



Indio Rally, 2020

# Monaco Romers E-Newsletter

Newsletter Team: Nancy Holt, Editor & Marsha Taylor, Photographer

## Indio 2020 Rally

For the fifth year in a row, the hard-working team of Susan & Jim Lewis put on a fantastic rally in Indio, raising the bar on how to run a “rally within a rally”! Thanks also to the rally assistants, head bartenders, all those who helped serve the food each night and all the volunteers who worked to set-up and take down our party area, no small feat! We had a great line-up of Romers who drove the Courtesy shuttles - special thanks to those who braved the early morning and late night hours.



*Our fun-loving crowd included Joe Dingman, Ellen Johnson, Maureen Bouma, Pat Klempner, Layne Strelac, Dave Taylor, Jim McPheters and Richard Bouma.*

The rally began with 34 coaches arriving at the Indio Fairgrounds on Sunday, January 5, before the Western Area FMCA rally began on January 8. We were joined by a few guests from Monaco International and friends of Bill Beckley and Joann Bush’s Oceanside RV Club. After setting up, Larry & Paul opened up the famous Romer’s Bar so we could enjoy a drink alongside the delicious “heavy hors d’oeuvres” provided by our members.

We were lucky to have beautiful weather with sunny skies and temps into the 70’s all week. Everyone enjoyed the buffet at the St. Augustine Casino (thanks for joining us Debbie & Janet) and the many appetizers and delicious catered dinners each night. No one went home hungry!

Another time-honored event was our Margarita party led by George and his crew, followed by the Parade. Everyone enjoyed the evening entertainment, the seminars and the vendors. Many of our members took advantage of the varied RV maintenance services done onsite. At the

Chapter Fair, Marsha, Susan, Layne and Dottie signed up 5 new members! Our display always features 8X10 photos taken by Marsha Taylor from Romer rallies.

The highlight of the week was when we were joined on Thursday by retired Romers Rob & Dianne Wilson and Don and Nancy Baumgart. It was great to see them and spend time catching up.



*Rally hosts Jim Lewis, Debbie Holt with Brody, Susan Lewis, Shirley & Dick Burr and Juan Marquez*



*The Dingmans and Boumas will host our fall 2020 Rally in Oregon.*

**Tucson Rally**  
**Picacho KOA & Pima County Fairgrounds**  
**March 22-29, 2020**

**Join us in Tucson, AZ for our rally with FMCA.**  
**You must register for the Romer rally prior to**  
**February 21. Sites are limited.**

**See instructions on Page 11.**

**Sign up now!**



*Thanks to our bartenders!*



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## President's Report

Hello Fellow Romers,  
First I would like to thank Stephen Hobbs for the great work he did over the past two years as President of our club. I would also like to thank all of the officers who have volunteered their time and energy to help. And last, but certainly not least, I want to thank all who have stepped up to host and assist in putting together the rallies that we all enjoy.

What a great time we had in Indio in January. It was great to get away from the cold and dismal weather of the North Bay Area to the clear 70-degree days of the desert. Thank you to Susan and Jim Lewis and their crew for hosting this fun rally again this year. I believe this was the best weather we've had since we started this tradition. The food was plentiful and delicious and it's always a pleasure driving the courtesy carts and meeting RVers from elsewhere. We even recruited 5 new members, one of which just moved from our area of Santa Rosa to Washington several months ago.

We are heading to Tucson in March to have a rally in conjunction with FMCA's International Convention and RV Expo. The Registration form is on our website and on page 12. If you want to attend, we are limited to 25 coaches at the pre-rally at the Picacho/Tucson KOA and we have 14 signed up to date. Deadline for registration is February 21. Get yours in today.

Our new VP, Jim McPheters, has hit the deck running and is arranging rallies through the next year. If anyone has an idea for a rally, let Jim know. I'm sure that he would love to talk to you about it. You know, three is not a magic number. We could have a fourth rally sometime during the year.

I look forward to seeing you in Tucson in March. Until then, safe travels to all.

Duncan Holt, President



## Vice Presidents Report

We just finished up the first Romer Rally of 2020 in conjunction with the Western Area FMCA Rally in Indio. Members had routine maintenance done on engines, trans and/or generators—and tires too. We saw the Wilsons and the Baumgarts, and heard from the Bjornestads who had to cancel at the last minute. Janet and Debbie joined us for dinner at the casino as well. As a club we send sincere condolences to JoAnn Curtis, whose husband Curt passed away unexpectedly in December.

Excellent Rally Masters Susan and Jim Lewis, as usual, had some great support from members and visitors, particularly Shirley & Dick Burr, Juan Marquez & Debbie Holt. Head bartender Larry Johnson, with an able bodied helper in Paul Klempner, did an excellent job with the Romer Bar nightly. Past president Steve Hobbs shined as our auctioneer after we finished dinner on the last night.

The next rally will be split between 2 nights at Picacho/Tucson KOA and 2 nights at the Pima County Fairgrounds in Tucson before the FMCA International Convention and RV Expo. To stay the full week, you must sign up with FMCA at their website. FMCA Entertainment will include 3 Dog Night and country star Josh Turner. There's a lot to do around Tucson including the AZ Sonora Desert Museum, Kartchner Caverns, Kitt Peak National Observatory, Old Tucson, Escape Room Tucson, Mission San Xavier del Bac, Biosphere 2, Saguaro National Park, Sabino Canyon and the Pima Air and Space Museum. Sign up now on page 11, space is limited!!

This fall it's back to Oregon and the mid-state town of McMinnville, home of the Spruce Goose. The Dingmans and the Boumas have so graciously offered to host. Then in 2021, it's back to Indio in January and in April or May, our Spring 2021 rally is planned to be at Bonelli Bluffs in southern Ca, right next to the Pomona County Fairgrounds about 40 miles east of LA. The Van Dorens, the Dees and the McPheters will be hosts.

Jim McPheters, Vice President



## Save the date

March 22-29, 2020 Tucson, AZ  
September 30-October 4, 2020 McMinnville, OR  
April/May, 2021- San Dimas, CA



# Marsha's Membership Report



Susan & Jim Lewis presented this plaque at the Rally which read:

**Golden Corkscrew Award**  
*Rob & Dianne Wilson*  
*Head Bartender & Chief Bottleswasher*  
*for their many years of*  
*Dedication & Service to*  
**Monaco Romers**



*The Chapter Fair in Indio was a success thanks to Marsha Taylor, Dottie Van Doren, Susan Lewis and Layne Strellic.*

## FMCA Rallies

March 26-29, 2020  
FMCA 101st International Convention  
Tucson, AZ

July 29-Aug 2, 2020  
FMCA's Summer Rally  
Syracuse, NY

Winter, 2021  
Perry, GA

Summer 2021  
Gillette, WY

Winter/Spring 2022  
Tucson, AZ

Summer, 2022  
Lincoln, NE or Sedalia, MO

Thanks to the Chapter Fair recruitment, I'm happy to report that we now have 83 Member Coaches on the Romer Roster.

We also have Monaco Romer Applications on our website to download if you meet a Monaco Owner who would like to join us. Go to [monacoromers.club](http://monacoromers.club).



*Marsha Taylor*

## Welcome New and Recent Members

Mark & Debbie McCormick  
Kennewick, WA



Sharon & Gary Cowan  
Corona, CA



Warren & Sandy Brown  
Elk Grove, CA



Carol & "Pepper" Pepper  
Santa Maria, CA



Barbara & Bill Lindsey  
Mentone, CA



Elon McLaughlin &  
Dan Chrismer  
Grants Pass, OR



John & Jeanna Erickson  
Lodi, CA



Carolyn & Charlie Manchester  
Stateline, NV

# Rally Memories



**Indio Rally attendees in alphabetical order: Bill & Joann Bawks, Bill Beckley & Joann Bush, Richard & Maureen Bouma, Dick & Shirley Burr, Dan Chrimer & Elon McLaughlin, Pat & Kathy Coleman, Dennis & Geri Dee, Joe & Leah Dingman, Tom & Lois Getzfrid, Joe Grisillo, Steve & Donnis Hobbs, Russ & Carol Hoeltzel, Duncan & Nancy Holt, Larry & Ellen Johnson, Paul & Pat Klempner, Jim & Susan Lewis, Juan Marquez & Debbie Holt, Albert & Rose McDonald, George & Linda McKiernan, Jim & Joanne McPheters, Dave & Beverly Miller, Don & Judi Pagano, Jerry & Inge Plier, Jeff Preach, Don & Norma Preston, Don & Layne Strellic, Dave & Marsha Taylor, John & Dottie Van Doren. Guests from Monaco International included Warren & Sandy Brown, Carl & Lillian Fesler, Harry & Sandy Hentschel, and Dan & Mary Beth Scott. Guests of Joann Bush & Bill Beckley included Skip & Sandy Harvey and Ken & Gay Spencer from Ocean Hills RV Club.**



# *Wish you were here!*



# Tech Talk with Tom Getzfrid



## Awning Problem & Gas leak

Tom had a problem with his Carefree awning flapping like a sail. The tab at the awning's end cap had folded over. He purchased a new end cap, which is a common item and fixed the problem. When he got home he found a puddle of diesel fuel under his rig where a hole had been punched in the gas tank. He took his rig to a truck stop, had the gas pumped out and had the tank welded.

## Tire problem

Jerry Plier's tires were losing air overnight, He determined that the inside hose connection was loose and the air was escaping.

## Engine Problem

Duncan was at a rest stop in Boran when his turn off engine light came on. He was towed to Desert Truck Service in Mojave, which he highly recommends. It took a week to get the part for his smog pump, but it was covered under warranty.

## Vibration

Jim Lewis, 05 Windsor experienced vibration on acceleration that progressively got worse. He found out that one cap had disintegrated. He now has new U joints and it runs smoothly.

## Transmission Lights

Gerald Partin was on his way to Indio when all the lights on his transmission went off and he lost power. This is the second time it has happened. He has no idea what caused it. It stays in sixth and won't downshift. The lights go off and the engine won't start. Error code is 70. Dave Miller said that code means the sump fluid temperature is too low. Tom said he had not heard of a problem like this but said maybe the fuse for the transmission lock out switch is not working or it may be a sensor problem.

## Multiplex

Steve Hobbs, 07 Dynasty says one of his multiplex pads in the bathroom does not work, Tom recommended he check the wiring diagram, might be a fuse problem. Also, take the switch off the wall and check to see if cables are loose. Final solution: turn off coach power (12V) and turn back on to reboot the system. Problem solved!

## ECU

Jerry Plier, 06 Dynasty said his ECU was not getting power. The mechanic put a new line on the ECU directly to the battery and it worked.

In closing, Tom shared a lesson. After his fuel tank was fixed he went to start up his rig and found that the generator wouldn't start. It turns out that the welder had disconnected one of the battery cables. Moral of the story: if something happens to your rig after being in the shop, check to see if they finished the job.

*Thanks Tom!*

## More Rally Photos





Heartfelt condolences to JoAnn Curtis, whose husband Curt passed away in December. JoAnn has decided to sell their '09 Camelot and their lot at Outdoor Resorts in Cathedral City. She'll also retire from her position as our Sunshine & Showers Lady. We will miss JoAnn as she begins this new chapter in her life and we hope that she'll continue to connect with Romer friends on Facebook and at nearby rallies. You are a dear friend and will be surely missed.

## Goodbye to a special man

Curt Curtis, active Romer member since 2005, passed away unexpectedly while on vacation with JoAnn in Maui. He and JoAnn always loved to snorkel and were aboard a catamaran excursion when he suffered a heart attack while in the water. They had traveled to the islands in December to celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary.



Curt served as club President in 2012-2013 and has been our enthusiastic golf coordinator for Romer rallies near and far. His ever present smile, hearty laugh and entertaining stories will be greatly missed. Curt's career in the Air Force saw him rise to the highest levels of authority, yet in retirement he was relaxed, warm and welcoming to everyone he met. His knowledge of RVing and travel were extensive, and he was always willing to share advice and technical knowledge with our members.

JoAnn will plan a celebration of life service at a later date and we will certainly alert the membership with details. To extend your condolences, please contact JoAnn at the Jocurtis@verizon.net.

### **Monaco Romer Officers**

**President: Duncan Holt**

dcholt2014@gmail.com 707/303-7779



**Vice President: Jim McPheters**

jomcp@cox.net 760/798-1610



**Secretary: Debbie Holt**

debholt@pacbell.com 626/375-2330



**Treasurer: G'Nell DeLack**

gdelack@aol.com 208/667-9734



**FMCA Director: Larry Johnson**

ljohns0721@gmail.com 310/375-6079



**FMCA Alternate: Susan Lewis**

gizmo4wine@yahoo.com 805/350-1035



**Past President: Steve Hobbs**

stephen@hobbscontainer.com 559/679-8800



**Membership: Marsha Taylor**

marshataylor903@gmail.com 714/697-0725



**Webmaster: Pat Coleman**

pat.coleman@gmail.com 925/766-8562



**Newsletter Editor: Nancy Holt**

nlholt2014@gmail.com 707/303-7779



**Sunshine Lady: Pat Klempner**

pklempner@earthlink.net 714/743-6624



**Romer Apparel: Shirley Burr**

shirley\_burr@cox.net 949/677-4622

## Sunshine & Showers

Donnis Hobbs celebrated her birthday at the rally with a special casino dessert! Happy Birthday!



Marsha and Dave Taylor welcomed two new grandbabies in 2019, Sierra Brook Jewell in Fullerton, CA and Asher Knox Ahern in Poulsbo, WA.

Knud Bjornestad is home after a stay in the hospital in AZ. What was thought to be a heart issue turned out to be a breathing and lung issue. He is doing well under the excellent care of wife Darline and daughter Cathy. Wishing you a speedy recovery, Knud!!

We send our condolences and lots of positive energy and love to G'Nell DeLack. Her sister Naomi passed away January 8, in San Antonio, TX. G'Nell and family were there with her. Condolences also to JoAnn Curtis and the extended Curtis family as they say their goodbyes to husband and father Curt.

If you have news to share in the newsletter's Sunshine and Showers section, please be sure to let me know.

Pat Klempner  
pklempner@earthlink.net  
714-743-6624



*Some of your Romer Officers are pictured here.*

# **MONACO ROMERS**

## **General Business Meeting**

### **Indio, CA January 10, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by President Duncan Holt at 3:15 p.m. Tom Getzfrid led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Duncan began the meeting by asking for a moment of silence to honor and remember Curt Curtis, long time member and past-President.

#### **New Members**

Marsha Taylor welcomed Elon McLaughlin & Dan Chrismer and newly re-instated member Joe Grisillo. We also welcomed guests from MI and Bill & Joann's friends from the Oceanside RV Club.

#### **MI Report**

Harry & Sandy Hentschel gave information about the MI Balloon Festival October 7-10 2020.

#### **Secretary Report**

The minutes of the meeting on September 14, 2019 were posted on the website in the newsletter. Jim Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes and Dennis Dee seconded the motion.

#### **Treasurer Report**

G'Nell De Lack was unable to attend the rally. Duncan reported that the balance in the checking account is \$8,176.38, savings is \$5052.30 for a total of \$13, 228.68.

#### **Rally Director Report**

Spring 2020: Picacho/Tucson KOA (March 22& 23) and Pima County Fair Grounds (March 24-29 @ FMCA)  
The rally will be hosted by Duncan & Nancy Holt, Dave & Marsha Taylor, Dick & Shirley Burr and Juan Marquez & Debbie Holt. Flyers were distributed and are on the website (fillable form).

Fall 2020: Olde Stone Village in McMinnville, Oregon, September 30 - October 4, 2020. Rally Masters are Dick & Maureen Bouma and Joe & Leah Dingman.

Winter 2021: Susan Lewis said the Indio Rally will begin on January 3, 2021. She and Jim will host the rally with help from Juan Marquez & Debbie Holt and Dick & Shirley Burr.

Spring 2021: Bonelli Bluffs in San Dimas, Ca. mid to late April. Rally Masters are Jim & Joanne McPheters, John & Dottie Van Doren and Dennis & Geri Dee.

Jim also reported that at the Board meeting it was decided to develop a Rally Master guide to make it easier for members to host a rally. Jim, Nancy and Debbie will be working to put it together.

#### **FMCA Director Report**

Larry Johnson said there was nothing significant to report. He said neither he nor Susan will be able to attend the FMCA rally in Lincoln, Nebraska on August 26-29. An alternate delegate will be decided at the meeting in Tuscon.

**Webmaster**

Pat Coleman reported that our website monacoromers.club has lots of flexibility for us to add to our website. He encouraged members to take a look at the website.

**Membership Report**

Marsha Taylor reported that there are 83 members. We gained 5 new members at this rally.

**Sunshine and Showers**

Pat Klempner has agreed to take JoAnn Curtis's place as our Sunshine Lady. JoAnn is interested in selling her 09 Camelot as well as her lot in Cathedral City. See Nancy Holt for more details. Please let Pat Klempner know if someone in the club should receive a card.

**Merchandise**

Please let Shirley Burr know if you want to order a T-shirt to pick it up at the Tucson rally. Blue and white hats are available for \$15.

**Old Business**

Nothing to report.

**New Business**

No new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Debbie Holt, Secretary



# MONACO ROMERS Spring Rally at Picacho/Tucson KOA and Pima County Fair Grounds

FMCA 101<sup>st</sup> International Convention and Exposition  
March 22 & 23 @ KOA ~ March 24 – 29 @ FMCA

You are invited to join us as we Join FMCA celebrating their 101<sup>st</sup> International Convention where you can get a chance to check out the new coaches (and find out how much you like your current one) and gain information on all aspects of RVing during the many seminars and don't forget the entertainment with 3 Dog Night and country star, Josh Turner.

**You must also register with FMCA at FMCA.com (best to do online) and sign up as "GENERAL PARKING 30-AMP ELECTRIC ONLY" and include "MONACO ROMERS" in the space marked "Caravan/Chapter Name. Also advise Duncan when you make your reservations.**

Names: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Length \_\_\_\_\_ No. Slides \_\_\_\_\_ First Romer Rally: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

FMCA # \_\_\_\_\_ KOA # \_\_\_\_\_ and if Guest, Romer Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

Coach (2 People)	\$315	_____
Includes KOA and fairgrounds		
Coach (1 Person)	\$200	_____
Includes KOA and fairgrounds		
Fairgrounds <b>only</b> ( 2 People)	\$160	_____
Fairgrounds <b>only</b> ( 1 Person)	\$80	_____
Total Amount Submitted:	\$	_____

**Make checks payable to:**  
Duncan Holt  
1458 Wikiup Dr.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
  
(707) 303-7779 H ~ (321) 604-0144 C  
Dholt2014@gmail.com  
  
Registration Deadline: February 21, 2020

We will have a group area at both locations so we will need everyone's help by bringing a table and their folding chairs. We will need some E-Z ups for the group area. Let Duncan know if you will be bringing any E-Z ups. We are limited to 25 sites at the KOA . First come first served. Also, most sites will be 30 amp so bring your adapter. Don't forget to let Duncan know when you have registered with FMCA.

Fees include 4 nights of camping prior to the start of the FMCA Convention. First night at the KOA will be Standard Romer Hors d'oeuvres so bring something to share with the group. We will have catered meals for the second night at the KOA as well as the first two nights at the fairgrounds. Breakfast and lunch are on your own. Romer Bar will be open daily.

**Your Hosts: Duncan & Nancy Holt, Dave & Marsha Taylor,  
Dick & Shirley Burr and Juan Marquez & Debbie Holt**