



# TIDBITS FROM PENNY

June 2012

Volume 3, No. 4

Edited by Louise Birett—lbirett@comcast.net



## Penn Coachmen Memorial Day Rally Center Hall, PA May 25 -28 2012

Many coaches arrived Wednesday and Thursday to get a head start on the holiday weekend.

Registration on Friday was held early to enable everyone to attend the tour to the AccuWeather Station. Wow! What a place. No one realized what a complex job predicting the weather has become. That place has more gizmos than one could imagine. It is a three floor state-of-the-art facility employing hundreds of people. Not only do the forecasters serve the local area, but they have clients all over the world. Live broadcasts for TV and radio are done there. We Philadelphia area residents saw live radio forecasts being done for our all-news station, KYW. Truly, it was a fantastic tour. Dinner was wonderful, as usual, thanks to our superb Penn Coachmen salad chefs. We welcomed our first timers, Charles and Pat Hartman, Glen and Barbara Hivley, Emma Lou Kerstetter, Bill and Linda Stear and Patty Salzman. We hope they will become regulars at our rallies. Afterwards, we were treated to a very entertaining talk by Joe Lundberg, an AccuWeather meteorologist, from CT, trained at Penn State University. Ice cream sundaes topped off the evening.

Saturday began with breakfast, and then the semiannual meeting. The afternoon was open for people to enjoy another performance of the Andrew Sisters at the PA Military Museum and visits to the new Equestrienne Center on the Fair Grounds. We who stayed on the grounds experienced a thunder and lightning storm with huge downpours while those in Boalsburg had just a few sprinkles. The Grange served up a tasty turkey/ham dinner once again, even though the building lost power due to the earlier storm. The Coachmen group and our Penn Coachmen joined later in the evening for a down-home bluegrass music presentation by the Brush Mountain Band. Yee! Haw!

Coffee and tea on Sunday was followed by a lovely worship service led by Louise Birett during which we paid tribute to our military veterans. Love those patriotic military hymns. After the service, the Grange served us a yummy and filling brunch. The Grange was given contributions for Little Dresses for Africa.

At noon, we were given a tour of the new Equestrienne Center, which we watched being built in 2011. There is a newly updated outdoor area for shows as well as the huge new indoor arena. There was a show going on with hundreds of horses which were housed in the adjacent barn. It was nice and cool inside the new building while watching some beautiful horses and accomplished riders participate in controlling their well groomed steeds.

Zippidy – do –dah! Zipper pins? Yes, in deedy. The ladies made lovely zipper pins during the hot afternoon. Very clever Linda Deardorff helped the ladies sew their way to flowers to wear at dinner. The committee provided hamburger, hotdogs, baked beans, and mac and cheese for a great picnic supper. May birthdays were celebrated with song, cake and ice cream before the movie, “The Long Trailer.” Storms kept us inside while it poured rain, thundered and lightnined most of the evening. Thanks to AccuWeather, we all got our awnings and chairs put away before dinner.

Penny passed! Not away, thank Heavens! Karl and Linda Deardorff sent her on to new adventures with Bill and Diane Freed. Someone overheard it said, “Penny wants to go to Maine.” Stay tuned for what’s to come. She loved her ride to Souderton in the CRV behind the coach.

Monday after breakfast, some went home and some went to Boalsburg for the festivities. Five coaches even stayed until Tuesday. All in all, it was a very successful rally with 36 coaches. Thanks go to Fred and Barb Thum and Karl and Linda Deardorff and each committee member for making it a fun rally for everyone who attended. Join us for more fun at the next rally.

### Executive Board:

**Ron Buckley, President**

**Fred Thum, Exec. V.P.**

**Bill Freed, Treasurer**

**Barbara Arcati, Secretary**

**Ron Becker, Area VP**

**Jim Lexa, Area VP**

**Jim Lothert, Area VP**

**Larry Troutman, Area VP**

### 2012 Rallies:

**4/20-4/22—Schnecksville, PA**

**5/25-5/28—Centre Hall, PA**

**6/21-6/24—Verona, NY**

**7/20-7/22—Lebanon, PA**

**8/24-8/26—Bloomsburg, PA**

**9/21-9/23—Gettysburg, PA**

**10/10-10/14—GEAR—York, PA**

**11/12-11/15—Quarryville, PA**



**Submitted by Diane Freed and Penny**

**REQUESTS 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](mailto: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**

**Special anniversary celebrations**

**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**

**Funny pet stories**

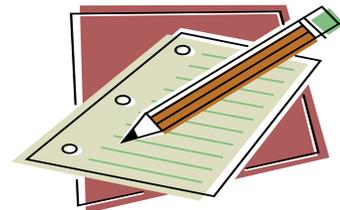
**Funny grandchildren stories or sayings**

**Life on the road**

**Interesting people you have met along the way**

**Nature encounters**

**Photos taken at rallies**



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**THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**



- Carolyn Thurston—Undergoing cancer treatments.**
- Carole Katz— Recovering from reconstructive knee surgery.**
- Ed Pascoe—Undergoing cancer treatments.**
- Joe Veneziale—Leg and ankle difficulties.**
- Dan Zydorczyk—Total shoulder replacement.**
- John Covert—Total knee placement.**
- Eunice Smith—Abdominal surgery.**
- Harold Henning—Bacterial infection.**

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**GEAR PRE-RALLY REQUEST - PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING**

Hi Friends and Fellow Penn Coachmen:

It is now time to add your name to the volunteer list for the GEAR Pre-Rally. Ron Buckley and I have asked repeatedly, but so far the response has been disappointing. The schedule for the event on the web site for all to see, and if you plan to help us, you should tell me now so I can add your name as a host.

Our Chapter has become one of the strongest and most active in all of FMCA, and it has gotten that way because our members work hard for the success of all we do. So, I am not asking anything out of the ordinary.

Email me today at [fums6@aol.com](mailto:fums6@aol.com) or call me at 717-249-2194 to volunteer or ask any questions you may have. The Penn Coachmen are not a "ONE TRICK PONY" organization. We need your assistance if we are going to pull this one off. The dates again are October 6-9, 2012.

**Thanks, Bob and Norma Moss**

**FMCA DOINGS**

**Coming Soon:**

**Northwest Area Rally, June 21-24, 2012, North Bend, OR**

**Northeast Area Rally, July 19-22, 2012, Essex Junction, VT**

**FMCA's 87th Family Reunion, August 27-30, 2012, Indianapolis, IN**

**Rocky Mountain Ramble, September 11-16, 2012**

**South Central Area Rally, September 26-30, 2012**

**GEAR Rally, October 10-14, 2012, York, PA**



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**Those known to be celebrating a birthday in June and July, 2012:**

**June 4 Priscilla Swetland**

**June 5 Bernie Gilbert**

**June 12 Shirley Lothert**

**June 13 Nancy Breisch**

**June 13 Karen Brandis**

**June 15 Doris Henning**

**June 27 Darrell Beers**

**June 24 Jackie Weil**

**June 25 Jack Shaak**

**June 27 Joseph Borell**

**June 27 Ron Buckley**

**June 30 Ray Miller**

**June ? Dan Cocco**

**July 2 Jim Lowthert**

**July 2 Karl Deardorff**

**July 5 Barbara Tomczyk**

**July 5 Andrea Lee**

**July 6 Carolyn Thurston**

**July 17 Fred Thum**



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**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:**

The Center Hall Rally was another success. Fred and Barbara Thum together with Karl and Linda Deardorff assisted by the Hosts did a great job!

I want to remind everyone that we need Rally Masters and Rally Hosts for our future rallies in 2013.

The York GEAR Rally is coming together for October. Bob and Norma Moss are working hard putting the Pre-Rally together and making it an enjoyable, informative time for our out-of-town guests.

Please be sure to pay attention to our new members and make them feel very welcome. Let's help them to get involved. We certainly have something great going on here because of the hard work of our members and the new members who are joining. Let's keep it going!

Remember this special Memorial Day Weekend when we all gave a big salute to our veterans who helped to make this nation the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!

**GOD BLESS US ALL!**

**Ron Buckley, President**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE LEBANON RALLY**

**JULY 20 - 22, 2021**

Hope to see you all at the Lebanon Rally in July for some **“FUN IN THE SUN.”**

Please **submit your reservations by July 1st.**

Be sure to check the program on the Penn Coachmen website for any changes that may occur from now until July 1st.

**Submitted by Jim and Shirley Lothert**

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**A MEMORIAL DAY SERMON WRITTEN BY THE  
REVERAND MARK HAYES:**

Memorial Day began as a time to remember and honor those who lost their lives during the American Civil War. Over time, its scope was broadened to include those who gave their lives at any time in service to the nation, and eventually came to be a time to remember all loved ones who have gone before.

And so, we typically take time during the Memorial Day holiday to think about and remember those who have passed on, and who had an impact on us. I invite you to take at least a few moments to call to mind some of those whose memory holds special meaning for you. And as you do that, reflect particularly on what it is about them that makes them memorable—that makes them worth remembering.

That exercise may be helpful in thinking about how we will be remembered by those we leave behind. It occurs to me that the fondest and most meaningful memories come not from accomplishments, but from character. That is, it is more about who you are than it is about what you do.

Of course, who you are influences what you do. It is it’s being who you are, day after day and living out of that reality with integrity that builds a legacy day by day and person by person. An anonymous quote comes to mind here:

“Watch your thoughts, for they become words.

Watch your words, for they become actions.

Watch your actions, for they become habits.

Watch your habits, for they become character.

Watch your character, for it becomes your destiny.”

Paradoxically, if you want to leave positive memories and influence behind, you probably shouldn’t dwell too much on doing so. If you cultivate your character and develop habits of selflessness and compassion and caring for those around you, the memories will take care of themselves.

Also, it’s not just the big things you do that make a difference for other people. It’s the consistency of little things that add up to a memorable whole. And it’s the “how” more than the “what.” Helen Keller put it like this:

“I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble—for the world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of tiny pushes of each honest worker”

Furthermore, dwelling on the future, and what place memories of us might hold there, can get in the way of being fully present in the here and now. And so, if you care about the legacy you leave when you depart this life, simply work at living well while you are here. Give away your love when ever the opportunity arises. Love is not a finite resource that is depleted by sharing it. To quote songwriter Malvina Reynolds:

“Love is something if you give it away, you end up having more.”

And once set loose in the world, love can be a powerful force for good. Let your character shine through. Invest the time, the patience, and the attention that it takes to create a masterpiece, one person at a time. No one can ask for more than that.

**Submitted by Ruth Morrell**

A Semi-Annual Membership meeting of the Penn Coachmen Chapter of FMCA was held on Saturday, May 26, 2012, at Centre Hall, Pennsylvania with the following officers in attendance:

Ron Buckley, President	Fred Thum, Vice-President	Bill Freed, Treasurer
Jim Lowthert, Area Vice President	Jim Lexa, Area Vice President	Larry Troutman, Area Vice President
Bob Moss, National Director	Karl Deardorff, Alt. National Director.	Barbara Arcati, Secretary

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ron Buckley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

#### REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Secretary Report: Minutes of the Semi-Annual Business Meeting in September 2011 are posted on the website. It was motioned, seconded and approved to waive the reading of those minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Freed reported that \$27,982 was the total revenue for 2011. \$23,846 was the revenue from rallies. \$26,222 was the total expenditures for the year of which \$21,323 was for rallies. The profit from rallies was \$2,533 for the year. The overall excess of revenues over expenditures was \$1,760. The balance in the treasury at December 31, 2011 was \$7,380. The balance in the treasury as of May 10 was \$6,428. It was motioned, seconded and approved to accept the treasurer's report.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

Webmaster Hal Amos stated that people should check the website for any new rally information changes. In responding to emails that Hal is forwarding for someone please do not hit "reply". Instead go to the person's email to respond.

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National Director Bob Moss stated that there will be a proposal at the International Rally at Indianapolis that needs to be voted on. The proposed change: To allow a person who owns a 5<sup>th</sup> wheel or a camping trailer that has cooking, sleeping, permanent sanitary facilities to become an Associate Member of FMCA. An Associate Member cannot vote or hold office. Much discussion ensued. We will need to advise our representative how we want him to vote prior to August.

President's report: Ron Buckley commends Penn Coachmen on the good attendance at the Schnecksville and this rally (Centre Hall).

Vice-President's report: Fred Thum stated that the sheets are up on the bulletin board, and we need rally masters and hosts for the 2013 rallies. We are looking for another venue to replace the West End Fairgrounds at Gilbert as they cannot accommodate our date.

President Ron Buckley stated we have Karl Deardorff for trailer captain for Centre Hall and Mickey Shaak for Gettysburg.

Sunshine Lady: Mary Amos sent out get well cards and has some now to send to our ill members. Please let Mary know if you know of someone who is ill or having surgery.

Membership: Nancy Breisch stated that dues for 2013 are payable anytime. By the 30<sup>th</sup> of November last year, people made 75 phone calls and she received 40 checks for dues. We have 7 new "F" members. She sent out 40 emails + 14 snail mail invitations to join Penn Coachmen. We had 215 members including 3 honorary members in January. Our new total number is 179 (some to be dropped for not paying dues).

FMCA Member Services committee chairperson: John Breisch reported that FMCA has a Michelin Advantage Program for a discount on tires. Details can be found on the FMCA website.

Nominating Committee: Ron Lee and Barbara Thum had nothing to report.

York County Food Bank: Jake Kessler reported that he will be accepting donations at the GEAR rally to benefit the "Stick It to Hunger" York Food Bank in the form of product or money.

Rally Masters report: Ellis Brown reported that the rally in June will be at the Turning Stone Resort in Verona, NY.

Jim Lowthert reported that registration is due by July 1 for the Lebanon rally in July.

Hal Amos reported that the August rally at Bloomsburg will be a “Bare Bones” rally as a lot of people are going to the international rally in Indianapolis. Bob Moss will be arranging tours and Joanne Freeman is arranging entertainment.

Bob Moss reported that the Gettysburg rally will be featuring President Lincoln.

Bob and Louise Birett reported that the November rally at White Oak is a Monday to Thursday event.

The Great Eastern Area Rally is in October at the York Fairgrounds. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board for Trams and Security.

Bob Moss is running the Pre-Rally for GEAR t the Footlight Ranch in Wellsville. Penn Coachmen will set up tours of Hershey, Lancaster and Gettysburg. The tours could not be done at the GEAR rally as the vendors want to keep people at the fairgrounds.

A motion was made, seconded and approved and the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Arcati, Secretary

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