



# American COACH ASSOCIATION

## SOUTHWEST CHAPTER

ARIZONA COLORADO NEW MEXICO SO. NEVADA UTAH

April—June 2008 Newsletter

Access us on our website: [www.acasw.com](http://www.acasw.com)

### Key people:

President: Roy Shelton  
Vice President: Laura Bruno  
Secretary: Sandi Shelton  
Treasurer: Shirley Bolger  
Membership Chairman: Al Bolger  
Website Manager: Al Bolger  
Merchandise Manager: Becky Hight  
Newsletter Editor: Bill Dettmer

### NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

#### On a personal note

Kip and I just returned from eleven days in Disney World and Sea World in Orlando, FL. We camped in Disney's Fort Wilderness Campground which included all the amenities that one can imagine—full hookups, free transportation to all of the Disney parks, restaurants, stage shows, and fun.

We weren't alone. We managed to stuff Kip and me, our son and his wife, and three grandchildren, ages three to nine, into our forty-foot, two-slide Tradition. We used our hide-a-bed, an inflatable queen-size airbed, and our small couch to accommodate our family members. Depending on where they were sleeping, going to the bathroom was quite a challenge and could be of danger to other family members. Needless to say, we had to orchestrate our movements. But, a good time was had by all.



One of the shows that we went to was located in the Campground—the Hoop-De-Do Review. During the show, I was singled out for "harassment" by one of the performers; but it was all in good fun. As Charlie Adcock says, "It's all about having fun."



#### Scholarship Foundation

The ACA Board of Directors is ready to take action on the proposed Scholarship Foundation. Thanks to the hard work of our own Laura Bruno, I was able to email a package to each of the Board of Directors outlining the process for establishing the Foundation, a listing of its advantages, and a copy of the draft Bylaws. I also included a draft motion which I intend to make at the Mobile Rally Board of Directors meeting.

I believe the Foundation would be a win-win for us and for Fleetwood. If accepted by the ACA Board of Directors, the Foundation would solicit contributions from individuals and organizations to fund the scholarships. There would no longer be a scholarship expense to our budget, and

the contributors would receive a tax deduction. Graduating high school children of Fleetwood's American Coach employees would continue to receive our support as they move on to pursue their higher education goals. Continuing the scholarships will further cement the close bond between the American Coach Association and Fleetwood's American Coach Division.

*Bill Dettmer*

#### TOMMIE AND JOSETTE HERRELL'S ANNIVERSARY

On February 9th, Kip and I joined Tommie and Josette and their family and friends in a celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary, hosted by their daughters and granddaughters, at the Alamo National Bank in Alamogordo, NM.

One of the highlights of the party was a gift from their girls, a painting that depicted highlights of their life together through the years.

Tommie and Josette are long-time members of the Southwest Chapter and Tommie is a Past-President of the Chapter and a Co-Chairman of the very successful 2006 National Rally we hosted in Tucson.

As you can see from the pictures below (note the fifties Chevy in the background of the wedding picture), time has been good to Tommie and Josette. (Of



Chevy in the background of the wedding picture, time has been good to Tommie and Josette. (Of



course, Tommie has lost some of his hair; well, make that ALL of it.)

They are still a vibrant couple enjoying life to the fullest. We wish them many more years, both on and off the road

*Bill Dettmer*

## CHAPTER ELECTION

The Southwest Chapter Bylaws call for the Chapter to "... hold an annual meeting at the last rally prior to end of every fiscal year for the purpose of electing officers." Since our fiscal year starts on July 1st, we will hold a election of Chapter officers during the Mobile Rally. Nominations will be accepted from the floor or, if the nominee is not in attendance, "...if they have sent written permission of acceptance of an office."

Typically, our President and Vice President have served for two terms, which barring a change to the bylaws, requires him/her to be nominated again for the second term.

The following slate for 2008-2009 is:

President—Roy Shelton  
Vice-President—Laura Brun  
Treasurer—Al Bolger  
Secretary—Sandi Shelton

*Bill Dettmer*

## VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Al Bolger has done an excellent job of managing our web site. However, he would like to pass that appointed position to someone else. If you are willing to be appointed to the web master position for our Chapter, contact Roy Shelton. I'm sure that Al will be glad to help with the transition.

*Bill Dettmer*

## FUTURE RALLIES

### Mobile Pre-Rally (May 10-12, 2008)

The Southwest Chapter will be holding its pre-rally to the National Mobile Rally at the Hollywood Casino in Bay St. Louis, MS. Arrival will be on May 10th and departure on the 13th. Check-in and check-out times are 12 noon. I have increased the number of reserved spaces to fifteen.

Each individual must contact reservations and guarantee a site with a credit card no later than fourteen days prior to arrival date. You may cancel up to 72 hours prior to arrival. As usual, I recommend that you make your reservation as early as possible.

Their phone number is 1-866-758-2591. Use the code: SC00510. The RV Park Manager is Donna.

Check their website at [www.hollywoodcasinobsi.com](http://www.hollywoodcasinobsi.com).

In addition to the RV Park, the Hollywood Casino offers four restaurants, 24 hour gaming including over 900 slots, and an eighteen hole golf course.

Our rally will be short on meetings and long on fun.

*Roy Shelton*

### Albq. Balloon Fiesta Rally, NM (October 9-12, 2008)

As I reported in the last Southwest Chapter Newsletter, Kip and I are planning another Balloon Fiesta Rally in Albuquerque, NM. It is scheduled for October 9 to 12, which includes the second weekend of the Fiesta. I have reserved fifty slots in the VIP campground for our rally.

The cost for this year's rally is \$370 for two people, plus or minus \$40 for more or fewer people. This includes the parking, entrance into the Fiesta, and a Mexican buffet scheduled for the first night. To secure a slot, I recom-



mend that you get your reservation to me at the Mobile Rally or by 31 May. A mail-in registration form is included in this newsletter.

For those who have not been to one of these rallies in the

past, there are good news and bad news; the good news—we are very close to the launch field and vendors, the bad news—it is dry camping.

*Bill Dettmer*

### Tucson Pre-Rally (November 2008)

As mentioned in the President's and Vice President's reports, the Bernardis and the Brunos are planning a three-day pre-rally to the fall National Rally in Tucson. They are going to hold it at the DeAnza Trails RV Resort in Tubac, AZ. Additional details in the next Newsletter.

*Bill Dettmer*

### Quartzsite, AZ Rally (January 2009)

As mentioned in the Vice President's report, the Zueges are planning another one of their famous rallies in Quartzsite. More details in future Newsletters.

*Bill Dettmer*

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring is here. Here being Foothills, Arizona, just east of Yuma. I hope none of you have been caught in the nasty weather that has been lambasting the Midwest.

Sandi and I ran south from Boulder ahead of a front promising a foot of snow in mid February. We spent two long days on the road to avoid the weather. We met friends here in Yuma, some with American Coaches and some with other brands. We convoyed with them to Puerto Penasco, Mexico for ten days of fun on the beach at the Reef RV Park. Lots of sunshine, fresh shrimp, beachcombing, bargaining with the vendors for stuff we didn't need, and oh yes a bit of tequila. Sandi and I made our own reservation and it went through smoothly. The rest of the group made one reservation for all and had the same problems we had last year when we tried to make reservations for a chapter rally at the Reef. I just don't know if it would be worth the grief to try to organize a rally for next winter. I would appreciate input from the chapter and if there is enough of you who are interested, we might give it a go.

In going to Mexico the main differences are the requirements for a passport, no firearms, and Mexican insurance on the vehicles. I know that many of you have been south of the border and understand that it just takes a little more planning than a trip here in the US. We will have a discussion on this at the rally in Mobile next month.

Sandi and I are packing up to head for home for a couple of weeks to get our taxes in order and refit. Then we'll get on the road eastbound for the chapter pre-rally at the Hollywood Casino RV Park in Bay ST. Louis, MS and then to the national rally in Mobile, AL.

Thanks to Laura Bruno and charter member Al Bernardi, there are already plans in the works for a chapter pre-rally in Tubac, AZ prior to the fall national rally in Tucson.

Our vice president, Laura Bruno deserves our thanks for her diligent work in seeing that the ACA scholarship fund continues as a viable entity into the future.

After seeing Al and Shirley Bolger's new coach in Decatur, we'll be looking forward to seeing Joseph and Laura's new coach also.

We hope to see all of you on down the road and as our national president Charlie Adcock says, "It's all about having fun".

Roy Shelton

#### NOTES FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Greetings from Decatur, Indiana. Joseph and I have been here since the middle of February, watching our new coach being built. What a great experience this has been, in spite of the fact that we've seen lots of snow, rain and frigid temperatures.

We are now going through the VIP Delivery process, and began moving our stuff to the new coach just a few days ago. We're planning on staying around the east coast until our National ACA Rally in Mobile. And, of course we'll be meeting up with those of you who will be able to make the chapter pre-rally in Bay St. Louis in early May.

In case you may not have heard, the Fall National ACA Rally will be in Tucson this November. For our SW Chapter pre-rally, Al and Joan Bernardi have graciously consented to host a three-day get-together at the DeAnza Trails RV Resort in Tubac, AZ. That should be a really fun event! We'll have more information for you in our next newsletter.

Finally, Ron and Susie Zuege are already working on dates and plans for our annual Quartzsite Rally... remember, if it's January, it must be Quartzsite time!!!

Safe travels to all of you. We're looking forward to seeing you again.

Laura Bruno

#### MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

The Southwest Chapter has 90 members as of the 1st of April. Membership renewals will be mailed out in May. Thanks to everyone who has sent a change of address or new phone numbers to me. Safe travels, hope to see you at the rallies.

Al Bolger

#### TREASURER'S LEDGER

The balance of the Southwest Chapter bank account as of April 1st, 2008 is \$3976.09, with no outstanding expenses.

Shirley Bolger

#### MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

Shirts, jackets and numerous other items can be ordered directly from [www.fleetwoodrvstore.com](http://www.fleetwoodrvstore.com).

American Coach decals in various styles for your tow vehicles are available from Desert Vista RV Products (602)-524-1690, for American Eagle and Tradition in silver or gold to match your coach for \$12.00 a pair. Look on page 43 of the March/April issue of the National ACA Newsletter for their ad.

Window plaques with your name and ACA number are ordered for you when you join the chapter. If you need one for your coach, please contact me, Becky Hight, (505)-343-0782 or (505)-715-2688, [sbhight@msn.com](mailto:sbhight@msn.com).

Becky Hight

#### INFORMATION FOR THE NEWSLETTER

If you have something you want included in the Newsletter including Motorhome-related for-sale items, send them to me at: [BillDettmer@comcast.net](mailto:BillDettmer@comcast.net).

#### FOR SALE BY MEMBERS

'03 Eagle 40W; beige, tan, and black; 43K miles; many personal upgrades; \$189K; Tommie Herrell (505)-430-7186.

*HAPPY TRAILS TO ALL - Bill Dettmer*

### ACA Balloon Fiesta Rally

Hosted by: Bill & Kip Dettmer (505)-294-0564, Cell-(505)-238-2025

October 9-12, 2008

At Balloon Fiesta Park: Albuquerque, New Mexico

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Rally cost—2 people \$370  
—1 person \$330  
—Additional person \$40 \$\_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to ACA Balloon Fiesta Rally.

Mail with form to:  
Bill Dettmer  
1509 Tejana Mesa Pl., NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87112

SW Chapter of the ACA  
1509 Tejana Mesa Pl, NE  
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