As usual...

There was plenty of good food: Sunday evening we feasted on cocktails and the hors d’oeuvres which everyone brought to share; and, Monday evening we had a catered barbecue dinner with lots of beef and chicken, beans, coleslaw and rolls. Actually, the caterer was very generous with the portions they provided. There were plenty of leftovers which we were able to serve the following evening up in Napa Valley at our chapter social.

Ben left his mark - two different ways.

Ben Petty – after a parking job so spectacular that it was marked with crime scene tape by the RV park – proved to be the whiz kid and grand prize winner of our “Are You Smarter Than a SoCal Board Member?” contest.

The quiz was a combination of multiple choice and trivia. Perhaps all the bugs weren’t quite worked out, but it was fun nonetheless. Sue Froebese also won a prize of an additional year of chapter dues.

-please turn to the next page-
They did California proud – thanks NorCal!

We finally made it.

-continued from front page-

A fantastic job!

Many thanks to Sal & Leslie Speziale, Earl & Mary Herbert and Roy & Phyllis Nichols for hosting our recent rally in Palmtrump at the Seibit R.V. Resort. They did a fantastic job.

I can attest that a good time was had by all, even with the aches and pains associated with many folks bowling for their first time in years.

The envelope please!

While at Palmtrump, there was a new recipient for our “esteemed” Turkey Award. The envelope please: And the winner is Joe Darby! He proudly displayed the American flag on his brand new telescoping flagpole – what he didn’t notice was the flag was upside down! (Of course, Joe wonders why it took two days before anyone noticed?)

Are you ready for Celebrating Freedom?

Plans are coming together for the Nov. 2008 ACA National Rally at Beaufry RV Resort in Tucson, AZ. John Thomas is doing a great job in marshalling our forces to hold a great event.

We’ve voted on a theme: It is “Celebrating Freedom.” Since the rally is being held over Veterans’ Day as well as the Presidential election, I believe the theme will really resonate with the attendees. Ben & Bev Petty will be organizing a working rally scheduled for September in Tucson.

As you read this...

We’ll be at the “In The Heart of Ventura” rally at the Ventura Beach R.V. Resort in Ventura, CA. from Jan. 30-Feb. 3, with Joe & Debbie Darby as our hosts. They have arranged a tour of the Good Sam/Motor Home/Trailer Life/Woodalls National Headquarters. It should be an interesting tour. The club is providing transportation to and from the rally site. The committee is still intact and is comprised of chapter members Bob Daniels, Leslie Speziale & Sherrine Baker.

You should be receiving yours soon.

American Coach is providing the entire ACA membership with new name badges. The badges will bear the new American Coach logo.
Pahrump — sounds like “Ha rump”, but it was anything but that.

The weather was beautiful and our flags were flying proudly over Pahrump, NV, for our Veteran’s day rally.

Well, sort of proudly flying.

“Oh my”, we heard, and looked up at the beautifully decorated Darby coach to see the American flag flying upside down! Joe was fine and didn’t need any help except for the razzing he received. He claimed it was a new flag and that was the problem.

Well, after much discussion, and a vote of our members, George Borecky (sadly), had to give up his “T” Award and proudly present it to its newest recipient — Joe Darby. Yea to both! Now that our “Official Business” on the Pahrump Rally has been taken care of, here’s a brief recap.

The Seibt Retreat really is a beautiful setting in the Nevada desert North of Pahrump. It is state of the art, yet it is environmentally friendly. There are so many details that make it truly a retreat. A person needs to take some time to really explore all the amenities in the resort.

Another great thing is that the staff really works hard to make sure everything is as great as possible for their guests.

It was a full-filling event.

We started the rally with a social hour in the clubhouse. Mark, the chef at the resort, catered appetizers for all of us. They were so good and filling no one needed dinner.

Friday morning we sent our golfers out with full tummies from a catered breakfast, again, by Mark and the chef’s group of helpers. We had an open day so some of us just kicked back and relaxed.

And then, there were some who wanted to explore the many places of interest in the area — like the mini-tour Karen Prather put together for a “free” visit of a local… how shall we say it? …enter-prize! Well, the accompanying picture kind of says it all.

Happy hour came fast and then came our dinner catered by Mark and his crew. Again, great food.

Sound system & entertainment all wrapped in one!

We were very lucky to be able to enlist the help of the famous M.C., Mr. Jim Hinesly. He not only helped us with his own personal sound system but he also entertained us with jokes and stories. Thanks Jim, you are always great. And thank you Janet for the loan of your Honey.

The fun continued with a gift exchange, this kept us pretty occupied for a bit. Then we gave out gifts. Don Davis, the manager at camping World in Henderson, NV, graciously donated many great gifts. He made your hosts look good too. Thanks again to Don.

Some people we know like to show off... and who wouldn’t?

We also had a new coach to look at. Thanks Charlie and Sharon for bringing your new coach for us to see.

We hope everyone had as great time as we did. It was a lot of fun and not really hard to do. That was due to the great help and knowledge of Leslie & Sal Speziale and Phyllis & Roy Nichols. There was no way this rally would have been successful without them. Thank you, thanks tons.

Oh yes, Pat Takahara’s margaritas didn’t hurt either.

Thank you everyone who were able to make it to our rally. It’s the people who make all the laughter and camaraderie. We all sure had fun and find lots to laugh about.

Thanks again to Leslie, Sal, Phyllis and Roy. You’re the best!

Mary & Earle Herbert, your other co-hosts.

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Saturday was the designated fun-day.

Saturday brought another beautiful day and another catered breakfast. We had meetings and then the big Bowling Tournament! Believe or not, the resort has its own 6-lane, state of the art bowling alley! We bowled, ate again, had refreshments, and had a few contenders for the “T” Award. We were amazed at how heavy the balls were. They weren’t that heavy a few years ago.

Later, at our happy hour, we handed out awards to our golfers, bowlers, and just cause we had more to give, we handed out more gifts. Sunday, another gorgeous day. We had a continental breakfast and said our good byes.

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Mary & Earle Herbert, your other co-hosts.
Membership Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2007
Siebt RV Resort, Pharump, NV

Meeting was called to order
President Eileen Smoot called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

Other board members present were: Sharon Miller, Vice President; Beverly Petty, Secretary; Brad Monahan, Treasurer; Dean Macek, Member-at-Large. Art Bridges, Membership, was unable to attend.

President Smoot began the meeting by thanking Earle & Maryella Herbert; Leslie & Sal Speziale; and Roy & Phyllis Nichols for hosting the rally.

Secretary’s Report – Minutes of Last Meeting
A motion was made, seconded and carried by the membership to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2007 meeting as published in our newsletter.

Treasurer & Membership Report
A motion was made, seconded and carried by the membership to approve the Treasurer & Membership Report of the March 24, 2007 meeting as published in our newsletter. President Smoot related we have 110 current members, all but two are current with their National dues.

President’s announcements:
• We received a refund from Antelope Valley Fairgrounds after canceling the National 2008 Fall rally.
• New American Coach dealers in CA: Camping World has purchased Silers in Bakersfield and Andy’s in San Marcos. The better news is Camping World is sending the technicians from these dealerships to Decatur for training.

Upcoming 2008 Rally Schedule:
• Jan. 31-Feb. 3: Joe & Debbie Darby will host a rally at the Ventura Beach RV Resort.
• Apr. 24-27: Golden Village Palms in Hemet, CA. Rally hosted by Ken & Betty Tilley and Ron & Marianne Thomas.
• May 13-18: ACA National Spring rally, Mobile, AL, hosted by the Southeast Chapter. We would like a lot of participation in this rally as it is the rally just preceding our National Fall rally. It will be the venue where we will promote our Fall National Rally. Currently, information to Mobile will be forthcoming.
• Nov. 10-15: ACA National Fall Rally hosted by SoCal at Beaudry’s in Tucson. We have changed resorts for our National Fall Rally to Beaudry’s. Pete & Eileen attended a rally at Beaudry’s and were able to tour their new facilities; a new 35,000 SF building that can support the show coaches inside + 1,000 for a sit-down dinner + stage with self-supporting AV systems. The resort will be at our disposal during our rally and we will be able to provide full hook-ups for all attendees. Additionally, we can use their caterers or obtain one on our own.

Eileen secured a good rate of $28/night, which is also good 5 days before the rally and 5 days after the rally. Weather should be in the 70’s during the day and 50’s at night.

Member announcements:
• John Thomas, our rally chair, asked each committee chair-person to stand up and be recognized:
  Registration: Debbie Darby
  Food & Entertainment: Willy Morris
  Decorations: Sharon Miller
  Souvenir & Hospitality: Don Katz
  Facilities & Support: Ben Petty
  Master of Ceremonies: Jim Hinesly
  Security: Jim Hinesly
  Dealers & Suppliers: Pete Smoot
  Tours: Lee Prather
  Publicity: Beverly Petty
  Finance: Brad Monahan
  Parking: Pete Smoot
  Information/Communications: Janet Hinesly
  Dealers: John Thomas
  Open Chairs: Seminars and Vendors
  Please contact John Thomas and volunteer your time and energy.

• Sharon Miller shared information about the National Fall 2007 Rally in Calistoga, CA. It was a fantastic rally, beautiful area, with some unique activities. Many of the attendees, both men and women, enjoyed some time at the Culinary Institute of America.

Many of our Southern Cal members played active parts in helping make this rally a success. Approximately 18-20 coaches were sold, with 178 coaches attending the rally.

• Bob Daniels pointed out that Seibt advertisements in ACA Across America. He asked that when doing business with one of our advertisers, be sure to mention you saw their ad.

• Leslie Speziale read us comment cards from the Resort. As this is a new park, the management would like our input on how to make their resort the best.

• Fred Hodges is organizing a caravan in September to the Midland/Odessa airport, home of the Commemorative Air Force. It is the third largest air force in the world and they are having an air show around Sept. 20 & 21. His caravan will leave from Beaudry’s in Tucson on Sept. 15 – the date is not confirmed as yet, but it will be around that time.

• 2008 National Fall Rally: John Thomas shared information about our rally and the work that is to be done. We spent time discussing themes, with suggestions ranging from a Hollywood theme, to a political/voting theme, and then being narrowed down to a patriotic theme.

• Suggestions were to be narrowed down to 3 by the Committee Chairs (following the Membership meeting). The three names will be announced and voted on during Happy Hour with a theme declared.

New Business:
• President Smoot asked for two more scheduled rallies prior to the new board taking over in June. Suggested areas included Pechanga in Temecula; Borego Springs; Bakersfield; and Santa Barbara.
• A request was made for a volunteer(s) to host the Sept. 11-14 working rally at Beaudry’s in Tucson.
• The new Turkey award recipient, currently “honoring” George Borecky, will be announced during the evening festivities.

Miscellaneous announcements:
• Please keep these members and their families in your thoughts and prayers:
  June Prickett is recovering from a stroke.

• A thank you note was received from Wine Country RV.
• Please send any photos you’ve taken at our rallies to John Thomas for inclusion in our web site. Any comments would also be appreciated. Let’s continue to keep our web site fresh and relevant.

Adjournment:
There was no further business. A motion was second to adjourn – the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Beverly A. Petty, Secretary

GIVE THEM A STANDING Ovation!
We have 120 paid members as of the December 2007, including the nine new members listed below. Keep an eye out for them at upcoming rallies and let them know how glad we are they chose our chapter for their local ACA membership.

• Dan, Mary Jo Starr and their children from Winter Haven, FL.
• Alick & Trudy Muzlow from Abbotsford, BC, Canada
• Lyle & Jade Matlock from Medford, OR
• Gary & Pat Adams from Wildomar, CA
• Steve & Cindy Englebrecht from Huntington Beach, CA
• Todd, Roberta Thomas & daughter Harley from Upland, CA
• Gary Faulkner & Mike Collins from Chicago, IL
• Nicholas & Angela Moldovan from Valencia, CA

We hope to have photos of these new members to include in our next newsletter.

Art Bridges, Membership Chairman

check out your web site: www.socalaca.com
If you missed out on our Manteca pre-rally & Pahrump rally, you missed some crazzzzy, fun times!

BUT, you CAN catch up on the happenings by reading this, our latest newsletter.

*** Calendar Of Events ***

• Jan. 31-Feb. 3 / SoCal Chapter
  Ventura Beach RV Resort, Ventura, CA
  Hosted by Debbie & Joe Darby

• Apr. 24-27 / SoCal Chapter
  Golden Village Palms, Hemet, CA
  Southeast Chapter Hosting

• May 13-18 / Spring National ACA Rally
  Mobile, AL
  Ken & Betty Tilley and Ron & Marianne Thomas Hosting
  Caravan planning being developed

• Sept. 11-14 / SoCal Chapter
  Beaudry RV Park, Tucson, AZ
  Working rally to prepare for Nov National Rally
  Are you ready to volunteer to host this event?

• Nov. 10-15 / Fall National ACA Rally
  Antelope Valley Fairgrounds, Lancaster, CA
  SoCal Chapter Hosting