



ALPINE COACH ASSOCIATION

A View From The Summit

Volume 14 Issue #5 December 2008

ACA MEMBERS,
CHECK OUT IMPORTANT RALLY
INFORMATION ON PAGE 5.

ACA HERITAGE RALLY BRANSON, MISSOURI

By; Peggy Bacome, ACE President

Twenty six coaches met at America's Best Camp-ground for the ACA Heritage Rally, preceded by a six coach ACE Pre Rally. The traditional Heavy Hors'dourves night was a great success. The group had a great time with lots of great food to enjoy. Renee Per-rault passed out quarters for the juke box and many peo-ple danced to the oldies. Boy some of our members can really dance!

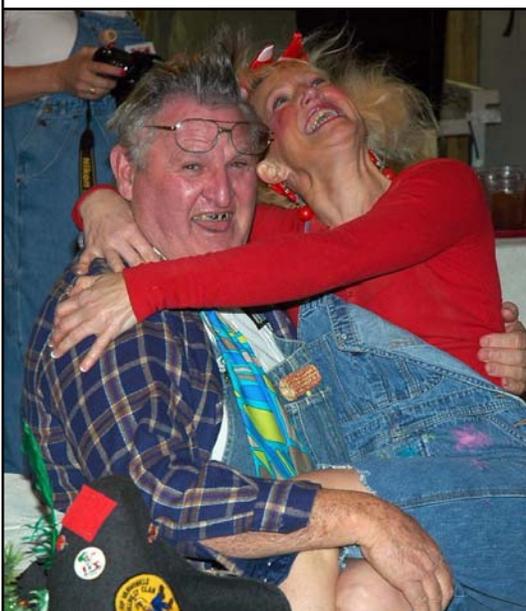
The second morning we had a wonderful country breakfast before our general membership meeting. We all learned during the meeting that ACA is regrouping and going to be stronger than before. It was deter-mined that our dues for 2008 will cover 2009 dues also.

They are going to re-evaluate and reduce our dues by 2010. Hip, Hip, Hooray!!!!

Paul Sullivan organized a Chili Party with the support of our friends at Guaranty RV in Junction City Oregon. His wife Dale marshaled the troupes, commandeering all available crock pots to make Harold Mallet's special chili. After the Chili feed we had a Hillbilly Party. Oh boy, do a lot of people have a great imagination. It was a dentist's dream with



Jack Giddens, Duncan Bellinger & Kim Blair making Hillbilly



Looks like Duncan is in the swing of it!

hillbilly teeth, or lack, of being sported by many members. Almost everyone dressed in their best hill-billy outfits. The winner of the hill-billy contest was Kim Blair from Michigan, who dressed up as a barefoot and pregnant woman. Those girls from ABC sure hooped and hollered and got everyone into the spirit of down home fun.

(continued page 3)



Chefs Dale Sullivan and Harold Mallet

Alpine Coach Technical Library Project

By Mike Fleming aka Engineer Mike



If you haven't already, check out our Technical Library on ACA's website. You'll find it at <http://www.alpinecoachassociation.com/tech/tech.html>. This is an *ongoing effort* to corral all needed documentation of our Alpine Coaches in one place to insure viability of service for many future years, and Alpiners' sanity.

Thanks to the many dozens of you that contributed material from your stacks of manuals, schematics, sales brochures, web links, etc. A million thanks especially to Linda Cain, our web mistress. All submittals went to her to appropriately store, then create the webpage links you see at the above URL. I think the end product is fantastic, and we owe Linda our thanks for donating all her time to get everything so nicely arranged.

The Library consists of 3 parts. The above URL is the entry point (and you can get to the Library by clicking on the link on ACA's home page as well). Just below the header and brief instructions is the statement, "*Where appliance manuals are available from the manufacturer, you will find the links on the Components Page.*" Click on the underlined "Components Page" and you will find the list of known contacts for the various parts of our coaches. The third part of the Library is all the stored files and links coach owners have donated for use, and those are stored in the magic land of the Internet, wherever Linda put them.

Information is arranged in pull-down menus by overall subject matter. You can get Alpine Coach Brochures by model year, Owner's Manuals (including some of the schematic drawings showing plumbing, coach electrical, etc.), coach owner's submittals showing Home Improvements, Chassis & Brakes info (lots of good technical & service data here), House Systems info, and Exterior which has a few paint codes lists, rear view mirror manuals and awning info. Not all data applies to all model years and we don't have 100% of everything we could.

We have Sales Brochures for all years excepts 1999, and 2008+ so if anybody has electronic copies of those years, please click on the link at the bottom of the page that says **Tech Page Webmaster** and mail Linda a copy. If you have hard copy only, you can mail that to me at 1284 Vintage Way, Auburn, CA 95603 and I will try to get it scanned efficiently for posting, and return the original to you.

We are also missing Owner's Manuals for model years 1998, 2001, 2004 and 2007, 8, & 9.

The Chassis & Brakes section is our most useful section when you are needing coach service. Good RV service outfits can usually dope out most house system issues without much backup needed, but chassis issues are different. Here technicians want to rely on manufacturer's published info, or a tech help line. Since we no longer have that direct through WRV, this information should prove valuable over future years. We don't have anything on hydraulic pumps, radiator fan motor or controller, air dryer, chassis air conditioning pumps, alternators, a good write-up on radiator replacement problems, chassis wiring schematics for Vansco chassis' (although we do have the Vansco LED schematic which is hugely important), generator slide info, and probably several other things I've forgotten.

Under Exterior, we are missing all paint codes except model years 1999, 2003 and 2006. These are usually one or two 8x11 sheets and easily scanned for posting.

You can email me with any suggestions or with information you think should be posted: mike@fleming.cc and I'll be happy to work with you on your submittals. Together we can help preserve both our Alpine Coach's value by making service understandable, and our sanity by having all needed documentation in one easy to find location.

EngineerMike, aka Mike Fleming, Auburn, CA (unless we're in Baja, AZ, or somewhere on the road)!

BRANSON RALLY continued from page 1

We had enough free time that we could all decide on what shows we wanted to see and everyone took in quite a few shows on their own. Show tickets were reasonably priced and with the variety of entertainment it kept everyone busy.



Clay Cooper sings to Rita Fisher

our members and we all had a great time. When he asked Larry Lewis how long he and Rita had been married, Rita corrected Larry. Clay Cooper got a big kick out of that but we all had a bigger laugh the next day when Rita admitted that Larry was correct and she was wrong. Let me tell you, our members gave Clay Cooper a run for his money. Rita and Bernie Fisher and Rita and Larry Lewis were drawn into Clay's act when he started asking them questions and continued throughout the show to crack jokes about them. At Intermission the couples changed seats and tried to confuse him but he caught on right away. A great show and a great finale to our rally.

Thanks to Renee Perrault, Willie Egg, Paul and Dale Sullivan for their input into a wonderful rally. We really appreciate all your hard work. Everything went well and we all had a great time.

Editors note: Special thanks to Louie Burch for the photo's. Check out all Louie's Branson photo's on our website: www.alpinecoachassociation.com

America's Best Campground did an outstanding job of catering our meals, including a hearty ham and lasagna lunch and Friday we had the best Prime Rib in Branson.

Paul Sullivan, our new President, organized a conference call Gear Head Session which proved to be informative for the group. Paul introduced Mark Harrah, formally of WRV who will be handling all tech questions for ACA members. All you have to do is call Mark, give him your ACA membership number as verification and he will give you technical advice.

Our grand finale was going to see The Clay Cooper Show on Saturday night, which was a wonderful family show with Clay, his wife, and son, and many others in his band and dancers. We had front row seats and he picked on some of



Renee Perrault, Jeanie & Bob Kapp looking for a dentist.

New Alpine Coach Association Members—

Let's extend a big a big ACA welcome to our newest members. Already these new members are out and about joining in ACA Rallies. Gary and Diana Shanander and Phil and Ginny Hengel's made their ACA Debut at our Branson Rally and were a great addition to our group. We look forward to seeing other new members at rallies in 2009.

Gary and Diana Shanander	Yuma	AZ
Phil and Ginny Hengels	Des Plaines	IL
Norm and Nancy Sjoberg	Cinebar	WA
Hal and Sandy Totten	Stony Run	PA
Mel and Lorene Cummins	Darby	MT
Wayne and Lanna Davey	Livingston	TX

SoCAL—FMCA RALLY January 7—11

Alpine SoCal would like to invite anyone who will be in Southern California in January to join us to caravan into the FMCA Western Area Indio rally, January 7 thru 11. Here are the details:

We will enter the rally a day early, on January 6, so that we can park in the grass instead of on asphalt. There will be an additional charge of \$35 for electricity for the duration of the rally, payable at the rally. Please be sure to come with empty holding tanks and full water tanks, there will be no water or sewer hookups, although there is a dump on site.

You are welcome to invite SOB friends, but they must be FMCA members, as this is an FMCA rally. We'll meet at the Fantasy Springs Casino in Indio in the west parking lot; exit I-10 at Golf Center Parkway and turn north, go to Indio Springs Drive (just N of I-10) and turn right, follow to first parking lot entrance and look for the Alpines.

Please arrive at Fantasy Springs no later than 11:00am so we can get organized and leave no later than Noon. If you are not at the meeting place in time, you will not be able to park with all of us. You need to register for the rally directly with Western Motor Home Association, and sign up for General Parking. You can register here: http://www.wafmca.com/western_rally.htm. Please e-mail, Gail Stacy at gjstacy@cox.net, if you wish to join us, so I can keep a head count for the rally caravan coordinator.

This will not be a formal rally, just a way to all park together so we can visit throughout this FMCA rally.

We will be likely to have a wine & whine session (to quote Louis from last year) each afternoon for anyone who wishes to socialize.

Take care, and safe travels,
Gail Stacy SoCal President



Photo by
Louis Burch
2008 DRR VII

ACA Quartzsite Rally January 14—19 2009

Mark your calendar! The Quartzsite Desert Rat Rally VIII is scheduled for 14-19 January 2009, only 3 weeks away. <http://www.quartzsiterivshow.com/>

You have to wonder why a bunch of seemingly intelligent adults would hang out in the desert in BFE Arizona. Heck, it is so much fun! We will no doubt do the usual stuff like drink, eat, visit, drink, eat, campfire, buy junk at the tent etc. but we are looking for ideas for some new activities. Got an idea? Got talent? E-mail me at basil_shannon@yahoo.com.

[Registration must be received no later than December 25th.](#)

ALPINE RALLY CALENDAR 2009

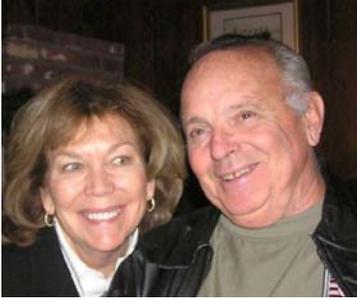
Time to start planning your route so you can attend as many rallies as possible next year

January 13 –19 2009	ACE—Tampa Super Show	ACE	Jesse & Shirley Rumberger jsrumberger@aol.com
January 14 –19 2009	Quartzsite Desert Rat Rally VIII \$100 per 2 person coach \$75 one person coach Check out the ACA website for details.	National	Basil Shannon basil_shannon@yahoo.com Louie Burch labsr@aol.com
April 17—19 2009	Outdoor Resorts Ranco CA RV Resort Aguanga, CA	SoCal	Jerry/Becky Farrow Bfarrow@cox.net Russ/Lois Thomas russ@seeing-green.com
May 6—10 2009	Wildhorse Casino Pendleton Oregon	NoWaca	Doug and Debbie Hallendar dchdrh@easystreet.net
May 15-22 2009	49er Village Plymouth, Ca. (Gold Country)	SoCal	Jim and Polly Klinko (jpklinko@aol.com) Noel and Carol Peck (noelpeck@aol.com)
August 2009	To Be Determined	ACA	Will be announced soon.
September 14-18 2009	Sea Pirate Campground Long Beach Island, NJ	ACE	Harry & Nancy Jensen 973-202-7229
September 25-26 2009	Prosser	NoWaca	More info to come
September 25 –27	Visalia for Sequoia National Park	SoCal	Tom and Patty Dietrich, tpdietrich@sbcglobal.net
November 7—9 2009	Newport Dunes Newport, Ca.	SoCal	Bill/Patty Figge figgebp@mac.com Jack/Linda Giddens crazysingerkg@yahoo.com

For answers to questions and advice from other Alpine Coach owners visit www.IRV2.com and click Alpine Coach Owners Forum.

**Have a suggestion for the ACA Newsletter?
Send it to:
Renee Perrault—Editor
reneegary@msn.com**

From our President—Paul Sullivan



Dale & Paul Sullivan

Dear ACA Members,
I recently sent you all an update as of the end of the Branson Rally (<http://www.alpinecoachassociation.com/info/president.htm>). Thank you all for the many responses to that letter.

Mark Harrah reports that after an initial rush he is answering an average of 10 calls or emails a week. The member feedback has been 100% positive. In one case Mark's assistance saved one member approximately \$300 and lots of aggravation and time. Please continue to let me know about this new dimension to our member services and any suggestions so that it remains valuable.

Our Rally Committee Chair Louie Burch has been working on a Pre-Rally for the March FMCA Rally in Perry, Georgia; and I expect that we will have an announcement soon. Please remember that we need volunteers to help with the upcoming rallies in Perry and Bowling Green, Ohio. Please contact Louie (labsr@aol.com) with helpful suggestions and to sign up to help.

Note that DRR in Quartzsite starts January 14th, and Basil Shannon plans for us to have lots of fun plus we will also hold the next General Membership Meeting. We will have a revision of Standing Rules for your approval and a short (I hope) discussion on some proposed amendments to the by-laws. We will also elect both a National Director and Alternate National Director to represent us at FMCA. These positions are very important to ACA as this is our only input to that forum.

I look forward to your suggestions as to how to make ACA more of an asset to our members; my phone number is 619-392-8775.

Dale and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous Healthy New Year.

Paul "Sully" Sullivan

President ACA

Need to Contact a Board Member?

Paul Sullivan
President

Cell 619-392-8775
sobersully@hotmail.com

Fred Royce
Director

Cell 360-460-0154
froyce@olypen.com

Debbie Bragg
Treasurer

Cell 817-994-3998
dbragg@swbell.net

Frank Halasz
Secretary

Cell 505-263-1930
fhalasz@swcp.com

Andy Lewis
Director Special Projects

Cell 702-682-5278
Firemans@embarqumail.com

Earlene Bloomquist
Membership Director

Cell 509-969-2503
jebloom@earth-comm.com

WE NEED YOU! - A New Alpine Coach Association Historian

Yes YOU! Alpine Coach Association is looking for that very special member that has an eye for detail and loves history....not just any history, Alpine Coach Association History! Our wonderful Historian, Barbara Simonson has retired and we need to pass the crown on to our next victim, oops I mean volunteer. Please consider volunteering for this very important job. We need someone that loves to do scrapbooking or just loves to sort and organize pictures. Supplies are paid for and our undying gratitude and admiration are also a few of the job perks! Please contact Paul Sullivan at sobersully@hotmail.com, he'll be thrilled to hear from you and the rest of us will breath a sigh of relief that someone has risen to the occasion.

Earlene Bloomquist—Membership Director



WOW what a busy time we have had since the Sept./Oct. Newsletter. We left on Oct. 17, 2008 on a Cruise through the Panama Canal, what an AWESOME time we had. We returned on Nov. 2nd and were in AZ for 5 days cleaning the coach and washing clothes before we left on Nov. 7th for the ACA Branson Rally. We arrived in Branson on Nov. 10th and had a wonderful time at the rally. Renee Per-rault and Wilma Egg did an wonderful job planning and running the rally. We went to a very good show and had some wonderful meals and a great wine and cheese party. Thanks to Renee, Wilma and Louie who took wonderful pictures of those present at the rally.

Earlene & Jerry Bloomquist

Hope to see many of you at the Quartzsite Rally January 14-19, 2009.

Jerry and I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We wish you good health, fun trips, great happiness.

Franklin Halasz— Secretary

Merry Christmas and we hope to see you in Quartzsite.



Dessa and Franklin Halasz

Debbie Bragg— Treasurer



Debbie Bragg

Hello from the Hillbilly party in Branson, MO. I am impersonating Daisy May and freezing to death!

I am proud to announce that the Alpine Coach Association is alive and well. We had a wonderful rally in Branson, albeit it cold and a little wet. Our treasury is quite healthy. We are, however, still in the transition phase getting all the official banking documents signed to allow me to fully function as your Treasurer. Hopefully, we will have accomplished this in the next week or so.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Quartzsite.

Happy Holidays,
Debbie

Andy Lewis Director Special Projects

Happy Holidays and safe travel in 2009



Andy Lewis

Fred Royce—Director



Fred & Carol Royce

Carol and I were pleased to have attended the Hinckley and Branson rallies. There was a great spirit at these events, a recognition that we are a changed organization and most importantly we had fun, fellowship and developed friendships. Passage of revised bylaws with the overwhelming support of the Branson attendees attests to the interest and willingness to work with change.

The Bylaws sets us on new road where Members, by their participation and vote, will guide the journey. President Paul has started us on this road by setting up for Members some technical support, establishing a relationship with Tiffin and a committee to address rallies. I think this chapter is

going to be “fulltime” for a long time.

The Board expects to submit some standing rules at the January meeting. The purpose is to help define some of the operational procedures for the Chapter.

Carol and I look forward to seeing you at Quartzsite in January. Until then, we extend our Best Wishes of the Season and our hopes and prayers for our President and Congress for wisdom in guiding our nation through the uncertain times we face.

Region Contacts

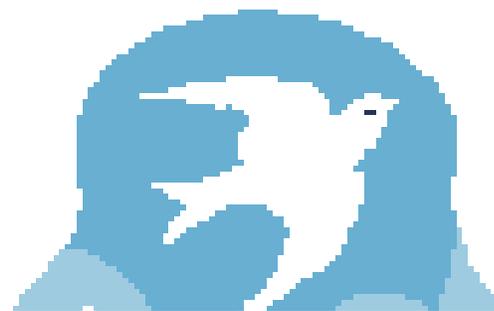
ACE East Coast	Tom & Peggy Bacome 731-935-2303 pjbacome@aol.com		NorCal Northern California Northern Nevada	John & Barbara Knox 408-356-5267 jdknbak@verizon.net Cell 408-218-8192
Fulltimers	Maureen Dahl 425-466-1445 wandern.two@verizon.net		NoWACA Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana	Larry & Barbara Smith 360-437-2913 typsmith@olyopen.com
Midwest	Ted & Kay Watts 636-926-0024 themowatts@aol.com		SoCal Southern California Southern Nevada	John & Gail Stacy 702-858-0400 gjstacy@cox.net

Many ACA members belong to local regions to participate in activities closer to home. We encourage and support our Regions but please remember, the Alpine Coach Association provides benefits such as Tech support and the Technical Library that are open only to Alpine Coach Members. Maintaining your ACA membership gives you added benefits and support. A big bonus is 2008 dues are good through 2009! If you have friends that have left ACA let them know about the 2 years for 1 and tell them to rejoin.



Remembrance *Larry Tibbitts*

Our thoughts and prayers are with Linda Tibbitts and her family for the recent loss of her husband Larry Tibbitts.



For many of us, the stock market and recession has added a pinch to our lifestyle. Non profit and charity organizations are feeling a bigger pinch and many are facing cutbacks on their programs or the gifts they can give to needy families this year.

Please remember your favorite charities with a donation, many struggling families will benefit from your kindness.

Wherever you spend your holidays, may you be surrounded by the love of family and friends.

We look forward to 2009 and to many Rallies and Alpine "family" gatherings.



Editors note: photo from ACA website

\$1,000 REWARD

I am offering a \$1000.00 Reward to the Club or Club Member that helps me find a Buyer for either of two remaining new 2008 Alpine coaches. We were extremely disappointed at Western RV's decision to exit the RV business as we believe the Alpine coaches are among the best driving and best handling coaches in the world. We have two remaining new Alpine Limited Series that we are willing to sell at a loss and we are including a Limited Warranty and a Four Year Service Contract with the coaches. We'll trade for most anything, the price is right, the Reward's for real! Call John Cathey, Dealer, at 828-312-0056 for more information.

2008 (New) Alpine Limited Series, Stk # 3343, 36' lg, 2 Slides, 425 Hp Cummins, , MSRP 343,748, Sale Price **\$239,866**

2008 (New) Alpine Limited Series, Stk # 3326, 34' lg, 2 slides, 400 Hp Cummins, MSRP \$346,236, Sale Price **\$238,797**



Carolina Coach & Camper I-40 Exit 135 Hickory, NC
1-800-305-9045

More details at
www.carolinacoach.com



c/o Renee Perrault
2520 Park Place North
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