Hello Everyone from Albuquerque, New Mexico,

The end is finally here which means this is the last update from this trip, but what a way to finish things off. This is our third balloon fiesta and it was wonderful as usual. The fiesta has been held every year in Albuquerque for thirty eight years, and was started when I believe three people got together and decided to have a race. One thing lead to another and somehow this event is the outcome of it. I don't have the number of people in attendance nor do I know the total number of balloons enter in the event. But there were eighty five special shapes entered in this years event, and on Saturday morning they launched over 500 balloons.

Enough from me, I will let the pictures do the rest of the talking. **Donald and Pat Walker**



### **Northeast Area Rally**

Hi Everybody,

I received a call from Snow Chamberlin at Lazy Days RV. He has advised me that not only will Lazy Days be attending our Rally but they will be bringing display coaches and they will be sponsoring and operating a Motorhome Driver Rodeo and will be awarding trophies. We already have several vendors signed up and paid including several new vendors. It looks like we will exceed last years total.

Vornie Colbath from Maine Wheels has volunteered to lead a craft program and we have dedicated a room for their use during the entire rally so folks can do crafts and chat. There will be three nights of Fireworks in the area. The town of Colchester is planning an entire day and evening of activities on July 4th which we are welcome to attend, and they have inquired about having our Frustrated Maestros perform there. We are working on several other new family activities for your enjoyment. We already have several members signed up for the rally and the Dinner Cruise. This is not going to be your plain old rally but will be a 4th of July Celebration Rally.

I have been advised by Tom Oddy at the Champlain Valley Expo Center that anyone that would like to come in early either as a group or individual may come into the Campground prior to the rally at a cost of \$23.00 per night, this includes water and 30 amp electric. There are events taking place during that time that may interest you. One is Circus Smerkis and I believe that the other one is a quilt festival. You may attend them if you wish. You may have to move to your regular spot when our rally starts. Arrangements may be made for pump out if needed. You may call the Expo center and make arrangements at 802-878-5545. Tell them that you are attending our rally and wish to come in early, per Tom Oddy. Any questions don't hesitate to contact me at 518-265-7345 or diplomatman2002@yahoo.com

**Paul DuBois**

**Northeast Area FMCA C VP**

### **MNE Members Featured In "Meet a Member" Column**

Sandra and Pierre Bernier were featured in the "Meet a Member" column in the FMCA online magazine. At the end of the interview Pierre made this comment:

"We would like to meet other members with similar interests: a guy who would like to ride his motorcycle (touring or off-road) with me ....or Jeep off-roading, if not motorcycling."



Pierre in the air during an Enduro Cross race. He hauls the Honda motorcycle on an Overbilt Lift attached to the rear of the motorhome.

So if you are looking for excitement on two wheels...or four...then contact Pierre.

**Monaco.Pierre@gmail.com**

This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it.

To see the full interview:

<http://www.fmca.com/index.php/join-family-motor-coach-association/meet-a-member/3060>

## MNE Member News Continued

Pat and I have been on the road since early February. We are glad that we escaped the brutal New Jersey winter this year (our neighbors are going to kill us when we get back home), but the southern part of the country hasn't been extremely warm this year either. Please I know what you are thinking but all I am saying is that Florida, Mississippi and Texas has been relatively cool this winter also.

It should come as no surprise to anyone that we missed the launch of the space shuttle again this year, if it would have been delayed just one more day we would have been able to see it. There is another launch scheduled for March but we will be long gone by then.

While in Florida we did managed to visit friends in St Augustine and Merritt Island, both extended a very warm welcome and we had a wonderful time catching up with each other and touring the towns. Hey, while in Merritt Island I did manage to see a rocket launch; the payload was a solar observatory made to send back high definition pictures of the sun.

After leaving Florida we headed to Mississippi to spend a couple of days visiting my family, then it was on to the Dallas area to visit my niece, her husband and their three month old son. We were also able to connect up with two other sets of friends in the Dallas area; what a wonderful time, we can't wait to pass through that area again.

Our reason for coming to Texas was to explore some place new and warm so we chose the Texas Hill Country region and the Big Bend region. These areas are too big to see in the amount of time we have allocated on this trip so we decided to sample a few areas and come back again if we liked it. Well in the words of the Terminator, "we will be back". First of all the Hill Country region is not flat like most of Texas; the elevation starts at about 1000 ft on the eastern end and rises to about 3000 ft on the western end. The entire region is covered with gently rolling hills and is dotted with lots of lakes and natural areas. Texas has been very aggressive in preserving their natural areas and making them available to the public, there are State Parks, Historic sites, Natural Areas, and Corp of Engineers Lakes all over this region. We wanted to see the Bats come out at sunset in Austin but they wont be back until about mid March at the earliest. We also wanted to check out the River Walk in San Antonio but we spent too much time in the wilderness and never made it downtown. However, we did manage to set aside enough time to visit the LBJ Museum and Ranch.

After leaving the Hill Country we headed west into the Big Bend Region to a place call Davis Mountain State Park. The park was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps and is nestled high in the Davis Mountains at about 5200 feet, the weather is excellent and the skies are crystal clear. We are told that the night skies here are some of the darkest in the country, looking up at night just takes your breath away. And did I mention how good the wildlife watching is here? There are supposed to be Mountain Lions in the area, they are very elusive so we don't expect to see any but it would be nice if we did. While here we visited the Fort Davis National Historic Site, it was built to offer protection to the settlers heading west to California. By the way we have seen a number of

real forts and none look anything like the pictures implanted in our heads by the western movies. Fort Davis was actually manned by an all black cavalry or "buffalo soldiers" and was one of only a few such forts in the country at that time. Unlike the Hollywood depictions of western forts most of the attacks on the this fort were of raiding parties stealing livestock and those only happened a couple of times in its history - true history is that was also true of all the forts we have seen. We also visited the McDonald Observatory and signed up for two events; a daytime tour of the observatory including getting up close and personal with two of their large telescopes one 3 meters and one 10 meters. The second event was attending a star party, all I can say is that is was the best we have ever attended. Besides the astronomy lesson which was excellent they also had eight telescopes set up in sizes ranging from eight inches to 18 inches. We looked at two galaxies, the Orion Nebula, inside the Orion Nebula, open star clusters, and Mars to name a few.

We are now in El Paso getting work done on the RV before heading to Arizona.

*Donald and Pat Walker*

### Hi! Just a note from the other half of Rita and Jim!

We just completed our first full-year of motorhoming, the way we envisioned it to be once we had the chance! We really enjoyed the use of our "new to us" '06 Monaco Exec which we purchased a year ago Feb.

We started by attending MNE's first rally in '09 at Lake George followed by four months at the Porters in Durham, CT. During this time we traveled to the Monaco International Pre-Rally in Springfield, OH, and then a short vacation in Maine where we visited friends. We ended the summer in CT at the Susquenaga NY rally and from there headed south and camped for a week at beautiful Lake Lanier in Georgia, close to where daughter #1 lives.

Not done yet...we then attended the Monaco Rally at Beaudry RV Resort in Tucson, AZ, on our first cross country experience, ending in San Diego, CA, for a week visiting daughter #2. We love Tucson and Arizona in general and hope to return for a longer visit. On our way back to St. Augustine, we made time to stop in Yuma, AZ, and had a fantastic visit with the Alguires...seeing the sites and enjoying a Columbia River "cruise" on their pontoon and an exciting ride on their Rubicon. We returned home, ending our first "full year" not "full time" but lots of time on the road finally. We had a great year to remember.

2010 started off in Feb. with a long-awaited trip to the Keys where we joined the Porters and the Briggs. While the weather chilled us, we enjoyed sightseeing and the company of friends. On our return we spent a day in Naples and dined with more MNE friends. We are now preparing for our dream trip to include Branson, the Balloon Festival, and lots of National Parks to see and many friends and family to visit along the way. Having been such late starters to motorhoming after spending 34 years boating, I am finally catching up to the road runners. Our motorhome, titled *The Arpian Way —All Roads to Roam*, will give us more roaming adventures this year. We will soon be off to spend two months in CT. Hope to see you at the June Bug Getaway!



# MONACO INTERNATIONAL

Presents

## "AMERICA'S MUSICSHOW CAPITAL"

### RALLY

A NEW "LANDING" FOR FUN

BRANSON, MISSOURI  
(Limited to 166 PEOPLE)



Noon Sunday, MAY 1, 2011  
thru  
Sunday, MAY 8, 2011

at  
City of Branson Lakeside RV Park  
Branson, Missouri  
Full Hookups

Fun activities may include selections such as the following: Tour of the Ozarks; dinner show and cruise on the \$100 million showboat, the Branson Belle at White River Landing; shows such as Shoji Tabuchi, Dixie Stampede, Pierce Arrow, Silver Dollar City, Jim Owens, Lost in the 50's, Magnificent Seven, Clay Cooper Country Express, Yakov Smirnoff, The Platters, Broadway! The Star Spangled Celebration, Presley's Country Jubilee, Andy Williams; cocktail hours, 6 dinners, and 5 breakfasts; ice cream social; and time for craft and factory outlet shopping. Transportation provided for shows, tours, and scheduled shopping. Camping fees for 7 nights included.

To enroll send form and a minimum of \$600 (U.S. funds) deposit made payable to MONACO International Branson Rally (Note: Payment in full required if mailed after Dec. 15, 2010)

Mail to:  
John Ham  
12572 E. 47<sup>th</sup> Drive  
Yuma, AZ 85367  
(970) 927-3273  
Email: [Branson@johnham.us](mailto:Branson@johnham.us)

Co-Rally Masters:  
Les & Wilma Jean Alexander  
(309) 824-0652 or 824-0639  
[bumminfir@hughes.net](mailto:bumminfir@hughes.net)  
and  
John & Rita Ham



## "AMERICA'S MUSICSHOW CAPITAL" RALLY

Branson, Missouri

Registration Form MAY 1-8, 2011

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ FMCA # \_\_\_\_\_

Coach \_\_\_\_\_ Make \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Length \_\_\_\_\_ Handicapped \_\_\_\_\_ First Branson Rally YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

\$1150 2 people, 1 Unit \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ 725 1 person, 1 Unit \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ 585 X-person in Unit \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Payment in full enclosed.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Deposit of \$600 enclosed. We agree  
to pay balance of fees by Dec. 15, 2010

Total \_\_\_\_\_

**NO refunds for cancellations after March 1, 2011**

# A Dozen Does It

FMCA is challenging each of its 500 chapters, as well as the entire FMCA membership, to kick their recruiting efforts into high gear for 2010 and introduce new families to FMCA.



**Recruit someone to enjoy the motorhome lifestyle even more by taking advantage of the many benefits FMCA has to offer — especially the fun and fellowship afforded by FMCA chapter**

## THE REWARD FOR YOUR CHAPTER

Once your chapter reaches the “A Dozen Does It” goal of 12 new member families, your chapter will receive a Chapter Prize Package filled with gifts that you can use as giveaways at future rallies.

That’s an average of only one member per month! And, just think, this could add up to new members for your chapter, too!

## THE REWARD FOR ALL MEMBERS, INCLUDING THOSE WHO DO NOT BELONG TO A CHAPTER

For each new member who joins, the recruiter will receive a coupon worth \$10 that can be used toward the payment of his/her FMCA dues, or toward the purchase of FMCA or Camping World merchandise.

## HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

- The “A Dozen Does It” program begins January 1, 2010, and continues until December 31, 2010.
- Recruit a friend, a family member, or just a fellow motorhomer you meet during your travels and have them complete a membership application—found online at [FMCA.com](http://FMCA.com) or in every issue of Family Motor Coaching magazine. Make sure they put your name and membership number on the “Recommended By” line so you will receive credit for recruiting them.
- Once the new membership is processed, you will receive your \$10 recruitment coupon as well as a postcard that you can give to your chapter president so your chapter can get credit toward a Chapter Prize Package.
- Members who do not belong to a chapter will receive their \$10 recruitment coupon and a postcard they can give to a chapter they are acquainted with.
- To help kick start the program, each chapter president will be mailed a total of five free FMCA membership certificates to assist chapter members in their recruitment efforts. If redeemed, these five free memberships will count toward the 12 needed to earn a Chapter Prize Package.

The \$10 recruitment coupon will not be rewarded to recruiters who sign up a new member using one of the five free membership certificates. Members working as volunteers at RV shows are not eligible for credits toward the Chapter Prize Package. Prize limit is two Chapter Prize Packages per chapter.

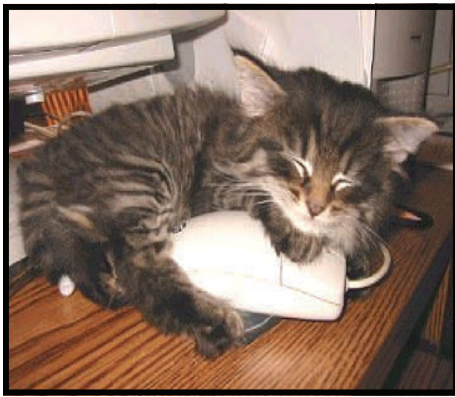
## Monaco Northeast Explorers

**Rita Arpaia**  
**3144 Kings Road**  
**St. Augustine, FL**  
**32086**

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E-mail: [mnexplorers@msn.com](mailto:mnexplorers@msn.com)



*Hello Again!*

*Like Betsey, I too have great news to report somewhat related to "Explorations" and its hiatus since last fall. Some of that was due to a quiet winter with no news to report, and no news is good news. It couldn't have been more timely for me as my business became a full-time commitment combined with many delightful distractions such as travels, visitors, and time to celebrate the holidays. 2009 was indeed a very busy year for us; but it was also a memorable one...and I hope the same for you.*

*Jim's article sums up what we did that made 2009 a most eventful year on both coasts. It is good to get back to a more normal pace...with less multitasking and more time to focus. We are now beginning to plan our travels for 2010. What are your plans for this year besides coming to our rallies and/or planning one? Do keep us informed of your travel plans with a blurb for our next newsletter. Since this is the first volume for 2010, the next one, July/August, will come out in late June and will feature MNE rallies. In the event a rally is scheduled prior to your receipt of the newsletter, we will send out an announcement via email and snail mail.*

*Wishing you safe and happy travels!*

*Rita Arpaia*

**Alpin  
Haus**

***Your Northeast Monaco Connection***



**MONACO**



**Toll Free 800-541-8248**

**1863 State Hwy. 5S**  
**West Amsterdam, NY**  
**[www.alpinhaus.com](http://www.alpinhaus.com)**

## Celebration of Mother's Day

Mother's Day has been celebrated in many cultures as long ago as the ancient Greece and Rome. Julia Ward Howe was the first person in the US to recognize the need for Mother's Day holiday. Her Proclamation advocating the need for official celebration of Mother's Day in Boston, MA in 1870, was successful in raising awareness and making her plead heard to the upper echelons of power.



Following her Proclamation the first Mothers' Peace Day Observance was held on the second Sunday in June, 1872. Such observances began to take place each year thereafter. In 1907 Anna Jarvis continued the crusade to implement Mother's Day and convinced her church in W. VA, to celebrate Mother's Day on the second Sunday in May, the second anniversary of her mother's death, dedicating pink and red carnations for a living mother and white carnations for those mothers who had passed. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson made the official announcement proclaiming Mother's Day as a national holiday that was to be held each year on the second Sunday of May. Enjoy your celebration of mothers for wherever they are, they are always with us.