



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

10/9-10/17—GEAR Pre-Rally

10/19—10/18—GEAR—
Winston-Salem, NC

11/11-11/13—Camp Swatera,
Bethel, PA



TIDBITS FROM PENNY

September 2011

Volume 2, No. 6

Edited by Louise Birett—lbirett@comcast.net



PENN COACHMEN AND GRANDKIDS WEEKEND

On August 19-21, 2011, thirty-one R.V. units with sixteen grandkids gathered at Bloomsburg Fairgrounds.

On Friday, many visited Knoebel's Amusement Park, staying as long as the park was open. Reports from the grandkids are that all had a wonderful time and the parents and grandparents held up remarkably well throughout the fun

At 6:00 p.m. that same day, we had our mini meal (turkey and Italian subs.

Crazy Bingo was played by all, and everyone enjoyed the swapping of gifts among the grandkids and adults. The children then rushed outside to play in the dark and soon became better acquainted with each other.

Saturday started with a potluck breakfast, and "OH MY " what a selection of breakfast dishes, fruit mixtures and cereals there was to choose from!

At 9:30 a.m., we carpoled to leave for Ashland, PA to tour the "Pioneer Tunnel" (coal mine) and took a "steam engine" ride. There were forty-eight of us (including the grandkids). The tour guides were very informative about the working life of a coal miner and how coal was mined. Also mentioned was the age of the children working in the mine and the jobs that they did. It was quite an eye opener for all of us. The train ride took us a few miles over the top part of the mountain where coal was mined below, showing us an outside exit from the mine. The scenery from this vantage point was beautiful.

The 19th Annual Arts and Crafts Festival was taking place at this same site. Many of us visited the many arts, crafts and food concessions.

At 6:00 p.m., we had our catered meal of roast turkey and beef with gravy and dressing, mashed potatoes, fresh corn and green beans, garden salad, rolls and layered cake for dessert.

The grandkids were treated to one of their favorite meals - - Pizza. This disappeared amazingly fast.

Our Entertainment was a magician and WHOA !!! did he ever get an attentive audience, and they were not just the grandkids. All the children were seated in front of the stage and quickly were asked one after another to help perform tricks of magic. This caused many conversations between the children during the rest of their time together. By the way, the children varied in ages from 3 years of age to approximately 15 years old. There were movies set up for all to view after the magician left.

Sunday arrived and started with a continental breakfast followed by a church service with Rev. Harold Henning presiding.

Then everyone pitched in and helped clean up, and put everything back where things were supposed to be. All was left in order.

MANY THANKS to our RALLY MASTERS ; Mary and Hal Amos and Barbara and Dan Zydorczyk, our Consultant- - Jim Lowthert, and our many host and hostesses. Because of this very well organized weekend, everyone had a very relaxed weekend and even Mother Nature behaved.

NEXT WEEK-END TO LOOK FORWARD TO: -- Gettysburg Campground on September 23-25
Theme: History and Heritage

Submitted by Andrea Lee

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks to everyone who submitted photographs of the Bloomsburg Rally. Unfortunately, I had problems transferring the photos from my e-mail to this document. Only the four pictures on the foregoing page transferred correctly.

FAMILY MOTORCOACH ASSOCIATION RALLY IN MADISON, WI

The Penn Coachmen Chapter was well represented at the annual FMCA rally held in Madison WI on August 10-13, 2011.

This was an important rally because new national officers were selected for 2012. You can see the results of the election elsewhere in this newsletter in the report from our National Directors John and Nancy Breisch.

Of equal importance was the appointment of our own John Breisch as the Chairman of Membership of the Member Services Committee. This came as a result of John's continuing attempt to gain new members for FMCA. Congratulations, John.

Also present at the rally (which had a large number of new coaches on display and many vendors selling all kinds of necessities) were eight Penn Coachmen couples. John and Nancy Breisch, George and Susan Young, Ellis and Gwen Brown, Ed and Rae Molinsky, Fred and Barbara Thum, Lew and Eunice Smith, Stan and Carol Seifried and Bob and Norma Moss.

An informal get together was held one evening under the Moss' awning, and as always happens at a Penn Coachmen rally, fantastic food and drinks appeared from nowhere! A good time was had by all.

Many small necessities were purchased at the rally, but no one saw the need to buy a new motor home.

Submitted by Bob Moss

Grandkids Weekend
at Bloomsburg....

Everyone had fun!



Manikins depicting mining life.



The gang before touring the coal mine.



Grandkids playing with one of the white doves after the magic show.



Look Mom, I made a bunny!

NATIONAL DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Governing Board meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m, on August 10, 2011 by Acting President, Judy Czarsty. The meeting lasted until 6:58 p.m. with an hour lunchbreak. The following are the highlights of that meeting:

Of the 487 potential board members, 373 or 76.5% were present for the morning session and 367 or 75% for the afternoon.

The committee reports were presented. The Constitution & Bylaws Committee saw the proposal to allow the President, with the consent of the Executive Board, determine that the position of Executive Director was unnecessary defeated. The Committee & the Executive Board had recommended against this proposal.

The Policy & Procedure Committee presented several policy changes. The proposal to change the stipends and reimbursement of the advance crew generated much discussion. Stipend payments for the member staff provided a reduction for the overall chiefs & that only one payment would be made per member number. The original presentation provided that the crew leaders and members would receive stipends, but this was changed back to the current policy of travel allowance. The policy was then adopted as amended. The remaining proposals were adopted without comment.

The Long Range & Development Committee recommended developing a comprehensive program for FMCA members and FMCA member campgrounds. This program will be available on the FMCA website showing the campground location as well as pertinent information about their amenities. This is expected to attract more member campgrounds who will offer discounts to FMCA members.

The Membership/Member Services Committee has added several new member benefits. A partnership with Fantasy RV Tours offers member only tours at special prices. A \$10 gift card on renewal of SAM'S Club membership and special rates for United Parcel Service are available by downloading coupons available on the FMCA website. A discount program with Michelin Tires is also available.

The Executive Director was authorized to explore options of having the property adjacent to the Clough Pike office rezoned. Authorization was also given to update the IT department and systems, some of which are out of compliance with federal regulations & no longer allow for interdepartmental interface.

The Board rejected the creation of a committee to explore the formation of a division of FMCA for towable RVs.

There will be no winter convention in 2012. The summer convention will be in Indianapolis, IN. The proposal to hold a 2013 winter convention in Pomona, CA, was defeated. The summer convention in 2013, FMCA's 50th Anniversary, will be held in Hutchinson, KS. Perry, GA, will be the site of the winter 2014 convention.

The Convention Committee recommended that all governing board meetings where there are elections shall be held in a location east of the Rocky Mountains and west of the Appalachian Mountains. This was accepted.

Elections were held with the following results:

President:

Judy Czarsty—176 votes

Charlie Schrenkel—189 votes

Senior Vice President:

Ross Boyer—148 votes

Allen Rein—219 votes

Secretary:

Wilma Jean Alexander—73 votes

Vicki Ferrari—294 votes

Treasurer:

Dan Couch—141 votes

Wil Young—226 votes

The theme for the 50th Anniversary Convention will be “Mile Marker 50”. Chapters are challenged to submit a mascot for this special occasion with the winning entry selected during the 2012 convention.

FMCA currently has an active membership of 89,000. All members need to take seriously the need to help recruit new members for our association.

Respectfully submitted,

John L Breisch, National Director, Penn Coachmen

Nancy C Breisch, National Director, Rolling Red Hatters

RELIGIOUS HUMOR

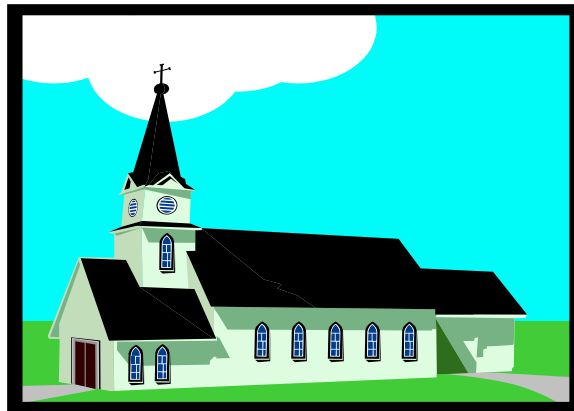
The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building.

Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play.

“Here's a copy of the service," he said impatiently. "But, you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances."

During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up."

At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star Spangled Banner."



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

Special anniversary celebrations

Hobbies or craft how-tos

Poems, stories, vignettes

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

Funny pet stories

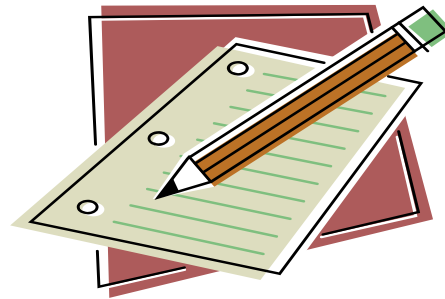
Funny grandchildren stories or sayings

Life on the road

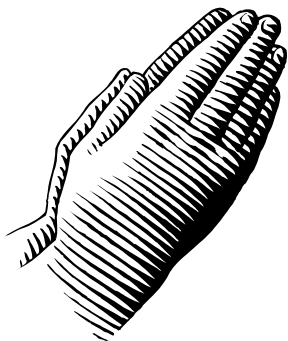
Interesting people you have met along the way

Nature encounters

Photos taken at rallies



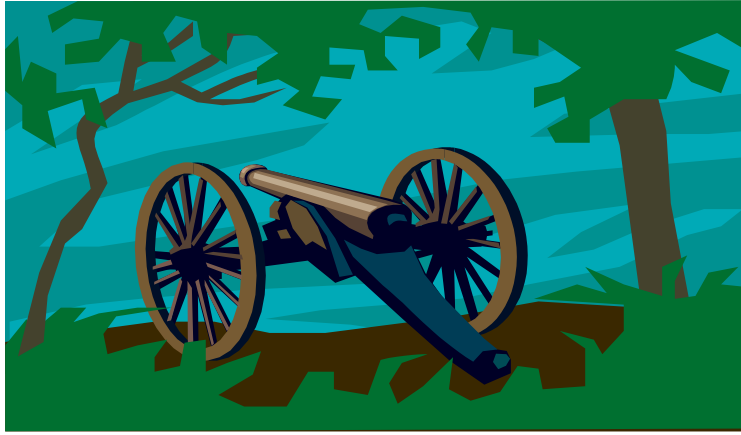
THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS:



- Betty Moyer—Recovering from neck surgery.**
- Ken Frazier —Undergoing cancer treatment.**
- Carolyn Thurston—Undergoing cancer treatment.**
- Wayde Kelly—Undergoing cancer treatment.**
- Joe Venezia—Various health problems.**
- Carole and Bill Katz—Various health problems.**

CONGRATULATIONS to Bob Birett for having his letter about the 30 amp hookup headache at Bloomsburg published in the September 2011 issue of the Family Motor Coaching Magazine (pages 20-21). Note, that Bob wrote the letter two years ago, and it took all of this time for FMCA to decide it was worthwhile to print it. What a surprise for Bob!





GETTYSBURG RALLY PROGRAM

Friday:	1:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Registration
	6:00 p.m.	Mini Meal
	7:00 p.m.	Business Meeting and Election of Officers
	8:00 p.m.	Your Time
Saturday:	8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
	9:30 a.m.	Caravan to Park Museum and Visitors Center
	10:30 a.m.	First group to Eisenhower Farm
	11:00 a.m.	Second group to Eisenhower Farm
	2:00 p.m.	Gettysburg on your own or back to coach for a quick nap
	5:00 p.m.	Buffet Dinner at Picketts Buffet
	7:00 p.m.	Entertainment – Mamie Eisenhower
	8:00 p.m.	Your time (possible bonfire)
Sunday;	8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
		Departure on your own

We and the committee plan on making this rally a memorable time. Please come and enjoy the fun with Penn Coachmen.

Ellis and Gwen Brown

FMCA DOINGS

Coming Soon:

South Central Area Rally, Sept. 28-Oct. 1, 2011, Hutchinson, KS

Rocky Mountain Area Rally, Oct. 11-15, 2011, Farmington, NM

Eastern Area Rally, Oct. 19-23, 2011, Winston-Salem, NC

Western Area Rally, Jan. 11-15, 2012, Indio, CA

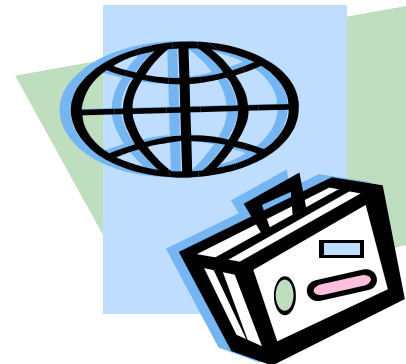
Southeast Area Rally, Feb. 1-5, 2012, Brooksville, FL

Great Lakes Area Rally, May 24-28, 2012, Berrien Springs, MI

Northwest Area Rally, June 21-24, 2012, North Bend, OR

Northeast Area Rally, July 19-22, 2012, Essex Junction, VT

FMCA's 87th Family Reunion. August 27-30, 2012, Indianapolis, IN



Those known to be celebrating a birthday in September and October:

September 4	John Hunsicker	October 7	Al Heller
September 6	Barbara Thum	October 7	Keith Garber
September 11	Jon Hall	October 7	Betty Moyer
September 12	Jan Bendziewicz	October 12	Ruth Morrell
September 12	Margo Garber	October 13	Louise Birett
September 13	Evie Strain	October 20	Edwin Miles
September 15	Linda Franks	October 29	Bill Rollins
September 15	John Breisch	October 27	Roger Swetland
September 18	Bob Moyer		
September 18	Helen Young		
September 28	Joanne Freeman		
September 21	Gwen Brown		
September 27	Glenn Fink		
September 27	Norma Moss		



OLD PERSON PRIDE

I'm passing this on as I did not want to be the only old person receiving it. Actually, it's not a bad thing to be called an OLD PERSON, as you will see.

Old people are easy to spot at sporting events; during the playing of the National Anthem. Old People remove their caps and stand at attention and sing without embarrassment. They know the words and believe in them.

Old people remember World War II, Pearl Harbor, Guadal Canal, Normandy and Hitler. They remember the Atomic Age, the Korean War, The Cold War, the Jet Age and the Moon Landing. They remember the 50 plus Peacekeeping Missions from 1945 to 2005, not to mention Vietnam .



If you bump into an old person on the sidewalk he will apologize. If you pass an old person on the street, he will nod or tip his cap to a lady.

Old people trust strangers and are courtly to women.

Old people hold the door for the next person and always, when walking, make certain the lady is on the inside for protection.

Old people get embarrassed if someone curses in front of women and children and they don't like any filth or dirty language on TV or in movies.

Old people have moral courage and personal integrity. They seldom brag unless it's about their children or grandchildren.

It's the old people who know our great country is protected, not by politicians, but by the young men and women in the military serving their country.

This country needs old people with their work ethic sense of responsibility, pride in their country and decent values.

Thank God for old people. We need them now more than ever - it's just getting harder to find them.

Submitted by Barbara Tomczyk