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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY DARREN SCHMALTZ

It's been a year since most of us were together – thought I better get an update to everyone.

I want to thank Sharon Brandt for her service as Secretary for the past two years and for accepting this position for the next two years. I also want to thank Jim Moreland for his service on the nominating committee and the club's Treasurer. Jim has agreed to serve as the Treasurer for another two-year term. I really appreciate what they have done for the club and I know they will continue to do a great job.

Also a big thank you goes to Ron and Sharon Brandt for providing the wonderful fish to those of us who made it to the rally at Tucson a day early and to Jim Moreland who was our chef.

Upon our return home from the business rally in Tucson, I contacted Kelli Hernandez about the auction and the funds that were to be used for the pets. I requested that she have someone investigate what was required to allow the shelter to accept pets. At the check presentation on April 6 we gave a donation of \$15,000.00 to the New Life Center. Kelli reported that a shelter in Phoenix conducted a pilot program allowing pets. The results were very positive and the shelter was scheduling a seminar to share their results. The New Life Center will be attending this seminar. They are also investigating zoning requirements, noise requirements and space availability. One item Kelli did mention was that most pets are from abusive households and that many times, the pets themselves are usually abused. Allowing pets into the shelter is a great benefit not only for the residents, but also for the animals. Your generosity to this shelter makes me very proud to be associated with this club.

In Tucson, we welcomed several new members; Jim and Jill Andrews from Mesa, Arizona, Tom and Genie Brandt (Ron Brandt's brother) are full timers, but have a place in Florida, Gary and Linda Hays from Albuquerque, New Mexico and David and Kim Jark from Medford, OR. David and Kim were

having their motorhome worked on in Tucson at the time of the rally and joined our fun-loving group there. I believe they are planning to attend the upcoming rally in Las Vegas. Additionally, this month I want to welcome new members Lori and Ed Dawdiuk. Lori and Ed (who were referred to us by FMCA), live in Prescott Valley, Arizona. They have signed up to attend the Chula Vista Rally. For those who will be attending this great upcoming rally, be sure to say Hi. I have been in contact with another prospective member and believe they will be joining soon. Our membership is growing and I believe the best tool for membership growth is our members telling others about what a great club we have.

We have two events on the books for 2016. The Chula Vista rally hosted by Barbara and Paul Craig will be June 1 thru June 5. This is Rocky Mountain Country Coachers first rally in the Southern California area and it promises to be a great rally. October 13 thru October 17 in Las Vegas, Nevada will be our fall rally. Betty and Rod Woods have put together a gathering that will not soon be forgotten! This includes the Jersey Boys show, an Elvis impersonator, a tour of Wayne Newton's Shenandoah Ranch, and much, much more. Mark your calendars now!

As mentioned in the business meeting, the Chula Vista and Las Vegas rallies were planned to be rallies co-hosted with South West Country Coach Club. Tragedy struck when their President unexpectedly passed away. When these rallies were discussed with their new president, it was determined that South West Country Coach was not financially able to subsidize the cost of the rally for their membership like we are. Consequently, SWCC will not be co-hosting the rallies and will not be joining Rocky Mountain Country Coachers at these rallies. As was announced at the business meeting, the idea behind having these joint rallies was to consider a possible merger between RMCC and SWCC. As of this time I believe any merger is on hold.

Our rally schedule for 2017 is not finalized. Our Bylaws require a business meeting in the first quarter of the year at a time and place designated by the president. I have not designated a time or place. My preference is that one (or two) of you will step up and host / co-host a first quarter rally in a location of your choosing. Please contact me if you are willing to serve the club in this way. Time is of the essence - hosting a rally is not difficult, especially if two couples work together, but I've found that the earlier you make the reservations for the campground and events, the better. There is a rally being considered in the Santa Fe, New Mexico area in June 2017; it is not in the books yet, but keep that in mind for your calendar. Another couple is working on a Fall 2017 rally. I'll share the details as soon as they get a little more firmed up, but from what I've been told, it sounds like a great rally. At this point, the 2018 rally schedule is open. We always try to have events planned two years in advance as this helps members with their schedule. If you have ideas for where you would like to have a rally, please consider hosting a rally. It is very rewarding and is truly that is what this club is known for. Again, let me underscore the need for a 2017 first quarter business rally. If you are interested in hosting or can help with this, please let me know.

Lastly, when you log into the the club's web site, you'll notice the addition of information about the Family Motor Coach Association medical evacuation program (which members get at no additional cost) and pictures of recent rallies. In the near future the web site's homepage will take on a new look. This will not affect your login procedure or any features you use on the web site.

Looking forward to seeing you all again soon. Travel safe.

Daren

President RMCC

BUSINESS MEETING RALLY – MARCH 10 – 14, 2016 TUCSON, AZ, LAZYDAYS KOA RV RESORT

The 14th annual Business Meeting of RMCC was held on March 10 – 14, 2016 at the RV Park where RMCC began. The location is the same, but the name has been changed. What was once part of the Beaudry business organization is now a KOA RV Park. There have been physical changes; the most noticeable is the solar panels as part of the “undercover” sites. As usual for our rallies, many of us arrived before the rally began. The evening of the 9th, Chefs Moreland, Schmaltz, Brandt and others help to cook the fish that Ron Brand caught off the coast of Oregon. The fish and preparation were excellent along with appetizers and sides. The tables were loaded again. People made arrangement to have their coaches washed while others needed more than cosmetic beautification to have their coaches in top form.

By Thursday morning, most members had arrived so we had time to do shopping, gab sessions with friends, trips to Tubac and a few took naps – a retirement reward. In the evening we were supposed to have Happy Hour at our hospitality site and then move on to KOA’s patio for pizza, but when we would have moved to the patio we would have had to obscure what we had in our glasses – so it would have been time for the “Red Cups”. As it turned out, the pizza was delivered to the hospitality site so we didn’t have to put our adult beverages into “Red Cups”. KOA markets itself as a family campground and has rules about alcoholic beverages on KOA property. Reggie collected the Purple Pumpkin questionnaires, this was a set of “Lucky Guess” questions.

At breakfast on Friday, Reggie announced the winners of the Purple Pumpkin. No one had every question right. To answer all questions correctly, you had to have been a member since the inception of the club and with a great memory (at our ages????) or just took lucky guesses. Sandee Kapellusch had the most correct answers with 3 out of 4. Many others had 2 out of 4 correct, but there were only four more prizes, so by the angle of the sun with the tangent of Mars when our moon is visible, she was able to determine the other four prize winners. Reggie announced that unless someone else wanted to take over the Purple Pumpkin, the pumpkin is retiring.

We had a delicious breakfast of OJ, fresh fruit, scrambled eggs, bacon, French toast and coffee. What a great breakfast to fuel us of a day of touring PIMA Air and Space Museum. We were split into two groups to tour at different times. One couple in our group got their instructions wrong and missed their tour, but they were fortunate to get on a tour later in the day – they just spent more time at PIMA Air and Space Museum and really got their money’s worth. Back at the Park, we had Happy Hour and had an opportunity to view our members’ baby pictures. What a bunch of cute babies, but then all babies are. The sunset was “knock your socks off” beautiful.

After breakfast on Saturday morning, we had our annual business meeting which will be covered in the Secretary's Minutes. Interested members took a short drive to the new facilities of Premier Motor Coach Services and those who remained at the Park, if they were paying attention and in the right spot, were able to see portions of the air show from the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base. In the evening, Daren and Duane did their magic again with the ribs. The ribs were moist, meaty and delicious – much better than any restaurant fare! After we were well fed, the Margarita machine was brought out for the auction. Jim and Margie Moreland were the mixologists and Betty Woods was the very efficient waitress. We had a lively auction with an eclectic assortment of items, including ski boots (which no one wanted) to a first edition Limoges hand painted Nativity scene. A separate Animal Fund was started with donations to provide care and shelter for the pets of the families staying at the New Life Center. The Center has no facilities for family pets and the children have a bond with the pets and when their whole world is being torn apart, they need that pet to give them stability. The proposition and Fund will be given to the administration of the Center. Members of RMCC will monitor the use of the funds.

Sunday afternoon we attended a performance of "The Cisco Kid" at the Gaslight Theater. It was a melodramatic comedy of good guys vs. bad guys. Our club has attended performances at the Theater over the years and every show has been entertaining, enjoyable and very funny. The written script probably isn't as funny as the ad-libbing. The piano player was very talented. After the play, those that needed to go back to the Park to walk and feed our fur babies did so while others went on the Silver Saddle Steakhouse. Eventually we all got there and got fed and the food was very good – the baked potato with all the topping was especially good. Many of us took doggy bags home and not all had dogs.

Sunday morning, after a continental breakfast, hugs and "Safe Travels", we unhooked, packed up and headed out.

AUCTION NEWS - \$15,000 TO NEW LIFE CENTER!

The members of RMCC for the fifth year opened their hearts and especially their wallets to the tune of \$15,000. During the past five years, RMCC members have donated, through the auction, over \$40,000 to the Center. This year three members contributed \$3,000 to start a foundation to provide shelter and care for the pets of the families fleeing from abusive situations. Locally, there are animal shelters that will assist with this need until the Center can build their own facility. Kudos to us!

ALAMOGORDO RALLY – SEPTEMBER 25 – 29, 2016 ALAMOGORDO, NM, BOOT HILL RV RESORT

Daren Schmaltz

On Friday Sept. 25th we had registration. In the evening, Teri, Jean and Gay prepared taco salad in the pavilion at Boot Hill R.V. Resort. Although Jack and Susan Frost could not attend the rally they were there to join in the catching up for the night. We also had a couple of first time rally attenders Janice Gould and Bob and Jean Smith. Janice is a member and this was her first but hopefully not her last rally. Also on Friday night only Bob and Jean Smith from Las Cruces who were former members but never attended a rally stop in to spend a night at Boot Hill and meet members of the club.

Friday morning Sept. 26th Linda Madron served a wonderful breakfast in the pavilion and shortly we were on our way to Cloudcroft, NM, a classic western timber town approximately 17 miles from Alamogordo. Cloudcroft is approximately 9000 ft. elevation and is a destination for thousands of visitors each year. On our way to Cloudcroft we stopped at the Mexican Canyon Trestle Bridge. For many years the only way to Cloudcroft was via railroad. The railroad needed lumber so they built a 26 mile line to Cloudcroft, this involved many trestle bridges unfortunately few remain today. After shopping and enjoying the cool air and spectacular views of Cloudcroft we had a fabulous lunch at Rebecca's in the lodge resort in Cloudcroft. This is a historic lodge that was built in 1911 and has hosted movie stars, artist and business leaders but it is said to be haunted. We left Cloudcroft and returned to Boot Hill RV Park. Some of the rally guest had chosen the option of attending the OKTOBERFEST at Holloman Air Force Base. This is prepared by the German Air Force with authentic German food and beer that is made and flown in for this celebration. All the personnel that were serving the food and drinks were German.

Saturday Sept. 27th Breakfast was catered by Linda. That morning we attended the Alamogordo Zoo. A nice size zoo for our members and very low cost to attend 75 cents. Lunch on your own. That afternoon we were guest at the Alamogordo Toy Train Depot. This is housed in a former train depot built in 1898 then moved to Alamogordo. Inside the former depot houses a huge collection of trains, there were models in all different sizes and full size railroad artifacts, including a full size caboose on the property. Rick Haskell provided a guided tour on the inside of the building and operated several of the models. On the outside of the property there is a narrow gauge 16 inch miniature railway. All of the members present were given a ride on this miniature railway. That evening dinner was catered by Linda. We had two very special entertainments that evening. A steel drum ensemble Pans of Grace conducted by Cheryl Dockray performed for us at Boot Hill Pavilion. The Pans of Grace are from the Grace United Methodist Church where Jean Grabman attends. They performed 20 different songs ranging from religious to calypso. They are very accomplished musicians that perform around Alamogordo area. After the performance, everyone was invited to come on stage and try the steel drums. The second entertainment of the evening was provided by Mother Nature

in the form of a Super Blood Moon eclipse; this was a total eclipse. A super blood moon eclipse will not take place again until 2033.

Sunday Sept. 28th - Breakfast catered by Linda. We carpoled to the space museum and the IMAX Theater in Alamogordo. There are many exhibits both inside and outside. We met our docent outside and he explained some of the exhibits. The Sonic Wind I rocket sled that Dr. John P. Stapp rode to a speed of 632 mph then to a dead stop in 1.4 seconds earning him the title of "fastest man on earth". There is a burnt section of a German V2 rocket. It was explained that a couple of V2 landed outside of the White Sands test site, one very close to the museum and the other in Mexico. It was pointed out where Ham the first monkey in space is buried at the base of the flag poles. The daisy track is an outdoor exhibit. It was an air powered sled used to study the effects of acceleration and deceleration on the human body. It was much smaller and more economical than the rocket sled. Inside the museum there are many sections devoted to different aspects of space explorations. There are exhibits of articles from space including a real "moon rock", replicas of the first man made satellites, early guided missiles and another area is living and working in space. They have a variety of space suits, space toilet, examples of early space food and how it has developed. There is an exhibit of rockets. Rockets have been in existence for hundreds of years. There are replicas of rocket dating back to the 19th century but modern rocketry is dated to late 19th early 20th century. There are several exhibits of early rockets developed by Goddard. In 1920 Goddard published ideas and experimental results including remarks about sending a solid full rocket to the moon. The Germans developed rockets and had the V2 at the end of WWII. America encouraged many of the German rockets scientist to come to the United States as a part of operation Paperclip. German scientist Von Braun was brought to Alamogordo and was instrumental in the development of the United States space program. Also in this section is a demonstration of what the astronauts feel during blast off. It is a platform you stand on, select what rocket you want to fly and when you press the button the platform vibrates and speakers play the sound effects. This is a wonderful museum and very hard to describe. From there we went to the IMAX Theater. The show at the IMAX was Journey into Amazing Caves which was a show about going into extreme hostile environments searching for discoveries that might lead to cures for human diseases. The evening meal was catered by Linda. The evening entertainment was provided by Bill Smith. Bill brought his keyboard and provided musical entertainment while Teri was calling numbers for Bingo.

The following morning a continental breakfast was served by Linda. Good -Byes were said and the members departed.

RALLIES HO!

June 1 - 5, 2016 - Chula Vista, CA - Chula Vista RV Resort & Marina
Joint Rally with Southwest Country Coach Club - Paul Craig

October 13 - 17, 2016 - Las Vegas, NV - Oasis RV Resort
Joint Rally with Southwest Country Coach Club - Rod Woods

June 2017 (tentative) - Santa Fe, NM - Santa Fe Skies RV Park
Jim Moreland

RALLIES

CHULA VISTA RV RESORT & MARINA - June 1 - 5, 2015

Among the activities planned, there will be visits to Seaport Village, USS Midway (battleship), Seal Tour (Land and sea vehicle) and then a cook-out with live entertainment - and that is only the beginning of the rally. Also we will attend the Marine Corp Depot graduation ceremony, followed by a dinner cruise around the Bay. On the next day, we'll drive north on I-5 to Camp Pendleton for a guided tour.

OASIS RV RESORT - OCTOBER 13 - 17, 2015

On the second day we will have a tour of Wayne Newton's House and Ranch and see his Arabian horses. A seafood dinner will be at the South Point Hotel on the strip. On the third day, there will be an activity followed by the Jersey Boys show at a hotel. We will have free time for the fourth day, but that night at a catered dinner, the top Elvis impersonator will entertain us with a two hour show.

NOTE! RMCC WILL PROVIDE A SUBSIDY OF \$200 FOR 2 PEOPLE/COACH for these two rallies. You must be an active RMCC member and the reservation must be made 30 days prior to the rally. If more information is needed, please contact Jim Moreland or Bill Smith.

Pima Air and Space Museum Duane Hays

A real highlight of the Tucson Rally was our tour of the Pima Air and Space Museum and accompanying bus tour through the “Boneyard” at Davis Monthan AFB. The facility is officially known as the Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center (AMARC): Home of the World’s Largest Airplane Boneyard.

We started our tour at the Pima Air and Space Museum where we registered and then boarded buses headed to Davis Monthan AFB and AMARC. Our bus included a well-informed guide who told us the history of the Boneyard and many wonderful stories about some of the individual airplanes we saw. There are approximately 4,400 aircraft currently stored at the facility.

When an aircraft arrives at AMARC, it goes through an in-processing. All weapons, ejection seat charges and classified hardware are removed. Each aircraft is washed thoroughly to remove any corrosive elements (salt water). The fuel systems are drained and then refilled with a light oil, then drained again to leave a protective coating on all surfaces. The aircraft is then sealed from dust, sunlight and high temperatures. This is done with a variety of materials, including a white sprayed on coating called “spraylat”. After this processing, the aircraft is towed to its designated “storage” position. The geology of the desert in this area allows the aircraft to be moved around and stored without having to pave the thousands of acres of storage. The aircraft, once processed, proceed to one of four areas and destinies.

1. Long Term Storage – these aircraft have a high potential to return to flying status and are held intact with no parts removed. They are “represerved” every four years.
2. Available for Parts – These aircraft are carefully used for parts with meticulous documentation kept on each aircraft.
3. Flying Hold – aircraft kept in flyable condition in short term, temporary storage; waiting transfer to another unit, sale to another country or reclassification to one of the other three types.
4. Excess Aircraft – these have been gutted and every usable part removed. They will be sold for scrap.

Our tour bus drove us through each of the storage areas and down “Celebrity Row” lined with an extensive variety of aircraft. Many had colorful histories, like the C-130 that was snowed in and covered in ice for 10 years before finally being rescued. Another interesting part of the tour was the area where the older fighter aircraft, such as the F-4 Phantoms and the F-16 are being converted into target drones.

After our bus tour, we returned to the Pima Air and Space Museum. There, we had a wonderful lunch on the patio before beginning our self-guided tour. The Pima Air and Space Museum is

one of the world's largest non-government funded aerospace museums. Over 300 aircraft representing everything from a replica of the first airplane flown by the Wright Brothers to the most modern Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner are housed in four hangars inside and spread over 80 acres outside. An impressive museum! We all had a wonderful experience.

NEWSY NEWS

New fur baby members : Buddy - Daren and Maria Schmaltz
Sassy - Ron and Sharon Brandt

Change in by-laws: 1. RMCC may now hold rallies in other part of the United States, not only in the Rocky Mountain area.
2. The Associate Membership classification is deleted and the title/wording is stricken from all by-laws.

There are 24 coaches in RMCC and 21 attended the Tucson Business Rally.

Kelli Hernandez from the New Life Center told us of the history of the Center and answered questions.

Steve Varner from FMCA spoke to us about one of the many benefits provided by FMCA - medical assistance and emergency transportation.

Jim Moreland, in his Treasurer's report, provided us with RMCC Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss for 2015 and Budget for 2016.

Nominating Committee for 2016 include Jack Frost, Betty Woods and Ron Brandt

Nominations for this year: Secretary - Sharon Brandt
Treasurer - Jim Moreland
FMCA Assist. Nat. Director - Duane Hays

New Members : Jim and Jill Andrews
At Rally Linda and Gary Hays
Tom and Genie Brandt



Rocky Mountain Country Coachers

Organized March 2003

The main purposes of the Rocky Mountain Country Coachers Club are to promote the aims and objectives of FMCA and, through creative activities, to further the fellowship and enjoyment in the Club, to provide a forum for the free exchange of ideas and experiences of motorhoming, and to represent ourselves as good, careful and responsible motorhome owners and operators.

The specific purposes shall be to: Promote and further good fellowship and cooperation among our Club members, promote periodic rallies that will effectively provide for the exchange of information for the common good, and carry on such business activities as deemed necessary on behalf of members at periodic meetings.

Rocky Mountain Country Coachers area includes: Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Montana and Wyoming.

FROM THE EDITOR

The Tucson Business Rally was a success due to the generosity and work of many RMCC members. Our hosts were Marie and Daren Schmaltz and I remember when they first joined our club; they tried to fade into the background. Now Daren is our President and a very well organized rally host with the "suggestions" of Marie and Vanessa (his sister). To top all that, he is an excellent grill master. I still drool over the ribs, so meaty, tender, tasty and moist. Another member who is stepping forward is Duane Hays who was also in front of the hot grill and he will be our FMCA Assist. Nat. Director. Those of you who were at the Cody Rally that he hosted remember all the activities he arranged for us. Not bad for RMCC's first "SOB"! (Some Other Brand). Anyone ever try to keep track of Vanessa Hays? She is like a honey bee and she is a honey. She does all the work on our web-site. The fish for the pre-rally dinner was provided by Ron Brandt. He fishes along the coast of Oregon and shared the fruits of his labor and fun. The auction was a success because of those who contributed items and those who paid for their winning bids. For a few years, Jim Moreland and Bill Knight have contributed wood crafted items to add to the coffers for the Center. The auction is always special for me and this year it was extra special because Bill Smith, Paul Craig and Ken Burnett initiated a plan and funding to begin a foundation to provide shelter and care for the pets of the abused women and children at the New Life Center. The families need their pets and the pets need their families.