

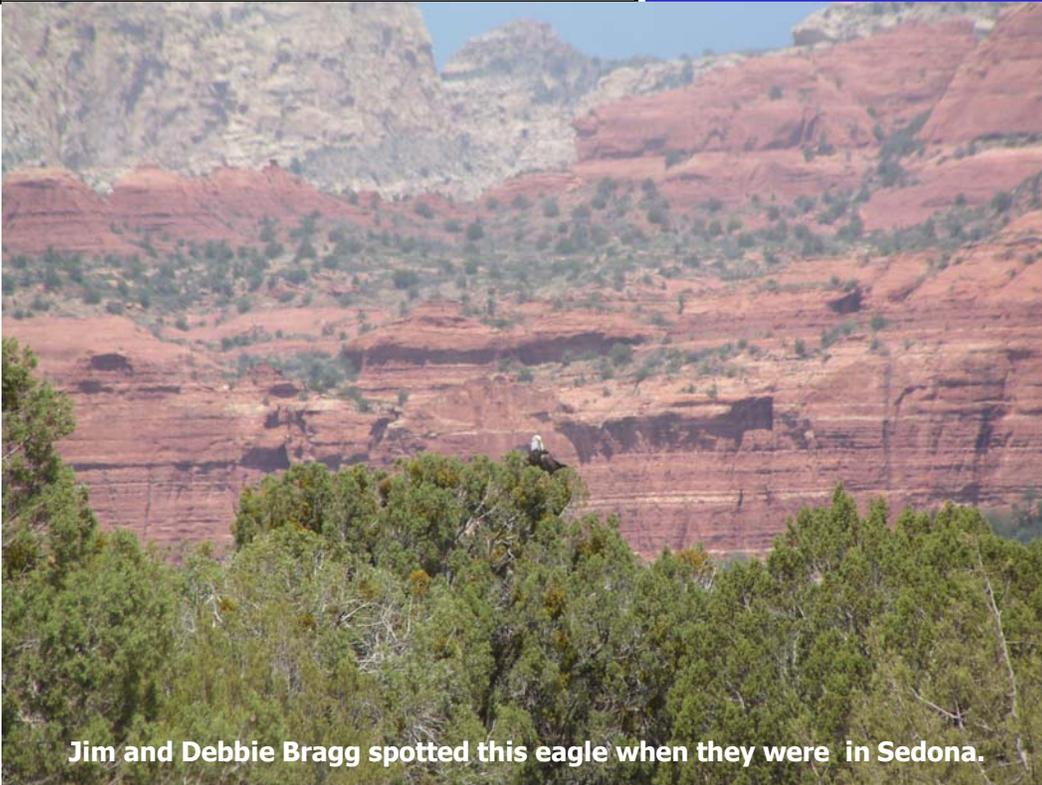


**ALPINE COACH  
ASSOCIATION**

# A View From The Summit

**Volume 17 Issue #8 September 2009**

**CHECK OUT THE RALLY  
SCHEDULE ON PAGE 5**

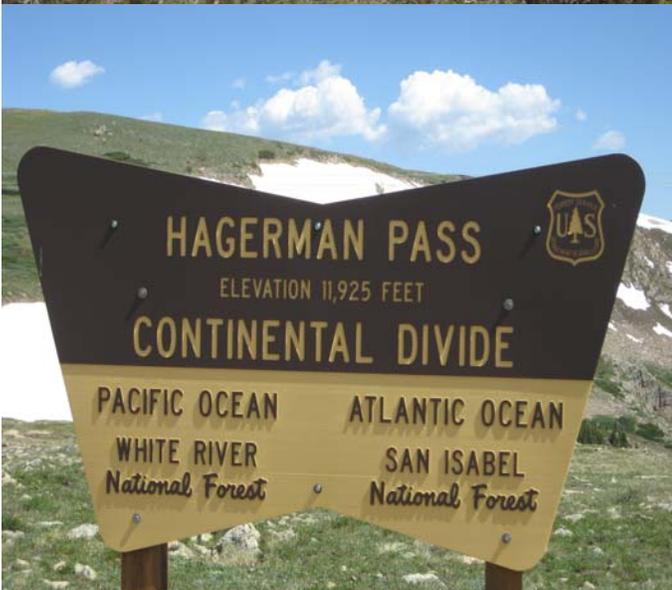


Jim and Debbie Bragg spotted this eagle when they were in Sedona.

ACA Members on the move. There's so much to see in our beautiful country. Traveling in style in our Alpine Coaches just make it that much more enjoyable. Here are some pictures our members sent in.

Have a great picture of one of your Alpine adventures?

Look on page 4 for info on where to submit your pictures.



Bob and Jean Bartlett were up the creek in Colorado!

## From Our President —Paul (Sully) Sullivan



**Dale & Paul Sullivan**

Dale and I have been in touch with many of you over the summer and can report that ACA members have been out in force enjoying our beautiful country. Please send pictures and stories of your travels to Renee Perrault, our Newsletter Editor, so she can include them in our newsletters. As I write this, ACE is having a Rally in Cape May, New Jersey, and reports are that fun is being had by all.

Currently Dave Fernandez is putting the final touches on the Heritage Rally in San Diego. We are the first coach club to enjoy the hospitality of The United States Marine Corps at Miramar, and they are doing everything to make our rally memorable. We are all looking forward to the Blue Angels and the Canadian Snowbirds going through their paces at tree top level over the coaches.....and that is called preferred parking!

There will be a General membership meeting at the Heritage Rally and among the items for discussion is the dues level for the coming year. Please feel free to contact me or any other board member if there is something you would like to put on the meeting agenda. We have increased our membership ranks this past year and look forward to greeting new members at the upcoming rallies.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the end of the month, keep safe, keep healthy and keep RVing.

### Need to Contact a Board Member?

Name	Board Position	Cell Phone	Email
Paul Sullivan	President	619-392-8775	sobersully@hotmail.com
Earlene Bloomquist	Membership Director	509-969-2503	jebloom@earth-comm.com
Frank Halasz	Secretary	505-263-1930	fhalasz@swcp.com
Andy Lewis	Special Projects Director	702-682-5278	Firemans@embarqumail.com
Debbie Bragg	Treasurer	817-994-3998	dbragg@swbell.net
Fred Royce	Director	360-460-0154	fhroyce@olypen.com
Louis Burch	FMCA National Director	214-534-0399	labsr@aol.com
	<b>2010 Board Members Elect</b>		
Dale Wilson	Membership Director		
Tris Swan	FMCA Asst. National Director	714-357-0505	swansnest2@earthlink.net

## Debbie Bragg— Treasurer



**Debbie and Jim Bragg**

Hi to all you Alpine members,

Jim and I headed west from Texas toward the Mirmar Rally in San Diego a couple of weeks ago and have been enjoying our stay near Sedona, AZ. Yesterday we visited a couple of ruins and saw a bald eagle. We also saw a coyote run right across in front of our car. It was awesome!! We look forward to seeing everyone in San Diego. There is still plenty of room, so all yall sign up and join in on the fun. Get your checks into Dave Fernandez as soon as possible and don't be left out. We look forward to seeing everyone soon.

## Fred Royce - Director

A busy summer is almost over. There was a flight to Ohio to participate in a family event where a granddaughter celebrated her Bat Mitzvah - a moving experience for a pair of Episcopalians. Another highlight was having all of our grandchildren together at the same time.

We also took a cruise to Alaska where we viewed magnificent glaciers and mountains. We felt especially privileged to have some clear sunny days that permitted seeing Mt. McKinley and the Denali range in all its glory. Viewing these mountains and glaciers made us appreciate the power and beauty of nature. It makes us now wonder if we should consider a more extended trip with our coach to Alaska. Is this something a group of Alpine owners should consider?

The tool box in the coach did not rust. Several trips were made to attend rallies including two with the NoWACA Chapter. These were held in Pendleton, OR and Port Townsend, WA. Both were well attended and offered fun activities, great food and fellowship. The Pendleton rally even included an underground tour with re-enactors that included a visit to their famous bordello. This writer was able to connect with the "madam"; we got along quite well until I asked to meet her "staff".

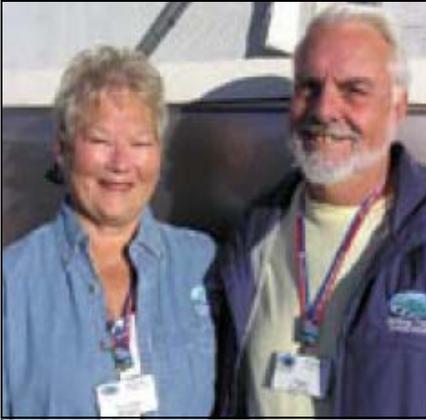
Our next excursions will be to meander along the West coastline to attend the ACA event in San Diego and later the Desert Rat Rally in January. I encourage your attendance as the wagon-masters have great plans.

As President Paul has stated, "ACA is a different organization". The challenge for you and me is to continue focusing on what is needed to assure our future and attract Alpine coach owners. One aspect, as has been mentioned before, is to develop our technical information base and support to better serve our Members. Having Mark Hannah's services is a major step in that direction. Another is to have closer coordination with our sister chapters so as to benefit all Alpine coach owners. We also need to continue development of our leadership base, and in that regard the Nominating Committee has a major role to play. As one who presently sits on the Executive Board, I seek your thoughts on how we can continue moving forward.



**Fred & Carol Royce**

## THE ALPINE COACH ASSOCIATION BOARD



Earlene & Jerry Bloomquist

### Earlene Bloomquist—Membership Director

Hope everyone has had an exciting and fun summer. Jerry and I have been in Alaska since June with 3 of our Alpine friends, Lowell and Sandy Potvin, Jim and Jodi Girouard, John and Suzanne Tripp.

When I wrote in the last ACA Newsletter that we were going to Alaska for the summer, I received a phone call from Mike and Lamie Ellsworth (ACA Members from Alaska) inviting us to call them when we got to Fairbanks and we meet them for dinner. We met them in Fairbanks and had a wonderful dinner and a fun evening.

When we arrived in Anchorage, I called Tom and Marilyn Anteau whom I had received an ACA Membership Application from and we then invited them to have dinner with all of us. I told them to come to the RV Park where we were staying at so we could visit before dinner. Tom told us he had just been salmon fishing and had 1/2 of a salmon for each of us which we have all enjoyed very much.

Then we were at Portage AK at a State Campground which was close to where we were going to the Prince William Sound Glacier Cruise. While there, an Alpine owner saw Jerry outside of our Coach and came to ask him if he was a member of ACA and Jerry told them that I was the ACA Membership Director and would they like to talk with me and they said yes. They joined ACA and we hope to see them at Quartzsite, their names are Gary and Marcy Davidson from Sonora, CA.

We wish to thank all of them for all the fun we had with all of them and hope to see them again at one of the ACA Rallies.

I was going write an article for our Newsletter this month BUT, our computer crashed while in Whitehorse Yukon, we took it to a computer shop and he was able to download everything to our external hard drive. So we can't email anyone until we buy a new computer when we return to the lower USA.

Want you all to know how very much I have enjoyed the four years I have been the ACA Membership Director. Dale Wilson is the new 2nd Vice President (ACA Membership Director) I will contact you when I return to AZ in Oct. so you can come and get ALL the ACA supplies and learn how to do this job. My best wishes to you.

Our total membership as of Aug. 1, 2009 is 389.

**Have a suggestion for the ACA Newsletter?  
Send it to:  
Renee Perrault—Editor at [reneegary@msn.com](mailto:reneegary@msn.com)**

## ALPINE RALLY CALENDAR 2009 & 2010

**Time to start planning your travel route so you can attend as many rallies as possible this year.**

September 25-26 2009	Prosser	NoWACA	More info to come
September 25 -27	Club Royal Oak Kingsburg, Ca.	SoCal	Tom & Patty Dietrich, tpdietrich@sbcglobal.net Nick and Ramona Escamilla rescamilla428@yahoo.com
September 28-29	Pre Rally Chula Vista RV Resort	National	Dave Fernandez <a href="mailto:AlpineDriver@msn.com">AlpineDriver@msn.com</a>
September 30th — October 5th 2009	ACA Heritage Marine Air Station Miramar near San Diego, CA	National	Dave Fernandez <a href="mailto:AlpineDriver@msn.com">AlpineDriver@msn.com</a>
November 7—9 2009	Newport Dunes Newport, Ca.	SoCal	Bill & Patty Figge <a href="mailto:figgebp@mac.com">figgebp@mac.com</a> Jack/Linda Giddens crazysingerkg@yahoo.com
January 20—25th 2010	Desert Rat Rally IV Quartzsite, AZ	National	Gary and Diana Shanander dedebray@hotmail.com
February 12-15 2010	Oasis Resort—Las Vegas	SoCal	John & Gail Stacy <a href="mailto:gjstacy@cox.net">gjstacy@cox.net</a>
March 17—21 2010	FMCA Pre-Rally Albuquerque, NM	National	Louis Burch <a href="mailto:labsr@aol.com">labsr@aol.com</a>
March 22—25 2010	Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta Park	FMCA	Check FMCA Website
March 26—29 2010	Pueblo El Mirage Phoenix Metro area	SoCal	Mac & Anne McDougal <a href="mailto:mcdanne2@gmail.com">mcdanne2@gmail.com</a> Ollie & Katy Hundelt <a href="mailto:okhundelt@esedona.net">okhundelt@esedona.net</a>
May 16—23 2010	Distant Drums RV Park Camp Verde, AZ	SoCal	Jim & Stephanie Archer <a href="mailto:searcher@cox.net">searcher@cox.net</a> Ed & Donna Mathews <a href="mailto:Ejm_mathews@msn.com">Ejm_mathews@msn.com</a>



### Have Pictures from Rallies?

Carol Schock is our Alpine Coach Association Historian. Please send your pictures to her at:  
[yumatrailertrash@hotmail.com](mailto:yumatrailertrash@hotmail.com)

Be sure to include as much information as possible, place, names of people in photo, what rally etc.

FIND more 2010 rallies at our website at  
<http://www.alpinecoachassociation.com/info/events.htm>

## NOWACA ROCKS PORT TOWNSEND by Elaine Ellis

On July 23, 26 Alpines descended on the Fairgrounds at Port Townsend, Washington, for the first annual "Fred Sez" rally. We were led by Wagon masters Larry and Barbara Smith, assisted by Mike and Charlotte Gamble and Carol and Fred ("sez") Royce. The fairgrounds provided us with electric & water, as well as a great facility for dinners and meetings -- the 4H building. As usual with NoWaca, we dined royally. The first evening was our traditional potluck. One evening, we stuffed ourselves on Washington seafood -- clams, mussels and salmon; on another barbequed tri-tip took center stage. Our lunch hour was spent at the "Valley Cafe" in nearby Port Hadlock. This establishment has been a mainstay of the town for over 30 years, and with good reason. We enjoyed a tasty lunch buffet of fish & chips, and afterwards played "bacon bingo". 5 across or diagonally won you a pound of bacon! But the main prizes were an amazing array of freebies donated by a number of the local Port Townsend merchants.

One morning we boarded a bus for nearby Kingston, WA and the "My Girl Drive-in and Museum" -- 10,000 square feet of collectibles, including classic cars and an extensive collection of Elvis and rock memorabilia. Another day saw us touring the waterfront district of Victorian Port Townsend. Guides George & Joan Fowler, dressed in period costume, told us about the history of Port Townsend, once the second largest seaport in the US (after New York City).

On the last evening we danced to the New Orleans Dixieland jazz of the Dukes of Dabob. This group proved so popular that several members of a family reunion, (also enjoying the fairgrounds), came to dance at our party. Another great rally -- NoWaca has done it again. Check our upcoming events in the ACA newsletter, as all ACA members are welcome to join in.

A big thanks too our Wagon Masters they did a terrific job!!!!  
Larry & Barb Smith, Mike & Charlotte Gamble, & Fred & Carol Royce



## REGION CONTACTS

<b>ACE</b> East Coast	Tom & Peggy Bacome 731-935-2303 <a href="mailto:pjbacome@aol.com">pjbacome@aol.com</a>	<b>NorCal</b> Northern California Northern Nevada	John & Barbara Knox 408-356-5267 <a href="mailto:jdknbak@verizon.net">jdknbak@verizon.net</a> Cell 408-218-8192
<b>Full-timers</b>	Maureen Dahl 425-466-1445 <a href="mailto:wandern.two@verizon.net">wandern.two@verizon.net</a>	<b>NoWACA</b> Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana	Larry & Barbara Smith 360-437-2913 <a href="mailto:typsmith@olympen.com">typsmith@olympen.com</a>
<b>Mid-west</b>	Ted & Kay Watts 636-926-0024 <a href="mailto:themowatts@aol.com">themowatts@aol.com</a>	<b>SoCal</b> Southern California Southern Nevada	John & Gail Stacy 702-858-0400 <a href="mailto:gjstacy@cox.net">gjstacy@cox.net</a>

Many ACA members belong to local regions to participate in activities closer to home. We encourage and support our Regions but please remember, the Alpine Coach Association provides benefits such as Tech support and the Technical Library that are open **only** to Alpine Coach Association Members. Alpine Coach Association offers unique rallies, fellowship and an array of support for Alpine Coach owners.

### New Alpine Coach Association Members—

Let's extend a big a big ACA welcome to our newest members. If you haven't already checked out the Rally Schedule on page 5, please take a look and start making plans! There are many events to attend in the remainder of 2009 and 2010. New Members we look forward to seeing you at future rallies, you will enjoy meeting other Alpine owners and taking advantage of the benefits that come with being an Alpine Coach Association member.

**Robert and Valerie Donelson - Kelseyville CA**  
**Raymond and Led Wynn - Morgan Hill CA**  
**Sam and Willa Hartman - Arvada CO**  
**Tom and Marilyn Anteau - Anchorage AK**  
**William and Gail Baleto - Las Vegas NV**  
**Gary and Marcy Davidson - Sonora CA**  
**Don and Ruth Johnson - Etna CA**  
**Milt and Meme Amaral - Lake Oswego OR**  
**Bob and Karen Heidecker - Bozeman MT**  
**Jim and Peg Brown - Sequim WA**  
**Glen and Bev Hansen - Tacoma WA**  
**Jerry and Eunice Van Ded-Berg - Oak Hills CA**

## Members Helping Members

By Renee Perrault

It's been said that Alpine Coach Association members are among the friendliest people in the RV world.....now let's add helpful. I have to brag on my husband, Gary Arnold. We live in Renton Washington, Wayne and Lanna Davey were staying in the area and using their member list, called our house looking for some recommendations on where to take their coach to fix an electrical problem. Their batteries had been replaced and they still had electrical issues. The battery wouldn't charge and they needed help. Boy did they hit the jackpot. Gary has a degree in electronics (which explains all the cool gadgets he's installed in our coach) and dearly loves a challenge. He drove out to their RV Park, about 15 miles away, and took a look at the situation. He figured out that the problem was with the main inverter charger fuse, the symptoms were masked, due to some incorrect wiring causing a backfeed. Gary came home, researched where to buy the fuse, passed the information on to Wayne and Lanna and when it was installed, they were able to get the wiring fixed. When you're an ACA member, help is just a phone call away, either to our resident expert, Mark Harrah or with another helpful member. Great job Gary!



**Have a Problem and Need a**

**Quick Answer?**

**Own Resident Expert, Mark Harrah**

Mark has contracted with ACA to field questions from members and help guide them to a solutions. So far, in six months, he has replied to hundreds of emails to help members with coach problems. Emails range from simple part questions to trouble shooting gen slides and Vansco questions.

When contacting Mark, he prefers a detailed email to start; email him at: [racer\\_s10ss@yahoo.com](mailto:racer_s10ss@yahoo.com) This is a service for ACA members only, include your name and ACA Membership number in your email. Please remember that Mark is doing this as in addition to his regular job and will return your call ASAP but on his off hours. Also keep in mind he is on the West Coast so a call at 7:30 am in the east will probably interrupt his sleep and affect the quality of his answer.

Mark can be reached at 509-901-2015

**For answers to questions and advice from other Alpine Coach owners visit [www.IRV2.com](http://www.IRV2.com) and click Alpine Coach Owners Forum.**



c/o Renee Perrault—Editor  
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