



Executive Board:

- Bob Moss, President
- Ellis Brown, Exec. V.P.
- Al Brandis, Treasurer
- Louise Birett, Secretary
- Bob Birett NE Area VP
- Kathy Rollins, NW Area
- Don Lassen, SE Area VP
- Jim Lexa, SW Area VP

2010 Rallies:

- 4/16-4/18—Schnecksville, PA
- 5/28-5/31—Centre Hall, PA
- 6/11-6/13—Gilbert, PA
- 7/16-7/18—Liverpool, PA
- 8/20-8/22—Bloomsburg, PA
- 9/10-9/12—Lebanon, PA
- 10/16-10/18—Pre-Rally Mt. Airy, NC
- 10/19-10/24—GEAR Rally, Winston-Salem, NC.
- 11/12-11/14—Bethel, PA

Thoughts and Prayers for:

Marlin Long, Linda Saltzman and Barbara Arcati's Brother —Illness

Families of Irene Rimbey, Jay Smith, Emil Carbone, and Wilbur German - Deceased.

Highlights of 2009 Camping Season:

The 81st FMCA International Convention was held in March in Perry, GA.

The Sweet Adelines helped the members in 42 coaches welcome springtime at Schnecksville in April.

The weather was perfect for the Memorial Day Weekend rally in Centre Hall with 38 coaches in attendance.

Twenty couples attended the GEAR Rally in Richmond, VA in June. Gwen and Ellis Brown crafted the boat entered in the Richmond Regatta. Don Lassen was the skipper who was

awarded the 2nd place trophy.

The pre-rally at Pleasant View Campground in Van Buren, OH was attended by 32 couples in July. Then 30 coaches caravaned into the 82nd International FMCA Convention at Bowling Green, OH where they met 5 other Penn Coachmen Couples.

The 40th Anniversary Celebration at the York Fairgrounds in August was a huge success with 82 coaches plus 3 couples from FMCA. Maria Rose and Red Hot and Country kept our toes tapping.

Twenty-three chapter members assisted at the Pennsylvania RV Show in Hershey.

The Fall Under the Boardwalk rally at Cedar Creek Campground in Milton, DE in September attracted 23 coaches.

October fest in Bloomsburg was complete with an ohm pah pah band. There were a total of 30 coaches in attendance.

The Christmas Tea and Antique Road Show highlighted the November rally in Lebanon which was attended by members in 40 coaches.

Eleven new couples joined Penn Coachmen in 2009.

A Message from the President:

I am so happy to be a part of the rebirth of the Penn Coachmen newsletter. In fact, when Louise asked me to write a short piece for inclusion in the first edition, I was thrilled. I can now call myself a "columnist." There are so many things I would like to write about, but I was also given a specific number of words when the invitation to write was offered. So, here goes.

First, I would like to acknowledge the hard work and love that our late friend and officer, Emil Carbone, gave to the chapter. He always was thinking of ways to make our rallies more interesting. He was never bothered by barriers that were thrown in front of him. Emil will be missed. Of course, Dot is not forgotten in all this. As always, he had a strong and supporting wife at his side. (Continued on next page)

Next, I would like to acknowledge the remarkable recovery Linda Salzman is making from the very serious medical problems that almost took her life this winter. She and Bob joined us as members just last year, and, in that short time, they have made an enduring impression on everyone they have met. I know you join me in praying that they both receive God's blessings as her recover continues.

As we begin the 2010 camping season, I am looking toward connecting with each and every one of our members. We are working hard to

ensure that our monthly rallies are fun and enjoyable. I know that the Rally Masters have already put a lot of effort into planning for just that. So, get ready to de-winterize your coach and mark your calendars, if you haven't already done so, for an exciting camping season.

I would like to mention in closing that our chapter has one of the finest web sites I have ever seen. Hal Amos has done a fantastic job of putting all of the essential information you need to know in one place. So type in the address, www.penncoachmen.org, and see what I mean. **Bob Moss**

Winter Reflections:

Snow-snow-snow, how very beautiful!!! I can say that since Jack and I do not have to travel to work daily. The golden years are here. Relax and enjoy the beautiful white flakes from above. How they glisten in the countryside and on the tree tops. The only foot prints in the snow were from deer and wild turkeys that came to our backyard for food in the feeders. This winter made memories return from our childhood many years ago. Walking one and a half miles to school (that is one way). Snow nearly up to our waists. We didn't complain, we knew better. There was no such thing as a snow day. Schools at that time did not close due to snow. Guess you can truly say we are from the "old school." So this past winter, we did not travel to a warmer climate. Jack and I stayed at home, sat by the wood stove which was so warm and cozy, and enjoyed the beauty of our surroundings. To the so very serene. **Jack and Lorraine Shaak**

Attendance at a Super Bowl and the Pro Bowl as the cherry on top was crossed off my Bucket List. **Norma Moss**

The unseasonable cool days here in Texas were offset by the colorful, energetic folkloric dancers and mariachi concerts we attended by high school students and the local college. **Barb and Dan Zydorczyk**

We left Pennsylvania in the snow in December. Left Florida in the snow after seeing Steven Foster's home. He was born in Pittsburgh and never saw the Suwanne River. Left Louisiana in the coldest weather they had in years. Saw how the Mardi Gras floats are made. Left Houston in the cold. LBJ Library was very interesting. Finally, arrived in California in the cold. Visited San Diego in the cold. Found it was a very hilly, but interesting city. Went whale-watching there in the cold. Visited Santa Barbara in the cold. Went to Hollywood in the cold. Heading to Las Vegas in the cold. Hoping it will be warmer in New Mexico. Then heading to Tennessee and home to warm Pennsylvania in May. Actually, had a wonderful winter vacation visiting places we haven't seen before. **Barb and Stan Tomczyk**

Jim and Barbara were in the Rio Grande Valley in Texas from January 21 thru March 14. They saw a flock of parrots alight on a tree across from their RV. There must have been 30 of them. The birds were beautiful and were feasting on nuts that grow in the tree. After about 10 minutes, they all flew away. They repeated this, to our great pleasure, in the morning and evening three days in a row. They have pictures!

Barbara flew to Sacramento California for a six day visit with her brother and sister-in-law. Please say a prayer for her brother, Bill, who has been diagnosed with an inoperable malignant carcinoma of the trachea.

Jim and Barbara drove to Albuquerque, New Mexico for the International Rally, and stopped in San Antonio for a tour of the River Walk, the Alamo, and Missions. **Barbara Arcati and Jim Lexa**

More Reflections:

Carole and Bill Katz went to Florida to “freeze,” but did not have to shovel snow!!! They also got up at 3:00 a.m. to witness the last night-time launch of the Endeavor shuttle, and jumped out of their seats when it entered above them and broke the sound barrier on entry! What a neat experience! [Carole and Bill Katz](#)

Chocolate Lovers Weekend:

It’s that time of year again to see our old friends and meet new ones. We have all had a difficult winter, and spring is approaching. So is our first camping rally with Penn Coachmen.

We are starting the year at Schnecksville with a favorite—**Chocolate Lovers Weekend!** From registration until Sunday breakfast, we will be able to enjoy the great taste of **chocolate**.

Friday night’s mini-meal will be assorted hoagies (which were raved about in the past). For dessert, we are having **chocolate fondue** with assorted fruits and marshmallows. The entertainment will be two **chocolate games** including **chocolate bingo**.

Saturday, the Fire Company will cater breakfast. Following breakfast, time will be provided for a get-together and future rally business, if necessary. The annual flea market will be held in the afternoon.

There are many wineries in the area, and a visit to them is always fun. We will let you know about other fun events that may pop up at registration.

Calling all Poets and Music Lovers:

We have had several requests for an updated Penn Coachmen song. Therefore, we are going to have a new song contest. You can use your own song, but we suggest using a well-known peppy song, i.e., *Take Me Out To The Ballgame*, *Yankee Doodle Dandy*, etc. Just choose one that everyone is familiar with. If you will be at the April Rally in Schnecksville, bring your ideas with you.

For Sale:

Base plate for towing—\$100, and a 2” receiver (used for a bicycle rack) - \$50. OR \$125 for both that were taken off of a 2004 Honda CRV. Any reasonable offer will be considered. Call 717-442-1087 or e-mail hoffth@epix.net [Tom and Helen Hoffmeier](#)

Saturday dinner will again be catered by the Fire Company, and we know most enjoy that meal. We are having a **Best Chocolate Lovers Theme Hat Contest**. Wear your creation to dinner and afterwards.

After dinner, we will be having some amazing entertainment. Be ready for what’s to come!

Sunday, there will be a continental breakfast including **chocolate donuts**.

Our inspiring worship service will be led by our Chaplain Henning before we bid goodbye to friends.

We have done everything we can to keep our rally costs low and still have an exciting fun rally. Due to catering commitments, we need to know if you are planning to attend. Hal Amos has a very convenient form on the Penn Coachmen website to fill out and mail with your \$50 deposit before April 4th.

Please join us in April. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

[Carole & Bill Katz](#)

[Carol and Ron Becker](#)

[Helen Young](#) will be there to discuss them with you. You can also call Helen at 610-799-4585 or 610-442-0030 if you have any questions.

