



Matterhorn

Alpine So Cal

A Chapter of FMCA

David Hobden, President
davidhobden@mac.com

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December, 2016
www.alpinesocal.com

Lorraine Foster
&
Ann Fleming

The President's Message



I hope this December issue of the Matterhorn finds everyone in the Alpine SoCal community doing well. Since the last issue of the Matterhorn, Stilla and I enjoyed some very good times at the awesome Betabel rally in San Juan Batista. What fun we had at that NorCal/SoCal joint Rally! We got to meet a lot of new people and spent quality time with many old friends.

After the Betabel Rally, we took the rest of the month getting to know the California coastline between San Francisco and Los Angeles before slowly heading back to my Mom's house in Casa Grande, AZ just in time for Thanksgiving. Since then we've been spending a lot of time traveling around the Phoenix area looking at houses. Yes, I said it...looking for houses. The oldest daughter and grandson are back from South Dakota and it looks like we're going to need to find a place to help her out. It's been a fun three years on the road as full-timers, but Stilla is ready for a spot to call a home-base that doubles as a safe, secure place for the daughter/grandson. Plus it will give us a location to put our stuff instead of keeping things in storage with relatives. We feel that we lucked out and found a beautiful 3 bedroom in a nice Mesa neighborhood with no HOAs and an RV gate. We put in a bid that was accepted! So now we're just going through all the inspections and paperwork hassle associated with buying a house. Hopefully, we'll be done with the closing before it's time for the ACA Desert Rat Rally in Quartzsite.

Please don't forget about the Havasu Winter Blast (Feb. 16-20) which is the next great Alpine SoCal Rally hosted by the illustrious Joel and Mary Langord and co-hosted by yours truly (US)! It's shaping up to be a great 2017 which is our 15th Anniversary year with a big celebration planned for March 31-thru April 3rd in Chula Vista...make sure to plan now and put it on your calendar!

We also plan on attending the Chandler Pre-Rally, (Feb. 28-Mar. 5) in Goodyear, AZ before going into the Chandler FMCA 95th Convention (Mar. 7-10). The Pre-Rally will be hosted by ACA and promises to be a lot of fun (we attended last year). Get your registrations in ASAP. The Pre-Rally registration at Cotton Lane RV Resort is due before Feb. 13th.

As I mentioned in the last issue of the Matterhorn - we still need someone to step up to fill the Alternate FMCA National Director Position. Joel Langord will be stepping down from his position after a long and fruitful run. Joel and Mary will not be able to travel east in the near future due to at home commitments which limits their exposure to future FMCA related events. Again, please join me in expressing our deepest gratitude to Joel for the untiring dedication and loyal support he has given to the club in the past years. Please consider taking on the position, the duty description is outlined in the Policies & Procedures Manual located on the Alpine SoCal.Com website under the Members Only section in Club Documents.

Page 3 of Newsletter is an article by Joel Langord about his time in the position of Alternate FMCA Director
Page 4 of Newsletter has the Description of the Job.

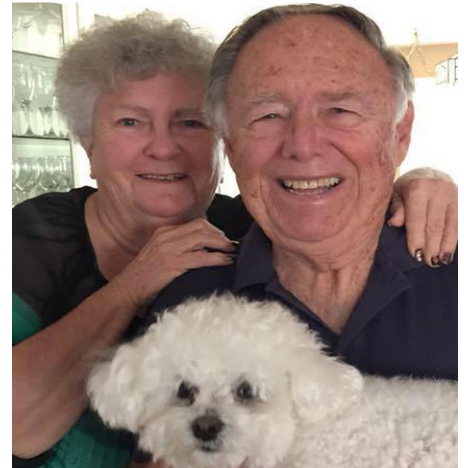
In other news -- I put in an order for some of the "Alpine Coach" stickers that you may have seen on many of our members's tow vehicles. I researched the source that I got from another of our fine ACA members and ordered 10 sets of both the popular sizes. I hope to have them on hand (at cost-no profit) for our members in the next 2-3 weeks, just contact me if you want a set or ask me at the next rally. Hope to see ya there!!

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Your faithful President
David Hobden
Alpine SoCa...

Membership Report

By Mary Langord



Happy New Year to each and every one of our Alpine families.

Our current membership in our Alpine SoCal Chapter is 75 coaches. We are very pleased with the enthusiasm and participation of our many members. Unfortunately Joel and I have been unable to attend a couple of rallies, but sure plan to be back out there just as soon as we lose the "creeping crud" chest cold that seems to hit us every late December - early January timeframe.

Our chapter is by far one of the most active chapters, and interest in membership from new owners have helped us achieve 75. As our coaches become a bit older, we are hoping that we will retain our current members as they move to a newer coach, in addition to welcoming new members who may purchase their lovingly used Alpine coach. Who knows? We may still see an increasing number in the future. Spread the word! Alpiners are the BEST!.

Keep enjoying your beautiful Alpines. Stay safe as you travel this great country, and I hope to see you "down the road apiece" soon!

Mary Langord
1st Vice President-Membership

COME CELEBRATE OUR 15TH ANNIVERSARY

Additionally, SoCal will be celebrating our Fifteenth Anniversary at **Chula Vista RV Resort March 31-April 03, 2017**. Please plan to attend and help make this a memorable celebration. See page10 for information & page 11 for the registration!

Joel Langord – Alternate FMCA National Director

Back in 2008 Mary and I attended the Alpine SoCal rally held at Yucaipa regional park as novice members of our great group. We had such a good time that we knew we wanted to be active participants in the future. So, when it was announced at the membership meeting that the group needed an alternate national director, Mary volunteered me. Now one would think that a person like Mary would step forward and volunteer herself, but she obviously had set her sights on higher office.

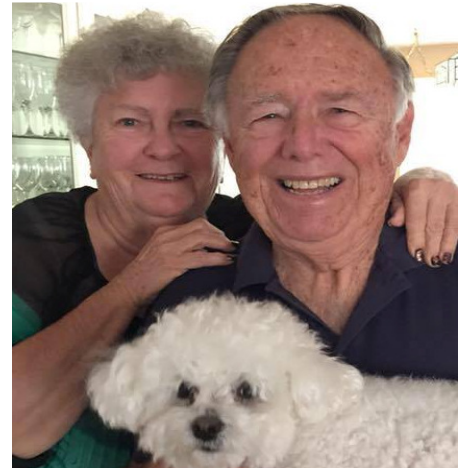
I didn't have any idea what the job entailed at the time, but was encouraged to jump in by our regional vice president at the time who had joined our rally. He even told me about all the neat perks I would get at the various national and regional events. (I am still waiting for those.) But I did jump in and have been very happy with my decision for a number of reasons. It's been a rewarding experience without being a burden on our RV activities.

First, I was able to see first-hand how FMCA works by participating at the club level and in both regional and national meetings. As the alternate to Carolyn Swan, our national director, I quickly learned from her what the position entailed. It simply is the alternate to the national director, so if the director cannot attend a club, national or regional meeting the alternate represents Alpine SoCal, if his/her RVing plans permit. Even if the director does represent our group at an event, the alternate director can and should also attend to better understand the scope and direction of activities under consideration. The FMCA encourages this because it prepares the alternate to take on the role of director when that position becomes available. However, there is no requirement to disrupt ones plans or expend personal funds to fulfill these functions.

Second, the alternate national director, is a voting member of the Alpine SoCal board of directors. I have enjoyed this aspect of the position because I get to put in my two cents every now and then about where and how the club should proceed.

And finally, as an Alpine SoCal officer I have been able to greatly expand my circle of great RV friends both at the club level and throughout FMCA. It's been a really good experience for me and I hope my replacement will enjoy the job as much as I have.

Joel Langord



POLICIES & PROCEDURES
NATIONAL DIRECTOR & ALTERNATE NATIONAL DIRECTOR

National Director serves on the Governing Board of FMCA, as well as on the Board of FMCA's Western Area (Western Motor Home Assn/WMHA).

The Alternate National Director shall serve whenever the National Director is unable to attend meetings of the FMCA Governing Board or WMHA Board, or is otherwise unable to serve. Another chapter officer is not precluded from election as the Alternate National Director.

PROCEDURES

- o Attends the annual FMCA Governing Board meeting and casts votes on FMCA matters on behalf of Alpine SoCal.
- o Attends the annual WMHA Board meeting each fall and casts votes on behalf of Alpine SoCal.
- o Keep Alpine SoCal informed of new developments at FMCA and WMHA.
- o Keep FMCA and WMHA informed of issues or significant events at Alpine SoCal.
- o May annually request one of the following items from FMCA: a banner, a coffeepot or a prize package. Requests for these items must be made six to twelve weeks in advance of the final rally of the year.
- o If a vacancy occurs in the office of National Director, the Alternate National Director shall immediately assume this office. An election will be held as soon as possible to then replace the Alternate National Director.
- o If the incumbent Alternate National Director is unable to fill this vacancy, Alpine SoCal will promptly elect (not appoint) a member to fill the vacancy in the office of National Director.
- o Any changes in persons holding these positions shall be promptly reported in writing to the FMCA National Office.

SARC 4TH QUARTER REPORT
By Stephanie Archer

Happy New Year from SARC !

We want to share the most up to date 2017 & 2018 rally schedule with you.

All 2017 rallies have hosts and co-hosts. Because so many of our members plan to attend ACA's Heritage rally and pre-rally in Texas during late October and early November, we decided that our last rally for 2017 will begin in Mammoth Lakes, Sept 7 - 11 and move Sept 11 - 14 to Boulder Creek RV Park in Lone Pine, co-hosted by Mike & Ann Fleming & John & Lorraine Foster. Since 2017 is an election year for club officers, we will need to vote for the slate of officers at that rally, at whichever site is more well attended.

Rallies for 2018 are shaping up nicely. Susan & Dean Vargo and Barry & Debi Lacy (both first time wagon masters) have volunteered to host a February rally at either Pala or Pechanga RV Resorts. Jerry & Toni Smith are hosting a rally for the Rhododendron Festival, May 16 - 21, in Florence, OR. They will be selecting their co-hosts. This will be a joint rally with NorCal. Mike & Donna Hambarian and Greg & Marcy Vaughan are teaming up again (they hosted the Newport rally in April 2016) to host an October rally at Flying Flags RV Resort in Buellton. Jim & Stephanie Archer are looking for co-hosts to help with a week long rally at Distant Drums RV Resort in Camp Verde, AZ, April 9 -16. And Bill & Patti Figge are looking for co-hosts to help with a week long rally at the Napa Expo Fairgrounds in Napa, Sept 4 - 11.

To complete the 2018 rally schedule, we need your help with the FMCA rally dates...Indio, Perry, & Gillette. Please send dates to Stephanie Archer and she will update the master rally schedule. Also, send any corrections or additions to

THANK YOU TO OUR SOCAL ALPINE RALLIE COMMITTEE
RAMONA ESCAMILLA, BILL FIGGE AND STEPHANIE ARCHER --SARC



MATTERHORN

2017	Rally Time		Rally Time
Jan 11 - 15	WMHA Indio Rally Indio, CA - Register Directly	WMHA w/SoCal Caravan	Langord marylangord@mac.com Hobden davidhobden@mac.com
Jan 18 - 24	Desert Rat XVI Quartzsite, AZ	ACA	Maurman smaurman@hotmail.com Sandmire jhsdds@earthlink.net ACA
Feb 16 - 20	Winter Blast SARA Rodeo Grounds Lake Havasu, AZ	SoCal	Joel & Mary Langord marylangord@mac.com David & Stilla Hobden davidhobden@mac.com
Feb 28 - Mar 5	ACA Pre-Rally for FMCA Chandler Cotton Lane RV Resort Goodyear, AZ	ACA	Tom & Nancy Polk tomvending@msn.com ACA
Mar 07 - 10	FMCA 95th Family Reunion Chandler, AZ - Register Directly	FMCA	FMCA
Mar 31 - Apr 03	Celebrate 15 yrs Alpine SoCal 15th Anniversary Chula Vista RV Park Chula Vista, CA	SoCal	Milo & Janet Prodanovich jmacneillo1@att.net Jack & Linda Giddens crazysingerlkg@yahoo.com
May 15 - 22	Jackson Rancheria RV Park Jackson, CA	SoCal NorCal	Jim & Stephanie Archer saarcher@cox.net Jerry & Toni Smith geraldsmith18@hotmail.com
Jul 10 - 17	NorCal Mystery Rally & Poker Run ???, Western US	SoCal NorCal	Tom & Nancy Polk tomvending@msn.com
Jul 12 - 15	FMCA 96th Family Reunion Indianapolis, IN - Register Directly	FMCA	FMCA
Sep 07 - 14	Mammoth RV Park (9/7-9/11) Boulder Creek RV Park (9/11-9/14) Mammoth Lakes/Lone Pine, CA	SoCal	John & Lorraine Foster fofstreez@aol.com Mike & Ann Fleming meflemin@pacbell.net
Oct 25 - 29	ACA Heritage Pre-Rally Lajitas, TX	w/ACA	Jan & Dean Sandmire jhsdds@earthlink.net ACA
Nov 01 - 07	ACA Heritage Rally New Braunfels, TX	w/ACA	Jan & Dean Sandmire jhsdds@earthlink.net ACA
Feb 8 - 12, 2018	Pala RV Resort, Pala, CA	SoCal	Vargo dunejumper221@gmail.com Lacy blacy@r3construction.com Prodanovich jmacneillo1@att.net
April 9 - 16, 2018	Distant Drums RV Resort ***Co-Hosts Needed*** Capm Verde, AZ	SoCal	Jim & Stephanie Archer saarcher@cox.net
May 16 - 21, 2018	Rhododendron Festival Jesse T Jones Odd Fellow RV Park Florence, OR	SoCal NorCal	Jerry & Toni Smith Geraldsmith18@hotmail.com
Sep 4 - 11, 2018	Napa Expo Fairgrounds ***Co-Hosts Needed*** Napa, CA	SoCal	Bill & Patti Figge figgebp@mac.com
Oct 1 - 31, 2018 TBD	Flying Flags RV Resort Buelton, CA	SoCal	Hambarian GRBGMIKE@aol.com Vaughan gregvaughan@aol.com
*Last day listed is date of departure			



MATTERHORN

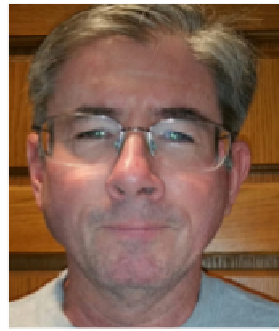
ENGINEER MIKE'S .02 CENTS

We have a fair number of new members who have purchased coaches recently. For those folks (& any longer term owners for which this info may have slipped slowly into memorial obscurity), ACA's Tech Library has a wealth of information on our rigs. You can download & print the owners manual, chassis parts manuals, electrical parts manuals, etc., etc.

Go to AlpineCoachAssociation.com and click of the Tech Library link. Click on a pull down list under the appropriate heading (chassis, electrical, etc.), and select the document you need, then click Go. To ask specific questions about any aspect of your coach, go to iRV2.com/forums/f104 and post the question. Or from that Alpine Coach forum, click on the Google search link at the top of the page and search the forum to see if your issue has been addressed in the past.

On a personal note, Thanks a Million to Alpine SoCal for granting me a Lifetime Membership for service rendered. I was awarded the honor by our fearless leader, the Honorable Grand Wizard, David Hobden, at the San Juan Bautista Rally. It was a very well guarded secret (from me at least which was remarkable since Engineer Annie was in on it & never let anything slip). I was uncharacteristically speechless for a moment or two.

Thanks again. That's my \$0.02
Engineer Mike



Engineer Mike
916 240-2141
Mike@fleming.cc

MATTERHORN



Alpine SoCal and Alpine NorCal Joint Rally At Betabel RV Park In San Juan Bautista near Monterey

By: Teresa Weitz

From Monday October 31 through Friday November 4th, we were one of 26 coaches at the combined North California (NorCal) and South California (SoCal) Alpine rally.

The rally was held at the Betabel RV Resort located close to San Juan Bautista.

Once again, we had a great time and met several new Alpine folks, in particular those from the NorCal group. Our Alpine family keeps on growing.

Our hosts were terrific, and organized just the right mix of dinners, breakfasts, free time, happy hours, and a planned outing. It gave us time to mix, mingle, and also pursue our own interests. I don't ever remember laughing so much - there certainly are a lot of entertaining and amusing folks in the group.

Our first gathering was on Halloween. Our hosts came in disguise. Perhaps they were trying to trick us? :) But it certainly was a treat to see Mr and Mrs Potato Head and the biker dude and his biker chick again.



Mike and Mikey, Phil and Trudy -- Thanks for a great rally
Trick- or-Treat night is just not for kids and some of us still enjoy dressing up!

(Continued Page 9)

MATTERHORN

(Betabel Rally Continued)

Our planned outing was a bus tour of Monterey and Carmel. The tour guide was exceptional, knew the area intimately, and also wrote a book on Carmel, so we learned a lot of interesting facts and information. During the drive-by tour through old town Monterey, we saw the main historical highlights. Monterey grew from its original founding as a Spanish Catholic settlement, to a fishing industry town that made Cannery Row famous, and then was further influenced with an Asian flavor introduced by Chinese laborers.



Monterey Waterfront



The Lone Cypress

The Following is a note sent in from Brian and Diane Enbom 1st time attendees

We hope that all those that attended enjoyed the planned events as much as we did the opening Pizza dinner and Costume Party! GO ALPINES!!



Costume Party



Saying Goodbye



15th Anniversary Celebration

Join Us in attending the
15th Anniversary Rally
Chula Vista, CA
March 31 – April 3, 2017

Hosted By: Milo & Janet Prodanovich and Jack & Linda Giddens



Beautiful Chula Vista RV Resort

**Alpine SoCal Coach Association
15 years & going strong!**



REGISTRATION FORM --- Page 11



Alpine SoCal 15th Anniversary Rally Registration Form

The Chula Vista RV Resort

460 Sandpiper Way Chula Vista, CA 91910

March 31, 2017 – April 3, 2017

Wagon Masters: Milo & Janet Prodanovich 858-750-5630

jmacneillo1@att.net

Jack & Linda Giddens 619-318-6861

crazysingerlkg@yahoo.com

Registrations **must** be postmarked by:
Make Check Payable to:
Mail Check and Form to:

February 17, 2017
Alpine SoCal
Janet Prodanovich
10395 Caminito Rio Branco
San Diego, CA 92131

We have **35** full hook-up RV spaces reserved. SoCal members have priority. No SOB's please unless they are Alpine club members.

You may arrive Thursday and stay over Monday night at the group rate of \$51.50 per night **plus a \$3.00 per day pet charge**. Any additional days will be full fee. All additional day reservations must be arranged through the Resort's Front Office by calling 1-800-770-2878. The Chula Vista RV Resort charges \$3.00 per night for an extra person up to 4 persons maximum per site.

The rally fee includes 3 nights camping per coach, meeting room fees, two continental breakfasts and 2 ½ dinners. **Pot luck Saturday evening with glazed meatballs and sweet and sour chicken nuggets provided. Attendees asked to bring side dish.**

Names: _____ Phone: _____ Email _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____ Coach length: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ PHONE _____

Rally fee for coach with 2 persons = \$300.00

Rally fee for coach with 1 person = \$265.00

= \$ _____

_____ **Pets (cats & dogs) (at \$3.00/night each coach)**

= \$ _____

OPTIONAL

_____ Sunday WHALE WATCHING \$41 per/person

= \$ _____

See attached Hornblower brochure (Box lunch available for purchase)

NO REFUNDS AFTER MARCH 1st

Total Amount of Check Enclosed

\$ _____

***** Are you willing to write a newsletter article about one of the rally activities??**** _____



Hello Alpine friends, where in the world has the year gone? Wasn't it just yesterday when we did the previous Matterhorn? We'd like to thank you for your support this past year as two rookies! We hope we brought you great words of wisdom from our officers, some information and even a few laughs. We feel wonderful being able to complete the year and carry on a tradition that benefits our Alpine SoCal Chapter. You all are so great having given us fun and informative articles to make our newsletter successful. This is not a one or two-person job but actually teamwork from a wonderful group, so thank you!

We would like to introduce your new editor for 2017, the bubbly and sweet Teresa Weitz! She looks forward to receiving all your stories and tales about everything Alpine So Cal does. Even solo travels or spot rallies, so let's give her a great round of applause welcoming her as the Matterhorn Editor!!



May your new year shine with light as you reflect upon the past year...

Lorraine Foster

Ann Fleming