



Penn Coachmen Summer Olympics at Ferryboat Campsites, Liverpool, PA:

The purpose of the summer olympics at Ferryboat Campsites is for the enjoyment and fellowship of our members including games, food, entertainment and just good camping fun. **Please note: there will be no running required at the olympics.** The activities will allow our members to get to know one another better while having fun at the same time. Looking forward to seeing you there.



**Co-Hosts: Chuck and Dottie Finn
Jim and Shirley Lothert**

A FUN TIME AT GILBERT

“A FUN TIME” was had by all who attended the June Rally at West End Fairgrounds at Gilbert, PA. Our rally masters were Joe and Margaret Kluk with a large group of capable and experienced hosts.

Our Friday night “min meal” included delicious home-made vegetable beef soup made by our hostess Margaret Kluk. The evening ended with a night at the movies featuring “RV” with Robin Williams and included plenty of popcorn.

On Saturday, our group caravanned to Jim Thorpe for lunch at Penn’s Peak.

We boarded the Lehigh Valley Scenic Railway in Jim Thorpe and headed to our open air car. We were soon underway, with blasts of the whistle and smoke billowing. We enjoyed views of the bike path and riders of all ages who smiled and waved back to us. The river was crowded with colorful rafts floating downstream and paddling the rapids. At other times, we were traveling through woods or between rock walls. At the halfway point, the engine was disconnected and brought to the opposite end of the train for the trip back to the station.

(continued on following page)

Executive Board:

- Bob Moss, President
- Ellis Brown, Exec. V.P.
- Al Brandis, Treasurer
- Louise Birett, Secretary
- Bob Birett NE Area VP
- Kathy Rollins, NW Area VP
- Don Lassen, SE Area VP
- Jim Lexa, SW Area VP

2010 Rallies:

- 4/16-4/18—Schnecksville, PA
- 5/28-5/31—Centre Hall, PA
- 6/11-6/13—Gilbert, PA
- 7/16-7/18—Liverpool, PA
- 8/20-8/22—Bloomsburg, PA
- 9/10-9/12—Lebanon, PA
- 10/16-10/18—Pre-Rally Mt. Airy, NC
- 10/19-10/24—GEAR Rally, Winston-Salem, NC.
- 11/12-11/14—Bethel, PA



Gilbert Rally (continued) . . .

Some of our group enjoyed a visit to the Asa Packer Mansion. The mansion was constructed in 1861. The exterior has only changed slightly, but the interior is virtually intact. Since 1912, this mansion has been owned by the Borough of Mauch Chunk and its successor, The Borough of Jim Thorpe. The mansion was designated a National Landmark in 1985.

In 1937, Asa Packer and his brother, Robert, accepted a contract to build coal-boats at Pottsville. Being successful, they returned to Mauch Chunk where they became involved in the mining and shipping of coal at Nesquehoning. Asa personally financed the Lehigh Valley Railroad and built 650 miles of track from New York State to the Jersey seaboard.

Saturday evening's entertainment was presented by the Lehigh Valley Harmonizers with barbershop-type music. Joe Thurston of the Penn Coachmen joined the Harmonizers in a moving rendition of "Old Man River." The entertainment was preceded by a catered dinner of chicken and ham with all of the trimmings including an anniversary cake for Bob and Betty Moyer's 60th wedding anniversary and Shirley Lowthert's birthday. We also celebrated birthdays for Jack Shaak and Ron Buckley.

Sunday morning's worship service was conducted by Hal Amos followed by fond farewells and the trip home.

Joanne Freeman

Second Look at Bloomsburg:

The "Family Weekend" Rally at Bloomsburg will be held August 20-22, 2010. Due date for registration is August 6, 2010.

Saturday, August 21:

- 8:00 AM: Continental Breakfast
- 10:00 AM: Leave for tour of Rolling Hills Red Deer Farm. Cost \$8.00 per person. Sign up and pay at registration. We will caravan to the Red Deer Farm.
- 11:00 AM: Tour Red Deer Farm (about a one hour tour). This is not a walking tour, we will be in a 'tour wagon' with seats. We will be going through the farm and feeding the deer, etc. A Camera is a good idea.
- 12:00 PM: Visit the Rohrbach Farm Market.
- 1:00 PM: Return to motor homes.

Other options:

- Spend your day at Knoebel's Amusement Park.
- Attend the Bloomsburg Art Festival, open from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Center of downtown Bloomsburg. Fine arts, food from local restaurants, live music, and art activities for the children.

Evening Activities:

- 6:00 PM Catered dinner.
- Entertainment by Dan & Galla following dinner.
- Time on your own for cards or 'get-togethers.'

Add all of this to what was in the last newsletter and you will see we are planning a great weekend.

NOTE: Please bring cups, plates and utensils to all meals. Remember Friday night meal will be a pot luck and please bring a dish to share.

Hope to see a large gathering at Bloomsburg.

Ellis & Gwen Brown and the Committee

Recipe Corner:

Bacon Candy (Submitted by Barbara Tomsczyk)

Cut bacon into small pieces

Sprinkle with brown sugar

Bake until crisp in 350 degree oven

Request from the Editor:

In order to make forthcoming newsletters interesting, I would like to request your help by sending me any of the following throughout the year at lbirett@comcast.net:

Vacation tidbits or advice

Seeking items to purchase or items for sale

Family news such as births, deaths, illnesses, prayer concerns, accomplishments, etc.

Favorite recipes

Motor home repair/upkeep advice

Interesting stories or vignettes

Out of the way places you have found to be of interest

Members and former Penn Coachmen who are ill, have had surgery, or have passed away.

Hobbies or craft how-tos

Poems, stories, vignettes

New camping gear/equipment you have learned about and where to purchase them

Special camping experiences

Interesting people you have met along the way

Nature encounters

Funny pet stories

Funny grandchildren stories or sayings

Life on the road



Thoughts and Prayers:



Linda Salzman — Undergoing cancer treatment.

Ken Frazier — Undergoing cancer treatment.

Bill Schmidt (Barbara Arcati's brother) — Undergoing cancer treatment.

Ed Pascoe — Undergoing cancer treatment.

Barbara Zydorczyk — Recovering from back surgery.

Bill Katz — Dealing with severe back pain.

Marlin Long — Dealing with severe back pain.

Vera Sattazahn — Undergoing treatment for cancer and Alzheimer's.

Sharon Ziegler — Recovering from a fractured femur.

Jean Ruch — Recovering from stress fracture of foot.

Earl Ruch — Recovering from meniscus surgery.

Evelyn German — Recovering from heart attack.

FMCA DOINGS

Coming Soon: FMCA Events

Northeast Area Rally—July 2-6, 2010, Essex Junction, Vermont

FMCA's 84th International Convention—August 11-14, 2010, Redmond, OR

South Central Area Rally—September 29-October 3, 2010, Shreveport, LA

Rocky Mountain Area Rally—October 12-15, 2010, Farmington, NM

Greater Eastern Area Rally—October 19-24, 2010, Winston-Salem, NC

Western Area Rally—January 12-16, 2011, Indio, CA

Southeast Area Rally—February 2-6, 2011, Brooksville, FL

FMCA's 85th International Convention, March 14-17, 2011, Perry, GA



Ray Miller celebrated his 93rd birthday on June 30th. Congratulations and many more, Ray!!!

Those known to have birthday in July:

- | | |
|---------|------------------|
| July 2 | Jim Lowthert |
| July 5 | Barbara Tomczyk |
| July 5 | Andrea Lee |
| July 6 | Carolyn Thurston |
| July 9 | Carol Kendzor |
| July 17 | Fred Thum |



Thoughts For The Day:

GOOD looks catch the eye but a GOOD personality catches the heart.

Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain.

Identify your greatest fear and walk head on toward it. **Eleanor Roosevelt**

People will forget what you said.

People will forget what you did.

But, people will NEVER forget how you made them feel."



The Shooting Panda (Something to Think About):

In her amusing book *Eats, Shoots & Leaves*, Lynne Truss bemoans the problem of poor punctuation in today's world. To illustrate, she tells the funny story of a panda who enters a café, orders a sandwich, eats, it, and then pulls out a gun and starts shooting. When a waiter asks him to explain his behavior, the panda hands him a poorly punctuated wildlife guide and asks him to look up the description of a panda. It reads: "Panda. Large black-and-white bear-like mammal, native to China. Eats, shoots and leaves. "Having a comma after the word *eats* is an error that changes the whole meaning of the sentence. The words *shoots* and *leaves* become actions, instead of plants to eat.

Submitted by Irene Lassen

Vacation Musings:

For those members who belong to Thousand Trails, we met a wonderful recreation Director, Jesus, at Soledad Canyon, CA. Every Wednesday, he takes a group to Los Angeles by train. We rode the double-decker train for \$10.50 with transfers. It was a two hour train ride that was very relaxing and we were able to enjoy the countryside. Without Jesus' guidance, we would not have known there are three different train lines that run on different levels underground.

Jesus taught us how to use the train transfers to go to Universal Studios, Disneyland and back to Los Angeles. His narration was fantastic, and Jesus even arranged for another guide who told us the history of Old Los Angeles.

We happened to be there the week after the Academy Awards. Jesus provided a historical viewpoint of the buildings. For instance, the Academy Awards are held in a shopping mall. They cover the stores with curtains to hide the stores. Grand Central Station is transformed into any period of time for whatever movie they are making in Hollywood.

We never moved our RV and were able to see attractions we would never have traveled to with our RV on our own.

Submitted by Barbara Tomczyk

Midnight Musings of a Chronic Insomniac (Submitted by the Penn Coachmen Ghostwriter):

A Short Fill:

Happiness is different things to different people at different times.
Tonight it's a comfortable chair, a good book, and a glass of cool Chardonnay,
and Ray Price on the MP3 player

A Longer Fill:

Who's walking whom?

It's 2:30 in the middle of the night. Don't know why I can't sleep, but I know if I go right back to bed I'm going to stare at the ceiling for a long time. So I carefully open the cabinet to get my favorite glass. The real trick is to get the ice cubes out of the freezer without waking up my best friend of 60 years. Now enough Gentleman Jack to drown the cubes. Don't need any lights, so I make myself comfortable in the Passenger seat, put my feet on the dash and thank whoever perfected moonshine into a great sipping whisky.

What's that? Somebody coming out of their coach. You sure can't do that quietly! Here he is... with a dog? You got to be kidding me. It's an old friend who's so asleep that he has bedroom slippers on the wrong feet.

For a second I want to go out and tell him; but then I figure he probably knows but does not want to take the time to switch feet. Besides, the dog just did enough sniffing; left enough calling cards to re-establish his territory and is now creating a pile a full grown German Shephard would be proud to claim as his own.

His duty well done the little dog pulls his well trained owner back to the comfort of the motor home and out of the drizzle that started ever so gently.

If you reads this and know who you are, check what time of day you are feeding the dog, unless you enjoy being pulled around in the middle of the night... in the rain.

The Final Fill:

The glass is empty, except for some small ice cubes. What do I do now? Do I make myself another round? Or do I sneak back into bed and stare at the ceiling? Maybe just another short one; no need to waste the ice!

Observations on Growing Older :

*~Your kids are becoming you...and you don't like them
...but your grandchildren are perfect!*

*~Going out is good.
Coming home is better!*

*~When people say you look "Great"...
they add "for your age!"*

*~When you needed the discount you paid full price.
Now you get discounts on everything
movies, hotels, flights, but you're too tired to use them.*



All about the 4th of July



Background

Independence Day, commonly known as the Fourth of July, is the annual celebration of nationhood. It commemorates the passage of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776.

The Congress had voted in favor of independence from Great Britain on July 2 but did not actually complete the process of revising the Declaration of Independence, originally drafted by Thomas Jefferson in consultation with fellow committee members John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman, and William Livingston, until two days later. The celebration was initially modeled on that of the king's birthday, which had been marked annually by bell ringing, bonfires, solemn processions, and oratory. Such festivals had long played a significant role in the Anglo-American political tradition. Especially in the 17th and 18th centuries, when dynastic and religious controversies racked the British Empire (and much of the rest of Europe), the choice of which anniversaries of historic events were celebrated and which were lamented had clear political meanings. The ritual of toasting the king and other patriot-heroes—or of criticizing them—became an informal kind of political speech, further formalized in mid-18th century when the toasts given at taverns and banquets began to be reprinted in newspapers.

Early Years

In the early stages of the revolutionary movement in the colonies during the 1760s and early 1770s, patriots used such celebrations to proclaim their resistance to Parliament's legislation while lauding the king as the real defender of English liberties. However, the marking of the first days of independence during the summer of 1776 actually took the form in many towns of a mock funeral for the king, whose “death” symbolized the end of monarchy and tyranny and the rebirth of liberty.

During the early years of the republic, Independence Day was commemorated with parades, oratory, and toasting, in ceremonies that celebrated the existence of the new nation. These rites played an equally important role in the evolving federal political system. With the rise of informal political parties, they provided venues for leaders and constituents to tie local and national contests to independence and the issues facing the national polity. By the mid-1790s, the two nascent political parties held separate, partisan Independence Day festivals in most larger towns. Perhaps for this reason, Independence Day became the model for a series of (often short-lived) celebrations that sometimes contained more explicit political resonance, such as Washington's birthday and the anniversary of Jefferson's inauguration while he served as president (1801–09).

19th Century Celebrations

The bombastic torrent of words that characterized Independence Day during the 19th century made it both a serious occasion and one sometimes open to ridicule—like the increasingly popular and democratic political process itself in that period. With the growth and diversification of American society, the Fourth of July commemoration became a patriotic tradition which many groups—not just political parties—sought to claim. Abolitionists, women's rights advocates, the temperance movement, and opponents of immigration (nativists) all seized the day and its observance, in the process often declaring that they could not celebrate with the entire community while an un-American perversion of their rights prevailed.

A Modern Holiday

With the rise of leisure, the Fourth also emerged as a major midsummer holiday. The prevalence of heavy drinking and the many injuries caused by setting off fireworks prompted reformers of the late 19th and the early 20th century to mount a Safe and Sane Fourth of July movement. During the later 20th century, although it remained a national holiday marked by parades, concerts of patriotic music, and fireworks displays, Independence Day declined in importance as a venue for politics. It remains a potent symbol of national power and of specifically American qualities—even the freedom to stay at home and barbecue.

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