



CAMP SWATERA RECAP (submitted by Bob Moss)

Executive Board:

- Bob Moss, President
- Ellis Brown, Exec. V.P.
- Bill Freed, Treasurer
- Barbara Arcati, Secretary
- Don Lassen, Area VP
- Jim Lexa, Area VP
- Jim Lothert, Area VP
- Larry Troutman Area VP

2011 Rallies:

- 4/15-4/17—Schnecksville, PA
- 5/27-5/30—Centre Hall, PA
- 6/23-6/26—Cherry Hill, MD
- 7/15-7/17—Lebanon, PA
- 8/19-8/21—Bloomsburg, PA
- 9/23-9/25—Gettysburg, PA
- 10/15-10/18—GEAR Pre-Rally
- 10/19—10/18—GEAR—Winston-Salem, NC
- 11/11-11/13—Camp Swatera, Bethel, PA



What a way to end our 2010 camping season! Camp Swatara, nestled in the Blue Mountains of Pennsylvania, is one of the most beautiful campgrounds in the central part of the state. It was new to most of us and that may have been one of the reasons so many turned out for the rally. Thirty four coaches registered, and with the addition of several who attended just part of the rally, there were 75 Penn Coachmen together as we closed out the season. Camp Swatara is church-owned and very family-oriented. Large open fields, a swimming pool, miniature golf, a lake and boating are just a few of the amenities the camp offers. Because we were there after the official season closing, it only cost \$10.00 per night with full hook-ups. Needless to say, many of us were just glad to be in a beautiful setting with, did I mention it before, fantastic weather.

A special treat was scheduled for Friday morning for those who arrived early. They traveled by car to a wildlife taxidermy studio. This was no ordinary taxidermist as we soon found out. It was a relatively small operation, owned by a young (32 year old) man and his wife, involved in mounting wild and exotic animals from all over the world. An elephant head is just inside the door, and there were mounted hippos, rhinoceros, cheetah, wild boar and too many others to remember. Work was going on while we were there, so it was a very educational experience.

On Friday evening, we were treated to a mini-meal of salad and a yummy barbeque sandwich on a soft hamburger roll. Dessert was served, and then a few brave souls tried, without success, to break a piñata. Then onto the real entertainment which was provided by one of the most humorous magicians many of us have ever seen. He wowed the audience with his corny jokes and funny tricks. After his act was completed, we went back to trying to break the piñata. Carol Becker took just one swipe and off came the bull's head. Some think it was fixed, but everyone cheered for Carol anyhow.

On Saturday, after a sumptuous potluck breakfast, we visited the dairy farm of Ralph Moyer, son of George and Pearl, Penn Coachmen members. What an experience! The dairy farm is robotic, which means the feeding, milking and all other facets of dairy farming are carried on by machines. The cows go into the milking machines whenever they have the urge. They are rewarded with food when they go into the machine, but not rewarded if they enter too many times just to get the food. The machines record every conceivable bit of data about the experience including how much milk was received, the condition of the cow, her weight and other vital statistics. It was truly a memorable experience.

Saturday night, we all convoyed to Kauffman's BBQ Chicken Restaurant for dinner, after which the 2011 officers were sworn in by Past President Jake Kessler. Some returned after dinner to enjoy the huge fireplace in the Swatara meeting hall and play games while others visited Koziar's Christmas Village to enjoy the sights and sounds of the coming holiday season.

On Sunday, after finishing off the cakes and cookies and sticky buns left over from Saturday's breakfast, we all gathered for a worship service led by Hal Amos. Goodbyes were said, complete with hugs and kisses all around, and the weekend drew to a close. Many thanks to the Rally Masters Bob and Louise Birett and Joanne Freeman and Ron Buckley. See you all next year.

**SPECIAL REMINDER ABOUT JUNE 23-26, 2011 RALLY AT
CHERRY HILL CAMPGROUND, COLLEGE PARK, MD.**

Due to campground policy, we have to send in our deposit by the end of March 2011. We must know by March 15, 2011 if you plan to attend. Some of you may not get your 2011 Year Book in time, especially the Snow Birds. Therefore, please fill out the form below if you plan on attending.

**Cherry Hill Park
College Park, MD
June 23-26, 2011**

Name _____ FMCA No. _____
Phone No. _____ Length of Unit _____
Guests names _____



**Reservations by March 15, 2011
Make check payable to "Penn Coachmen"
Rally fee: \$50.00 deposit by March 15, 2011**

**Send to:
Donald Lassen
45 Dunbar Avenue
Piscataway, NJ 08854
732-699-9221**



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Reflections on The 2010 Camping Season and Other Things!!

(submitted by Bob Moss)

Sitting here and composing this piece for the Penn Coachmen's Newsletter appropriately named "Tidbits From Penny" has caused me to reflect on the many things that have happened in our lives this summer. As your President, I am naturally biased when I say it was a great camping season, but I think it was!! Thanks in a big way to all those who participated as rally masters, officers, hosts, and participants. We averaged 35 coaches for each of our rallies and that was a good thing. Many other chapters have seen their membership and attendance slide to the point that they are not authorized to vote on FMCA matters, and worse, have seen the number of their rallies fall to just a couple each year. Even without knowing the final membership number going into 2011, I know we have increased our membership from 2010. Many of you worked hard to bring us new members and to make them feel welcome when they actually attended one of our rallies. And even more important, we have seen those new members jump right in and participate in the activities.

(continued on page 3)

Sadly though, we lost some members who passed away too young. I remember the joy we all shared when Linda Salzman attended our rally at Center Hall after her near death just a few months before. And then a few months later, she was gone. Likewise, I remember saying goodbye to Barbara Reiger at the same rally as she and Roy were pulling out of their site. We exchanged the normal hugs and said we hoped to see each other again later in the season. That also was not to be. We lost others too, and they will all be memorialized in the 2011 Yearbook. But on the brighter side, some of our members with serious medical problems came back to visit us and appeared to be well on the way to recovery. Ron Buckley, Joanne Freeman, Bill and Carole Katz, Sharon Zeigler, and John Breisch were all at Swatara and seemed none the worse for the illnesses and surgeries they had endured earlier in the year. I spoke with Ken Frazier and it appears he is on the road to recovery as are Louise Birett and Dan and Barb Zydorczyk. Caroline Thurston still needs our prayers as she continues to receive treatment for the cancer that has attacked her. We wish them all well in the months and years ahead.

Taking a quick look at the summaries of each rally as they appeared in our Newsletter, which by the way is our most impressive accomplishment this year, I was impressed by the content of each of them. The activities planned were fun, educational, exciting and, in some cases, completely new to a Penn Coachmen rally. The family day at Bloomsburg is just one example with grandkids, and kids joining the regular membership for a weekend of family fun. Other highlights were the Chocolate Lovers Weekend at Schnecksville, the surprising booming bass voice of Joe Thurston singing *Old Man River* accompanied by the Lehigh Valley Harmonizers at West End Fairgrounds, the visit to Beaver Stadium at Penn State University, the completely original Summer Olympics at Liverpool, the great food and entertainment at Lebanon and fantasizing how the Siamese Twins in Mt Airy had 21 children!!!! Last but not least was the beautiful week end with gorgeous weather we experienced at Swatara. Yes it was a really good camping season, and I'm glad I could be a part of it.

Stay tuned in to your chapter by checking into the website over the winter months. We will update you on the coming rallies and goings-on with your club. The web site can be found at www.penncoachmen.org. And, until we see you the next time, have safe travels wherever you choose to go.

Finally, in this season of important holidays, Norma and I wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy 2011.

Important information in FMCA Magazine

The December issue of FMCA Magazine is a must read. Pages 36-39 contain information about FMCA Assist. **FMCA Assist replaces the MEDEX program effective January 1, 2011.** There are many changes and additions to this benefit. **It is extremely important for you read this article.** The cards on page 37-38 should be cut out and carried with you.

Cell Phone Numbers Go Public this Month

(submitted by Bob Birett who tried this)

REMINDER: All cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies, and you will start to receive sales calls.

You will be charged for these calls. To prevent this, call the following number from your cell phone: 888-382-1222.

It is the National DO NOT CALL list. It will only take a minute of your time. It blocks your number for five years. You must call from the cell phone number you want to have blocked. You cannot call from a different phone number.

Request from the Editor:

In order to make forthcoming newsletters interesting, I would like to request your help by sending me any of the following throughout the year at lbirett@comcast.net:

Vacation tidbits or advice

Seeking items to purchase or items for sale

Family news such as births, deaths, illnesses, prayer concerns, accomplishments, etc.

Favorite recipes

Motor home repair/upkeep advice

Interesting stories or vignettes

Out of the way places you have found to be of interest

Hobbies or craft how-tos

Poems, stories, vignettes

New camping gear/equipment you have learned about and where to purchase them

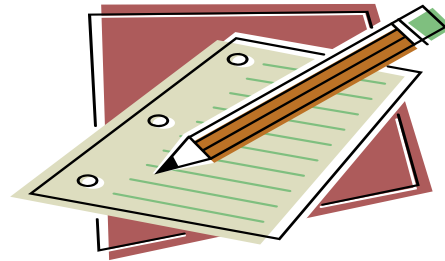
Funny pet stories

Funny grandchildren stories or sayings

Life on the road

Interesting people you have met along the way

Nature encounters



THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS:

- Ken Frazier —Undergoing cancer treatment.**
- Bill Schmidt (Barbara Arcati's brother) — Undergoing cancer treatment.**
- Vera Sattazahn—Undergoing treatment for cancer and Alzheimer's.**
- Evelyn German—Recovering from heart attack.**
- Carolyn Thurston—Undergoing cancer treatment.**
- Louise Birett—Recovering from broken wrist.**
- Doris Henning—Recovering from pneumonia.**
- Earl Ruch—Recovering from knee replacement surgery.**
- Bill Rollins—Hospitalized due to blood clot in leg.**
- Wayde Kelly—Undergoing cancer treatment.**
- Barbara Zydorczyk—Recovering from shoulder replacement surgery.**
- Ron Becker—Recovering from prostate surgery.**
- Shirley Lothert—Recovering from bouts of vertigo.**
- Barbara Veneziale—Brother passed away.**
- Lucy Grim—Father passed away.**
- Bob Hemmis—President of Penn Coachmen 1990-1992—Passed away.**



Turkey Picking 101

(submitted by Barbara Tomcyk)

Here is everything you need to know to select the best turkey at the best price.

Go for cheap. A professional butcher advises to always go with the cheapest turkey, and you'll never go wrong. He says one turkey processor will slap many different labels on his crop of birds. The turkeys are all the same, only the labels are different.

No enhancements. Another butcher suggests we skip the turkeys that are "enhanced." They are just loaded up with salty water and flavorings. Never forget that a turkey with an 8% solution added is only 92% turkey.

Buy frozen. Both butchers agree that these days a frozen bird is best. By law, turkeys can be labeled fresh even though the moisture in the bird is frozen. If you press very firmly on the bird, the meat is not frozen. The turkey processors have it down to a science. They bring the temperature of the birds down to the very legal limit before sending them off to the store two weeks before Thanksgiving. Frozen turkeys, on the other hand, are quick frozen immediately after butchering. So the freshest turkey is really a frozen turkey. The freezing process has no noticeable effect on the quality or the taste of the bird.

Bigger is better. To get the best meat to bone ratio, opt for the biggest bird with the roundest chest. A bird of less than 16 pounds is going to have much less meat to bone, and one that is 12 pounds or less will be mostly bones. The designations of hen and Tom, young or mature, apply only to size, not to age or gender.

Safe prep. You must have an effective antibacterial solution in your kitchen when preparing poultry, but don't spend six dollars for a 12 ounce bottle of cleaner. Make it yourself. 1 quart of 70 degrees cool water +1 teaspoon of liquid bleach. Any warmer, and the bleach evaporates. More bleach will harm some surfaces and fabrics. Regularly sanitize all surfaces with the bleach water, particularly those that may have come in contact with raw poultry, including the inside of the refrigerator.

Do not stuff it! A professional personal chef warns that as the bird cooks, raw juices drip into the soft absorbent stuffing. Turkey must reach an internal temperature of 165 degrees and so must the contaminated stuffing. It's nearly impossible to cook a stuffed turkey to perfection and also guarantee uncontaminated stuffing. Prepare your stuffing as you always have, but make it in a separate foil covered pan while the turkey is roasting. Remember, an unstuffed bird will roast faster and more evenly too.

Fill the freezer. Frozen turkeys will be at rock-bottom prices during the next few weeks and through Christmas. This is a good time to fill your freezer. As long as the plastic packaging is intact, a frozen turkey is safe and delicious for at least a year, if not longer. Stretch your food dollars by roasting cheap turkeys throughout the year.



FMCA DOINGS

Coming Soon:

Western Area Rally—January 12-16, 2011, Indio, CA

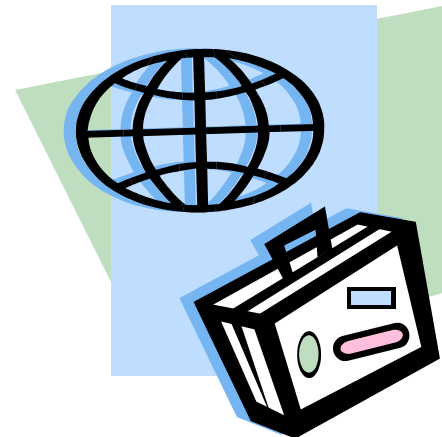
Southeast Area Rally—February 2-6, 2011, Brooksville, FL

FMCA's 85th International Convention, March 14-17, 2011, Perry, GA

INTO Area Rally, May 11-15, 2011, Goshen, IN

Northwest Area Rally—June 2-5, 2011, Puyallup, WA

FMCA's 86th International Convention, August 10-13, 2011, Madison, WI



Those known to be celebrating a birthday in November and December:

November 4	Joe Gilbert
November 8	Bob Saltzman
November 10	Don Lassen
November 14	Ailene Wolfe
November 17	Joanne Freeman
November 24	Ed Molinsky
November 26	Bob Benziewicz



December 4	Bill Katz
December 7	Barbara Zydorczyk
December 12	Carol Pritchard
December 13	Irene Lassen
December 29	William Bracken
December 20	Hal Amos
December 25	Margaret Kluk
December 26	Glenn Wolfe
December 28	Chuck Finn
December 30	Ray Molinsky

Truths That Little Children Have Learned (submitted by Betty and Jake Kessler)

- No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.
- When you're Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- Never ask your three year old brother to hold a tomato.
- You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
- Never hold a Dust-Buster while holding a cat.
- You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- Don't wear polka dot underwear under white shorts.



I WISH YOU ENOUGH

Recently, I overheard a father and daughter in their last moments together at the airport. They had announced the departure. Standing in a secure security gate, they hugged and the father said “I love you and I wish you enough!”

The daughter replied “Dad, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough too, Dad.”

They kissed, and the daughter left. The father walked over to the window where I was seated. Standing there I could see he wanted and needed to cry. I tried not to intrude on his privacy, but he welcomed me in by asking, “Did you ever say goodbye to someone knowing it would be forever?”

“Yes I have,” I replied. “Forgive me for asking, but why is this a forever goodbye?”

“I am old and she lives so far away. I have challenges ahead, and the reality is, the next trip back will be for my funeral,” he said.

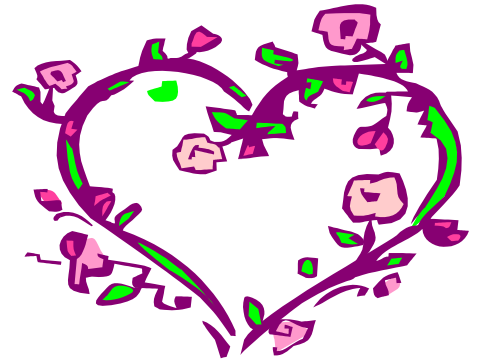
“When you were saying goodbye, I heard you say ‘I wish you enough.’ May I ask what that means?”

He began to smile. “That’s a wish that has been handed down from other generations that my parents used to say to everyone.” He paused a moment and looked up as if trying to remember it in detail, and he smiled even more. “When we said ‘I wish you enough,’ we were wanting the other person to have a life filled with just enough good things to sustain them.” Then turning toward me, he shared the following as if he were reciting it from memory.

- I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright no matter how grey the day may appear.
- I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun even more.
- I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive and everlasting.
- I wish you enough pain so that even the smallest joys in life may appear bigger.
- I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting.
- I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess.
- I wish you enough hellos to get you through the final goodbye.

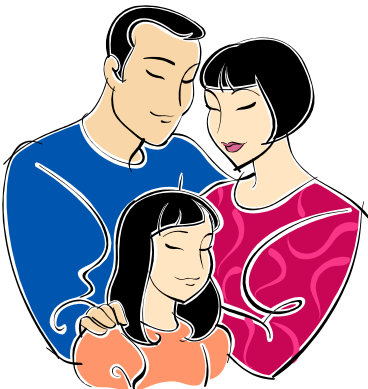
He then began to cry and walked away.

They say it takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them; but then an entire life to forget. Take time to live.



Great Truths That Adults Have Learned

(submitted by Betty and Jake Kessler)



- Raising teenagers is like nailing jelly to a tree.
- Wrinkles don’t hurt.
- Families are like fudge, mostly sweet with a few nuts.
- Today’s mighty oak is just yesterday’s nut that held its ground.
- Laughing is good exercise. It’s like jogging on the inside.
- Middle age is when you choose your cereal for fiber, not for the toy.

Recipe Corner:

French Toast Casserole

(submitted by Barbara Arcati)

1 loaf cinnamon swirl bread

6 eggs

3 cups milk

2 tsp. vanilla extract

Pancake syrup

Cut bread into cubes (approx. 9 c.)

Grease a 3 qt. shallow baking dish

Arrange bread in baking dish

Mix eggs, milk and a Vanilla in a separate bowl and pour over bread

Cover and refrigerate overnight

Uncover and bake at 350° for about 1 hour or until golden.

For The Garden of Your Daily Living

(submitted by Irene and Don Lassen)

Plant three rows of peas:

Peace of mind, piece of heart, peace of soul.

Plant four rows of squash:

Squash gossip, squash indifference, squash grumbling, squash selfishness.

Plant four rows of lettuce:

Lettuce be faithful, lettuce be kind, lettuce by patient, lettuce really love one another.

No garden is without turnips:

Turnip for meetings, turnip for service, turnip to help one another.

Our garden must have thyme:

Thyme for each other, thyme for family, thyme for friends.

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

Leftover Turkey Soup (submitted by Louise Birett)

Leftover turkey meat

1/4 tsp. poultry seasoning

3 curbs or 3 tsp. chicken bouillon

1 bay leaf

6 cups water

1/2 cup rice or 1 cup noodles

3 medium carrots

2 stalks celery (sliced)

2 medium onions (sliced or chopped)

2 tbsp. chopped parsley

1 small can tomato sauce.

In a large saucepan or pot combine first 5 ingredients. Simmer covered for 1 1/2 hours. Remove bones, cut off meat and return meat to broth. Add remaining ingredients to broth. Simmer covered 30 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Other vegetables may be added such as corn, zucchini, tomatoes, potatoes, peas, mushrooms -- pick what you like.

