

# CHOCTALK

Volume 45

<http://www.choc-talk.org>

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**Merry Christmas**

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Another fantastic rally has come and gone. We enjoyed beautiful weather at "Sun-n Fun" in Sarasota. We started with our famous pot luck, which seems to grow bigger every time.

Monday we visited the Ringling Museum. You must see the miniature circus model in there to appreciate all the fine detail that went into making it. It is still a work in progress. That evening we had a very entertaining bird and magic show.

The next day Steve Gerzeny hosted a pizza lunch for all of us and during that time he explained the new and improved changes in the new coaches. We were all happy to hear that Coach House was profitable this past year.

Thursday was spent at the Mote marine laboratory and sea life encounter. It is a beautiful and educational place to visit. We had delicious box lunches there.

Dave Gerzeny's son Zac, the winner of the 2010 Guy Harvey Ultimate Shark Challenge, spoke with us and explained how he got involved in it and won. It was exciting and interesting to hear all the details. Dave was very much the proud Papa! After that we relaxed in the outdoor patio and listened to the tropical sounds of the Trinidades.

On Friday we said our good byes to our old friends and several new members who are now our new friends. Of course we certainly missed our friends who were unable to attend this rally and we look forward to seeing them at the next one. Several coaches went on to Fort Wilderness at Disney World. The great time continued there as well.

We were glad our friends from the factory could join in our fun. Now starts the count down to the factory rally in January and then to Branson, MO in May.

Katie Mathews, the immediate past President of CHOC, passed away November 7th. She was a beautiful lady and fought a huge battle with cancer. She will be missed.

Terry and I wish a wonderful holiday season and a very happy and healthy New Year to our extended family.

# RALLY TALK

## SARASOTA

A total of 30 coaches and 56 members attended the rally. As usual, we had a great time thanks to all of those who worked so hard to make it a success. Photos by Jim Sullivan. There are many more in the Club Photos section of the CHOC web page: [www.choc-talk.org](http://www.choc-talk.org)."



## FUTURE RALLIES

The 3rd annual factory rally will be Jan 7-9, 2011 in Nokomis, FL

"Save the Dates - The CHOC May Rally has been scheduled for May 16-20, 2011 and, by popular demand, we will be returning to America's Best Campground in Branson, MO.

## FIRST-TIMERS' PERSPECTIVE

At our fall rally, we enjoyed terrific weather, great friends, excursions, entertainment and delightful meals, prepared and served by the gracious staff at Boondocks. Fun-n-Sun provided a perfect setting for all of our activities.

As new owners and our first CHOC Rally, the event far exceeded our expectations. Kudos to Vicky Ferrari for her great organizational skills, magically fine tuning each event like that of a maestro conducting an orchestra.

Beginning with our potluck and meet-n-greet, other activities took us from the circus to the sea. Destinations: the Ringling Museum and the Mote Marine Laboratory. Highlights included the circus history in miniature, and a bay cruise, providing a dialogue of marine life biology. The aquarium afforded us a close encounter with two manatees. What a treat! Who could forget the Tropical Bird Magic Show and the Caribbean evening?

Another great rally came to a close as we bid farewell and look forward to our two rallies in 2011. Mark your calendars! Happy Holidays and safe traveling to all.

## FROM THE FMCA DIRECTOR

Everyone who joins the Coach House Owners Club (CHOC) must also be a member of Family Motor Coach Association (FMCA). I wonder how many of us ever look at FMCA beyond the membership requirement and understand the benefits afforded us by that affiliation. If you've never attended an area or national convention or rally you may be missing a treat. Phyllis and I attended our first convention in Redmond, OR in August. We had a great time. We both attended several seminars. I attended the Governor's Board and the International Area meetings .

The \$40 annual dues go for so much more than just a monthly magazine. Look at the website (FMCA.com). Make sure you understand the medical evacuation insurance program (FMCAssist) which covers you worldwide whether traveling in your motorhome or by any other means as well. That's just one major benefit.

The FMCA leadership encourages all members to be recruiters. If during your travels, you encounter a non-member, plant a seed for FMCA. It just might grow.

Chuck Johnson  
National Director

## NOTE FROM THE CHOC SECRETARY

Starting in May 2011, the minutes of the meeting will be emailed and placed on the website prior to the meeting. We will not print and copy the minutes to save on costs and natural resources. It is very important that you send us your updated email addresses if they change. You can send us your current information when you send in your 2011 dues and we will verify it against the current roster. Thanks for making sure we have your accurate data.

Phyllis Johnson  
[paj0414@yahoo.com](mailto:paj0414@yahoo.com)

## IN MEMORIUM

The following CHOC members passed away recently. Our heartfelt condolences to their families.

Robert Mahler , wife Shirley

Honey Wolff , husband Sandy

Kirsten Peuhsner

Allan Robertson , wife Louise

## Sun N Fun/Disney Combined Rallies' Cash Flow Report

### Cash Flow In

Sale of Clothing (All clothing from inventory)	150.00
Rally Attendance Fees	17,800.88
Other Rally Income (see Note 1)	120.00

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Total Cash In	18,070.88
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### Cash Flow Out

Dining	4,795.50
Entertainment	3,869.00
Food, Beverages & Related Supplies	120.10
Give Away Items (door prizes & tee-shirts)	846.20
Park Rent (see Note 2)	7,107.96
Transportation	950.00
Other Expenses (see Note 3)	76.08

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Total Cash Out	17,764.84
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Overall Total (see Note 4)	+306.04
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Note 1: Coach House contributed 120 towards the Sun N Fun rally expenses. In addition, Coach House furnished the rally participants with a pizza and soda lunch.

Note 2: Park rent for Sun N Fun was \$3,332. Park rent for Disney's Fort Wilderness was \$3,775.96. The Disney park rent included a dinner show (Whoop de Do) for those who chose to purchase it.

Note 3: \$50 for yearly renewal of the club's Costco membership and \$26.08 to purchase fuel for John Ferrari's car. John's car was used to scout all remote entertainment and for rally related shopping trips.

Note 4: We're currently waiting for Mr. Ken Badges N Signs to supply rally pins for the Sun N Fun rally.

## TRAVELIN....



Many of you have met us. We are Bella and Scamp, and this year we went travelin with our humans, Chuck and Phyllis Johnson. When we say travelin we mean travelin—say half of our young lives. Since most of you may be seasoned travelers, you may have been to all of the places our humans took us, but it was our first time. What great sites we saw.

Were they trying to set a record on how many National Parks they saw on one trip? Who knows but we saw a bunch. Started at the Petrified Forest and the Painted Desert in Arizona then continued to the Grand Canyon, Zion, Bryce, Crater Lake, Redwood National Park, Mt. St. Helen, Olympic, Glacier, Yellowstone, Grand Tetons, Mt. Rushmore, Badlands, Teddy Roosevelt, Lincoln's Home, not to mention other caves and monuments. Whew it makes us tired just writing about it especially when we remember our humans talking about 22 states and over 10,000 miles (whatever that means). If we heard them say once we must have heard them say a 1,000 times how awesome the sites of God's creation were. Of course, we know they were talking about us.

We saw animals we had never seen before. They sure were a lot bigger than we are. We saw elk, moose, bear, buffalo, 4 kinds of whales, coyote, trumpeter swan, deer, pronghorns, eagles, mountain goats, sea lions, harbor seals, and prairie dogs which were more our size. A bull elk and a buffalo walked right past each other. Our humans really get excited about seeing wildlife in their natural habitat. They took over 1000 pictures. We think our Coach House is our natural habitat—right?

Every day when our travel started we heard our humans praying for safety. It is a good thing they did because we had tire issues and electrical issues which all took minor "fixes" and maybe a day hanging out at a Camping World or other garage type places where we could get into all kinds of things when they weren't looking. God had His hand on us and answered their prayers.

Believe it or not we actually remembered our home when we finally got there. Pretty good for puppies who were only 5 1/2 months old when the trip started. We are now anxious to see where our humans will take us next. We sure do like this travelin and campin stuff. Till next time, Bella and Scamp....Travel Safe!!!

## IN MEMORIUM

### **Katie Mathews, President, CHOC 2007-2009**

Kathleen "Katie" Pearl Troy Mathews, 76, of Nacogdoches, Texas, passed away peacefully at her home on Lake Nacogdoches on Sunday, Nov. 7, 2010. She was born on June 9, 1934 in Bremerton, Wash.

She quietly and valiantly fought breast cancer for 15 years. Katie was the beloved wife of Max Mathews since 2004. Katie will be remembered by her countless friends and family. Katie touched the lives of so many people with her generous spirit. She was a seeker, adventurer and fun-loving soul who always brought excitement with her - She accomplished a tremendous amount in the business community, was appointed to many state and federal positions and earned innumerable awards and honors. She selflessly served on countless Boards of Directors and committees promoting business. She was the first woman Rotarian in the Tacoma 8 club (Wash.), first woman President of the Tacoma, Wash. Chamber of Commerce, first woman mayoral candidate in Poulsbo, Wash., and ran for Mayor of Tacoma, Wash. Katie was a published author as well as starting and selling numerous businesses. She never found a challenge she didn't confront head on. Cards can be sent to Katie's family at PO Box 6906 Tacoma WA 98417.

## **NEW MEMBERS CORNER**

CHOC would like to give a warm welcome to the following new members:

### **FLORIDA**

AJ & Pat Adams, Bob & Pat Collins, Roger & Marlene Haviland ,  
Gordon & LouAnn Tankersley, Barb Wood

### **IDAHO**

Steve & Elizabeth Willey

### **NEW YORK**

Harry & Cheryl Zakorchevnoy

### **NORTH CAROLINA**

Jerry & Betsy Barnett, Dick & Kay Harger

### **OHIO**

Mary Daniels and Jane Leiby

### **TEXAS**

Edward & Kandy Lilly

### **WASHINGTON**

John & Sharon Courage