

Letter From the President

By Katie Mathews

Charleston was spectacular! I particularly enjoyed the bus tour of the Citadel and would like to return and spend more time. The facilities and staff at the St. James County Park were wonderful and the weather was very warm and humid. On the first morning, our tour guide said that "every day in Charleston is a bad hair day!" and she did give us fair warning. The tour of the grounds and the history of Magnolia Plantation were most interesting.

June 6th is the 65th Anniversary of D-Day in which several of our members, including my husband, Max, participated. We would like to go to New Orleans this year to visit the former National D-Day Museum, now designated as the official National WWII Museum. In spite of my many visits to New Orleans, I have never even walked past this remarkable place.

The addition and remodel of our Master bedroom suite to accomplish a barrier-free home is two weeks from completion. We are really looking forward to having our furniture and belongings back where they belong. All of the special features – especially in the bathroom with its fireplace – will make Max' life much easier. So many of you have experienced similar situations and expressed condolences as well as your assurance that it will all be worth it. Thank You!

Last, but far from least - the San Antonio Rally this October is shaping up to be another of Vicky's wonderful Rallies, as well as her last. John and Vicky have wanted a large diesel pusher since they became hooked on motor home travels, and this Spring the time was right to make a good buy. While many of us purchased a Coach House because we were ready to downsize, the Ferrari's started with their Coach House. I know they will enjoy all of the room and amenities and I suspect that there will come a day when they, too, are ready to 'come home' to a Coach House
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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE COACH HOUSE OWNERS CLUB

CHOC Talk

JUNE 2009 · NUMBER 39

Looking for a Great Time? Then come to our next CHOC Rally!



Musings from a "knob"....at Charleston CHOC Rally

So the "baby boomers who don't join anything" are asked to write an article on their first rally as new CHOC members.

Our first indication as to what the club might be like was a warm "welcome" call from Jim Sullivan when our membership was received in April. Vicki Ferrari was also very helpful over the phone answering all our questions concerning the rally.

Arriving late on Mon. (baby boomers are never on time) we missed the wine and cheese party but were greeted with a warm "you must be the Marstons" and given our check-in package. By the time we arrived back at the hall most of the chairs were taken but we were again greeted warmly by "Honda guy," Bob Trammell and asked to sit with his table. Each meal brought us to a different table, meeting more CHOC members & guests. We had to travel 380 miles to meet Norm & Barb Neuges and they only live 5 miles away.

The tours of Charleston were wonderful and we were impressed at how efficiently it all ran. Vicki must have been a Marine in a previous life. Even though we had substitute speakers on two occasions the programs were excellent. The Improv group was amazing thanks to CHOC members: "chemist," "motor head guy" and "just get away from me". Again kudos to Vickie.

As newbies to Coach House, we learned a great deal from others and have been on the CHOC web site to learn even more. Thanks to all who share their knowledge with the group. Looking forward to San Antonio.

By Bruce & Doreen Marston

RallyTalk

SAVE THE DATES – OCTOBER 12-16, 2009

Recipes from the Rally

Carrot Soufflé by Vickie Sanders

- 2 Lbs. carrots, peeled, cooked & drained
- 1½ cups sugar (or a little less)
- 6 eggs (I whip eggs to make them fluffy)
- 1 tablespoon flour
- 2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon vanilla flavoring
- ½ cup melted butter

Prepare baking dish (casserole dish) and preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Place all ingredients in large blender and blend until smooth. Pour into lightly greased casserole dish. Bake in 350-degree oven for approximately 1 hour until soufflé is browned slightly around the edges.

Serves 12

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House. While it will be extremely difficult to see them go, Vicky does have a well-qualified understudy waiting in the wings. Remember that the Fall Rally is also our CHOC Annual meeting and election of officers. For those members coming to Texas for the first time, we plan to have an insert in the September newsletter with ideas of places to visit on your way to or from the Rally. Should YOU have a favorite place, please write about it and email it to Val Baselice, our Newsletter Editor.

Max and I feel so fortunate to have discovered this wonderful group of friends here in CHOC. So many of you have provided support and assistance, together with your warm friendship, that it is difficult to thank each person individually. You have added a wonderful dimension to our lives and we thank you all! See you in San Antonio!

San Antonio, Texas, a city known for its rich history, will play host to CHOC's 11th annual Fall Rally, October 12 – 16, 2009. Dazzling and diverse, San Antonio is a city in which cutting-edge contemporary flows alongside old Spanish missions and cobblestone walkways. In the streets you'll find history, color, pride and passion, and an experience that stays deep in the heart.....

We have reserved 50 full hookup sites at Blazing Star Luxury RV Resort (www.blazingstarrv.com), located in the picturesque countryside of the Texas Hill Country, a free shuttle ride away from Sea World and within miles of downtown San Antonio. Blazing Star has just received 30 out of 30 points by Trailer Life Directory for 2009 and a 5W/W rating from Woodall's. Blazing Star is one of the top 4 RV resorts in Texas and the top rated in San Antonio. Blazing Star's clubhouse, complete with two kitchens, will be available exclusively to CHOC during our rally. Additionally, they have a general store, game room, laundry facilities, adult fitness room, swimming pool, and 3 bathhouses. Thanks to Dick Copeland for doing much of the research to find our rally location.

We have an exciting itinerary planned. Watch for registration materials in mid-July. In the meantime, if you have questions, contact Vicky Ferrari, CHOC Rally Coordinator, at vicky.ferrari@ps.net or at (703) 779-0797 (home) or (703) 622-8287 (cell).



Yes, the guys do know how to cook as well as the gals of the club!

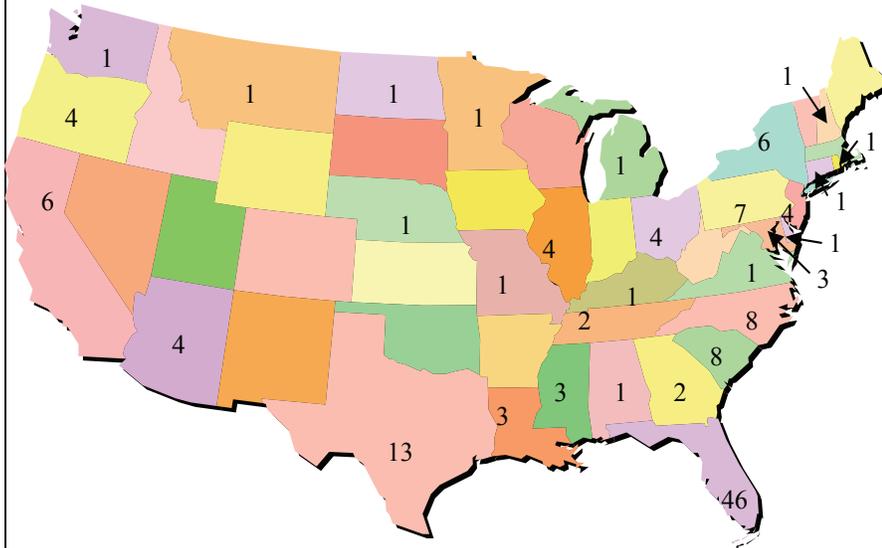
I think waiting in the ice cream line is better than the other food lines!



ClubTalk

WHERE ARE WE?

Ever wonder where the other members of CHOC are from? Here is how the 2009 membership is distributed across the country:



AL - 1	AZ - 4	CA - 6	CT - 1	DE - 1
FL - 46	GA - 2	IL - 4	KY - 1	LA - 3
MA - 2	MD - 3	MI - 1	MN - 1	MO - 1
MS - 3	MT - 1	NC - 8	ND - 1	NE - 1
NH - 1	NJ - 4	NY - 6	OH - 4	OR - 4
PA - 7	RI - 1	SC - 8	TN - 2	TX - 13
VA - 4	VT - 2	WA - 1		

Nominations for the Fall Elections

A nominating committee was formed to nominate candidates for CHOC officers that will come up for election in the Fall. Those positions are for CHOC President, 2nd Vice President and Rally Coordinator, 3rd Vice President in charge of Communications, National Director and Alternate National Director. The National Director and the Alternate are the CHOC representatives to the FMCA, our parent organization.

The nominating committee members are Trudy Sobol, Dorte Lowman, Chuck Johnson and Mike DiZazzo. Our e-mails, addresses and telephone numbers are in the member roster. You can also send an e-mail to madizazzo@yahoo.com and I will distribute your e-mail to the committee.

The committee has met in Charleston and via e-mail since then. The nominating committee will make recommendations for candidates at the Fall rally membership meeting. In addition, at the membership meeting, the floor will be open to everyone for nominations for office. The election for these offices will also be at the rally.

We are encouraging any club members who may have interest in an office coming up for election, to contact us for information. CHOC can only benefit from having two or three candidates for each office.

This is your club, and the committee encourages anyone who is willing to join in and become involved.

Good Service and Welding in North Charleston

It's common to read articles in many RV magazines about good deeds or services. I always appreciate them and try to make a mental note any business and its location for future reference. On our way to Charleston to attend the rally we realized that we needed to have welding repairs made to our Coach House. The chassis "C" channel had split right where the trailer hitch is attached on both sides. I called the Camping World in N. Charleston and asked if they could make welding repairs. They told me they did, so I made an appointment to bring our coach in. As it turned out, when the service technician saw the split he told me that he wouldn't be able to help me as his welder was not big enough. The story didn't end there. He told me of a welding shop not too far away that might be able to help me. He called them, discussed my problem with Steve and got his concurrence to bring the coach to them and see what they could do. The tech then went to his desk and printed MapQuest directions to find the welding shop. Camping World didn't fix my problem but their service is commendable. I'll remember that Camping World in N. Charleston.

Now, on to Field's Ornamental Welding. Steve met me as soon as I pulled into their lot. He looked under the coach then called his lead welder out to look at my problem. They talked for a moment and I could tell that they didn't have anyone available to work on it. They asked me if I could come back the next day. I explained my situation and said I really couldn't. They talked some more and then came back to me and said it might take all afternoon but they would work me in. It took 3 ½ hours but the repairs were made, and I'm confident the chassis is stronger now than before. I told Steve how much I appreciated them working me in. I was even more appreciative when he told me the cost of the welding repairs was \$150. Field's Ornamental Welding did fix my problem and their service was great. If you're in N. Charleston and have need of welding, remember Field's Ornamental Welding located just off of I-26.

Chuck Johnson
Panama City Beach, FL
CHOC #343

CHOC**Talk**

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May 18,2009

Dear Armando,

The members of CHOC want to express their appreciation for all you do. You are certainly an asset to the Coach House organization and a most valuable member of the team. Your personality and positive, smiling attitude are well received by all owners and CHOC members.

We specifically want to acknowledge the work performed at the rallies as well as the hours you have spent trying to deal with every member's issues and concerns. We realize that you can't fix every problem, though you always try. We also acknowledge that we unrealistically want our individual problem to be your first priority, and sometimes expect miracles. Many times you are a miracle worker, and we really appreciate your hard work and long hours.

We also want to thank you for sharing your knowledge and expertise as evidenced during the Tech Talk. Many questions, concerns and issues were brought up by members. Based on your intuitive answers and suggestions, our members continue to gain knowledge and confidence in caring for and maintaining our coaches.

We look forward to seeing you at many rallies to come. You are the best.

Sincerely,
CHOC Membership

We would like to thank all of the members that took the time to respond to the Charleston evaluations. Results of the evaluations will be used in planning our next rally in San Antonio. See the next newsletter for more information!