

# Royale Coach Club

Newsletter

Fall 2016



Message from the President.....

As we are rolling east by the Dragoon Mountains east of Tucson, I'm reflecting on how luck we are – we have seen so many sights in the Tucson area and had the opportunity to visit with old and new friends alike.



Many thanks to Naomi and Nick Theisz for organizing an action packed rally! My favorite activities were the Kitt Peak Observatory (the night sky instruction) and the tour of the Kartchner Caverns. Many other activities were also very interesting and beautiful. Richard and I met some nice pickleball players at the Voyager park and stayed around several extra days to play some pickleball and see a few more sights. We thoroughly enjoyed a drive up Mount Lemmon while listening to an app “Mount Lemmon Science” which was put together by University of Arizona students, describing the different ecosystems seen on the ride up the mountain. It was 96°F in Tucson and 59°F at the top of Mount Lemmon.

We enjoyed meeting first timers Jim and Billie Wright from Azle, TX (near Fort Worth) and Larry and Hildegard Rebholz from Milwaukee. If you need a good laugh, be sure to speak with Jim Wright – does he ever have some motorhome stories to tell!!

While the rest of us were enjoying activities in the Tucson area, Walter Kowal from Millennium was running around working on attendees' coaches. He was only able to break away and join us on 2 days – the rest of the time, he was working – an admirable task, as it was very hot. Our thanks to Millennium for all of their support. They put on a very nice reception on the first night of the rally and their enthusiastic sponsorship is a breath of fresh air. Nelson Figueroa said to mark your calendars for the Millennium Rally Feb 21-26, 2017. I'm sure it will be a great time for all who attend.



Naomi and Nick outdid themselves with entertainment on several nights of the rally. Everyone was dancing and singing with a very unique, large high school Mariachi Band. You just had to be there to understand the talent (and obvious hard work) of these students. Many of them had been playing the violin since they were 5 years old! Their performance was inspiring.



Prevost once again provided bus transportation for the longer trips of the rally and we are very appreciative of their sponsorship. Robert Jones says that the Prevost Prouds' fall rally Sept 14-17, 2017 will be in Quebec City and will include a trip to Prevost Car Company. [The Royale Coach Club rally at Prince Edward Island is ~~Aug 23-27, 2017~~ so the northeast is where it's at for the fall of 2017].

### **Sep 5-9, 2017**

At the Savannah rally in the spring, a review of the Royale Coach Club documents was discussed. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P., Richard McCurdy, and our Secretary, Denny McCurdy took on this task. They reviewed all of our documents and looked at them with a fresh set of eyes. Since they had recently been new rally masters, they added some things to the Rally Master Guidelines and also to the Club Sponsorship Guidelines to make it easier for a rally master to do their job. Many thanks to Denny and Richard for this job well done. Per discussions with the Royale Coach Club board, we added a description of an Associate Rally Sponsor - - a smaller sponsor which in no way

competes with our Coach Conversion Sponsor or our Transportation Sponsor. This change was reviewed with Nelson Figueroa of Millennium and Robert Jones of Prevost. A rally master must contact Millennium and Prevost for approval of an Associate Sponsor.

Wherever your plans lead you for the holidays and this winter, I wish you a loving time with family and friends, and safe travels.

The next Royale Coach Club rally will be May 3-9, 2017, in Powhatan, VA at Cozy Acres Campground, owned by RCC members Larry and Jean Daniel. Richard and Denny McCurdy have volunteered to be rally masters for this rally, with advice from Cindy Barbeau and Stanley Reahard.

It was suggested that we have a basket for anonymous rally location ideas at our meeting. We tried that for the first time in Tucson and the following ideas surfaced: Las Vegas; Fall racing, Keeneland, KY; Bluegrass country, Lexington, KY; Branson, MO; Smokey Mountains; Dallas area; Utah: Zion, Bryce, Moab. If you are knowledgeable about any of these areas and are interested in being a rally master (perhaps with another couple?), please contact Jim McNulty.

Once again I will mention that this club is unique because of the people who are willing to share their knowledge of an area and organize a rally. Many thanks to the past, present, and future rally masters.

SEE YOU IN VIRGINIA, IF NOT SOONER!



Anne Gould, RCC president.



## Highlights of the “Rally in the Desert Southwest”

*[Editor’s Note : I was not at the Tucson Rally and several people provided notes and photos on the happenings. I would like to thank Nick & Naomi Theisz and Denny & Richard McCurdy. In particular, Naomi provided the majority of the information for the write-up below]*

The Royale Coach Club just wrapped up an ambitious nine day rally in sunny Tucson, Arizona with nineteen coaches attending. Rally hosts Naomi & Nick Theisz kept everyone hopping with trips all over southern Arizona.

The first day of the rally started off with a visit to the Titan Missile Museum for those who had arrived early. The Titan Missile Base Museum is located just south of Tucson, the only remaining example of our cold war defense. All others were decommissioned



and destroyed. We were able to actually view the missile in its silo and understand what was involved to protect us in case of foreign attack. Later, Millennium Luxury Motor



Coach, our sponsor, hosted a welcoming reception that was followed by the Pueblo High School Mariachi band. The kids serenaded us and even danced with us. Great fun for all!



Breakfast was available every morning of the rally for the attendees.



On Tuesday, the club visited Sabino Canyon and Saguaro National Park. Then they enjoyed a scrumptious buffet meal at the Tanque Verde Guest Ranch.



Another Arizona point of interest visited by the club on Wednesday was ASARCO, a working copper mine. After the visit to the mine, the group went to Mission San Xavier Del Bac. A National Historic Landmark, San Xavier Mission was founded as a Catholic mission by Father Eusebio Kino in 1692. Construction of the current church began in 1783 and was completed in 1797. The oldest intact European structure in Arizona, the church's interior is filled with marvelous original statuary and mural paintings. It is a place where visitors can truly step back in time and enter an authentic 18th Century space.



The Pima Air and Space Museum and the Bone Yard where the US government stores thousands of retired aircraft. These planes are saved for possible re-commissioning or for parts. It is a unique one of a kind facility that is located in Tucson because of its dry climate. A visit to Pinnacle Peaks Steak House included a gunslinger performance from the actors of Pinnacle Peaks.



A trip to Kartchner Caverns State Park, Tombstone, AZ and the Silver Queen Mine filled another day. Kartchner Cavern was discovered in the 70's but kept secret for fifteen years while the state built an appropriate visitors entrance. Helldorado Days was taking place in Tombstone so we got to see many characters in costumes of the old west. The Silver Queen Mine closed in 1975. We were led through the mine on a small train with a guide who worked the mine until it closed. He made us really understand what life was like for the men who worked the mine.



The Arizona Sonora Desert Museum is world famous and is the #1 attraction in Tucson according to Trip Advisor. Only animals native the Northern Mexico and Arizona are at home here. Besides wildlife, visitors learn about the geology and botany of the area. Chef Jacob entertained us with his excellent skills when he made pizzas for a dinner hosted by the Chalks in honor of their 63<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary. The group was entertained by the Tucson Barbershop experience. Dinner and the barbershop singing were followed by a



wonderful cake and Eegee's, a Tucson original treat.

Three miles from the Museum is Old Tucson, a movie location where hundreds of westerns have been filmed. Naomi took a group out for an authentic Mexican meal at El Charro's, one of Tucson's oldest and best restaurants while Nick took others to a local steakhouse.



A trip to Tumacacori National Monument and Tubac State historic Park taught us about the history of Father Kino, a Jesuit priest who brought Catholicism to Arizona and was responsible for two of the many missions that dot the western states. Tubac is the home of the second oldest schoolhouse in Arizona. The guide talked about how difficult travel was in covered wagons.



The last full day of the rally started with Chef Jacob returning to make wonderful omelets right at our campsites. Millennium followed breakfast with a Tech Talk. The culmination of the rally was a nighttime visit to Kitt Peak National Observatory. Kitt Peak sits at an elevation of 7000 on the Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation. It was chosen to be our national observatory because of the dark sky in that location of Arizona. It is a cooperative effort between the US Government and the Tohono O'odham tribe. We were able to view constellations, nebulae and clusters of live and dead stars. We can still see the sparkling light of dead stars while their light travel to our planet because the stars are billions of light years away.



We had many exciting meals and events during this rally. The southwest is a beautiful area. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we have during our time here. We were only to give you the barest look at this beautiful land. We hope that in the future, you can explore this wondrous southwest of our country more fully.



## New Royale Coach Club Members

- Mark & Deb Neumann – Richfield, OH
- Richard & Sharon Multanen – Monterey, CA

*No Photo Available*

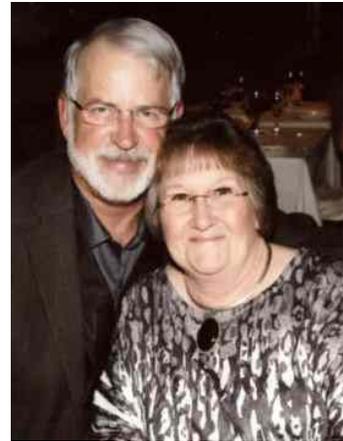
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## First Timers at the Tucson Rally

- Lawrence & Hildegard Rebholz – Milwaukee, WI

*No Photo Available*

- Jim & Billie Wright – Azle, TX



## Prevost Update

Nick & Naomi Theisz have a reputation for putting on a great rally and they really treated us to a wide variety of activities in and around Tucson. Unfortunately, I was only able to

attend the first four days and left the rally feeling like I missed out on things planned for the last half of the rally. We were able to post some photos of the rally on Prevost's social media as a way of sharing this wonderful time with Prevost enthusiasts outside of the Royale Coach Club.



When you're a Prevost motorhome owner you're more than just a friend, you're part of the Prevost family. Prevost is proud to have such incredibly passionate motorhome owners who love to show their Prevost pride and their exquisite coaches. As part of the family, we want to stay in touch with you but we also want you to be able to stay in touch with us throughout the year. Show your Prevost pride and connect with us on social media!

Like us on Facebook at [facebook.com/PrevostCoach](https://facebook.com/PrevostCoach) and follow us on Twitter at @PrevostCoach ! By connecting with us, we can keep you informed about the latest and greatest at Prevost and our conversion partners, but more importantly you can stay connected with us. Share pictures of your exciting cross-country travels; send us pictures of your family enjoying quality time in and out of your motorhome; post a funny memory from a rally or friend trip. When you purchase a Prevost motorhome you become part of the family, so stay connected with us wherever your wheels take you.

During the rally, some of you asked about Prevost's recent re-organization. We have a couple of new managers on the sales and marketing side of our business. Prevost is pleased to announce the appointment of Jack Forbes to the position of Vice President, North American Sales. Jack will be responsible for new coach, conversion and public sector sales. Having previously managed corporate accounts and commuter sales, Jack has been with Prevost for eighteen years and in the bus industry for a total of thirty-five years. I have counted him as a friend for more than 20 years and I am looking forward to working with him in his new role.

Jack reports to Francois Tremblay who is our Vice President Business Line Prevost. Francois came to Prevost from Bombardier Recreational Products and has been with Prevost since January. Francois brings new energy and a new outlook to Prevost. His prior focus on high end consumer toys such as jet skis, snow mobiles and ATV's makes it easy for him to relate to your motorhome lifestyle and how Prevost quality and reliability are major keys to your enjoyment of that lifestyle.

Prevost is constantly improving our parts and service support. The easiest way to stay on top of these changes is to download the free Prevost Tools app to your smart phone and/or tablet. This app has contact names & numbers, speed dial for PASS (Prevost Action Service System), a service locator, wiring diagrams, parts ordering, service bulletins, manuals, driver's guide, merchandise, and much more.

Safe Travels,

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To our friends at Royal Coach Club

Millennium Luxury Coaches was pleased to partner with Prevost to sponsor the Royale Coach Club's 2016 Fall rally in Tucson, Arizona. Rally masters Naomi and Nick Theisz did a wonderful job planning and hosting this exciting 10-day event highlighted by trips to many of the local sights. Sabino Canyon, San Xavier del Bac Mission, the Pima Air Museum, Kartchner Cavern, Tombstone, the Queen Mine in Bisbee and Kitt Peak National Observatory were among the activities we shared. We were entertained by a local High School Mariachi Band, and enjoyed a barbershop chorus in concert. It was a wonderful time seeing friends from around the country and enjoying the fun, food and friendship. We at Millennium were happy to provide service to many while there, thanks to Walter and our new Millennium service vehicle.

Hope to see everyone at the Millennium Rally or the next RCC Rally (or both)!!!

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# **Royale Coach Club - 2017 Spring Rally**

## **May 3 – 9, 2017**

**Cozy Acres Campground**

**2177 Ridge Rd**

**Powhatan, VA 23139**

**Rally Masters: Denny and Richard McCurdy**

Join your Royale Coach Club friends to see the historic area of Richmond, VA. Possible activities include:

- Historic Richmond
  - VA Capital designed by Thomas Jefferson
  - Robert E. Lee's headquarters
  - American Civil War Museum
- Monticello, primary plantation of Thomas Jefferson
- Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens
- Keystone Truck & Tractor Museum
- Shopping at Short Pump Town Center or Stony Point

RCC members Jean and Larry Daniel own the Cozy Acres Campground. This rally will include several of their breakfasts and some dinners with possible entertainment. We plan to have free time to do whatever you would enjoy. Planning for this rally is in progress – more information to follow.

## General Pet Care

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### Holiday Safety Tips *from the ASPCA*



The holiday season is upon us, and many pet parents plan to include their furry companions in the festivities. As you gear up for the holidays, it is important to try to keep your pet's eating and exercise habits as close to their normal routine as possible. Also, please be sure to steer pets clear of the following unhealthy treats, toxic plants and dangerous decorations.

#### **Be Careful with Seasonal Plants and Decorations**

- **Oh, Christmas Tree:** Securely anchor your Christmas tree so it doesn't tip and fall, causing possible injury to your pet. This will also prevent the tree water—which may contain fertilizers that can cause stomach upset—from spilling. Stagnant tree water is a breeding ground for bacteria, and your pet could end up with nausea or diarrhea should he imbibe.
- **Avoid Mistletoe & Holly:** Holly, when ingested, can cause pets to suffer nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Mistletoe can cause gastrointestinal upset and cardiovascular problems. And many varieties of lilies can cause kidney failure

in cats if ingested. Opt for just-as-jolly artificial plants made from silk or plastic, or choose a pet-safe bouquet.

- **Tinsel-less Town:** Kitties love this sparkly, light-catching "toy" that's easy to bat around and carry in their mouths. But a nibble can lead to a swallow, which can lead to an obstructed digestive tract, severe vomiting, dehydration and possible surgery. It's best to brighten your boughs with something other than tinsel.
- **That Holiday Glow:** Don't leave lighted candles unattended. Pets may burn themselves or cause a fire if they knock candles over. Be sure to use appropriate candle holders, placed on a stable surface. And if you leave the room, put the candle out!
- **Wired Up:** Keep wires, batteries and glass or plastic ornaments out of paws' reach. A wire can deliver a potentially lethal electrical shock and a punctured battery can cause burns to the mouth and esophagus, while shards of breakable ornaments can damage your pet's mouth and digestive tract.

### **Avoid Holiday Food Dangers**

- **Skip the Sweets:** By now you know not to feed your pets chocolate and anything sweetened with xylitol, but do you know the lengths to which an enterprising pet will go to chomp on something yummy? Make sure to keep your pets away from the table and unattended plates of food, and be sure to secure the lids on garbage cans.
- **Leave the Leftovers:** Fatty, spicy and no-no human foods, as well as bones, should not be fed to your furry friends. Pets can join the festivities in other fun ways that won't lead to costly medical bills.
- **Careful with Cocktails:** If your celebration includes adult holiday beverages, be sure to place your unattended alcoholic drinks where pets cannot get to them. If ingested, your pet could become weak, ill and may even go into a coma, possibly resulting in death from respiratory failure.
- **Selecting Special Treats:** Looking to stuff your pet's stockings? Stick with chew toys that are basically indestructible, Kongs that can be stuffed with healthy foods or chew treats that are designed to be safely digestible. Long, stringy things are a feline's dream, but the most risky toys for cats involve ribbon, yarn and loose little parts that can get stuck in the intestines, often necessitating

surgery. Surprise kitty with a new ball that's too big to swallow, a stuffed catnip toy or the interactive cat dancer.

Please visit our [People Foods to Avoid Feeding Your Pets \(/pet-care/animal-poison-control/people-foods-avoid-feeding-your-pets\)](/pet-care/animal-poison-control/people-foods-avoid-feeding-your-pets) page for more information.

### **Plan a Pet-Safe Holiday Gathering**

- **House Rules:** If your animal-loving guests would like to give your pets a little extra attention and exercise while you're busy tending to the party, ask them to feel free to start a nice play or petting session.
- **Put the Meds Away:** Make sure all of your medications are locked behind secure doors, and be sure to tell your guests to keep their meds zipped up and packed away, too.
- **A Room of Their Own:** Give your pet his own quiet space to retreat to—complete with fresh water and a place to snuggle. Shy pups and cats might want to hide out under a piece of furniture, in their carrying case or in a separate room away from the hubbub.
- **New Year's Noise:** As you count down to the new year, please keep in mind that strings of thrown confetti can get lodged in a cat's intestines, if ingested, perhaps necessitating surgery. Noisy poppers can terrify pets and cause possible damage to sensitive ears. And remember that many pets are also scared of fireworks, so be sure to secure them in a safe, escape-proof area as midnight approaches.