



# TIDBITS FROM PENNY

September 2013    Volume 4 No 6  
Edited by Bob & Norma Moss – [normam0927@aol.com](mailto:normam0927@aol.com)



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### 2013 Rallies & Events

4/18-21—Schnecksville, PA  
5/24-27—Centre Hall, PA  
6/11-13—New Holland, PA  
6/19-22—FMCA 88<sup>th</sup> Family Reunion  
7/19-21—Lebanon, PA  
8/23-25—Bloomsburg, PA  
9/11-15—Hershey—PA RV Show  
9/20-22—Harrington, DE  
10/5-8—Gardners, PA  
10/9-13—GEAR—York Fairgrounds  
11/8-10—Bethel, PA  
12/9/13—1/2/14-Trip of a Lifetime  
Pasadena, CA

### 2014 Rallies

3/17-20—FMCA 89<sup>th</sup> Family Reunion  
Perry, GA  
4/25-27—Pine Grove, PA  
5/23-26—Centre Hall, PA  
6/20-22—Gilbert, PA  
7/18-20—Lebanon, PA  
8/17-20—FMCA 90<sup>th</sup> Family Reunion  
Redmond, OR  
8/22-24—Bloomsburg, PA  
9/19-21—Manheim, PA  
October—GEAR (TBA)  
11/7-9—Bethel, PA (Swatara)

## *We'll Do Our Best*

As some of you may know, Louise Birett, our Newsletter Editor-in-Chief had spinal surgery on September 4<sup>th</sup> and according to her husband, Bob, she is recovering nicely. Louise has published the Penn Coachmen Newsletter for almost 4 years and is resting in Abington Hospital. She expects to be released on September 7 or 8 and will continue her rehab and recovery at the same Abington Hospital. Cards and well wishes may be sent to Louise Birett at 1593 Heebner Way, Lansdale, PA 19446.



The Newsletter may have a different look because the novice duo of Moss and Moss is putting it together and trying not to make too much a mess of it until Louise returns. Thanks for your patience.

*—Bob & Norma*

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## *President's Message*

Hi Everyone,  
Another great Rally for the year at Bloomsburg. Hal and Mary Amos did a good job putting everything together and I want to thank all their hosts.

One of the first things Joanne and I like to do at Bloomsburg is to go into town to the (Cow) Ice Cream Shop. This year was no different.

It was nice to see all the grandparents and their grandkids. I'm sure they all liked Knoeble's, the Rolling Hills Red Deer Farm, the train ride, the coal mine and whatever else they did.

The Rally sheets for next year are filling up. I want to thank all of the people who have signed up. But, there is one sheet that no one has signed yet – CENTRE HALL. Think about it and pick up your pen and sign.....

There are two new families who joined our Chapter, Bob and Nancy Roof and Michael and Sharon Marcantino. Let's make them feel welcome at our subsequent rallies.

Linda Deardorff is taking responsibility as Chairperson of our parade entry at G.E.A.R. in York, PA. She needs people to help her and come up with a "theme". We want to have a nice parade and let everyone know 'WE ARE PENN COACHMEN'. Give her a call.

I can't believe that September is almost here. Looking forward to our Rallies every month and the fun we have being there makes time go by. I think it keeps us healthier in our "Senior" years. Pass that along to the rest of our members – in a very nice way.

Looking forward to seeing you in Harrington, DE.

*Ron Buckley, President*

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***Rally Recap***  
***4<sup>th</sup> Annual Grandkids Weekend***  
***Bloomsburg, PA***  
***August 23-25, 2013***

Twenty-seven units attended this year's Grandkids Rally at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds. The attendees included ten grandkids and two "first-timer" families. We welcomed Bob and Nancy Roof and Michael and Sharon Marcantino who brought along their three year old grandson, Carter Reck. Hopefully, they will join the Penn Coachmen on many more rallies in the future. Altogether, we had 68 people in attendance.

The weekend started with registration on Friday morning, followed by a day to explore the area. Several families spent the day at Knoebel's Grove Amusement Park, riding the roller coasters and other exciting rides, or just walking around enjoying the beautiful weather in the park. Others stayed at the Fairgrounds relaxing and enjoying visits with friends, or visiting other sites in the area. Dinner was served Friday evening, followed by a rollicking game of "crazy bingo" and later a card game.



Gavin feeding the deer at Bloomsburg Rally

Saturday started off with a pot luck breakfast. Everyone brought lots of goodies to share and no one went home hungry! Following breakfast, twenty-seven people caravanned to Rolling Hills Red Deer Farm, where they rode in a hay wagon pulled by a tractor through the fields where herds of red deer were found. Everyone had fun feeding the deer and enjoying their playful antics. We learned the difference between the red deer, who are members of the elk family and the white-tailed deer we usually see in Pennsylvania. We also learned the difference between antlers and horns, and marveled at a magnificent 28-point buck in the

herd. The highlight of the trip was when the tractor would not go into gear, and we all had to get off the wagon and push the tractor while the driver worked to fix the gear problem. We finally climbed back on the wagon and returned to our starting point. We then had the day to explore Knoebel's again or visit a coal mine, or just relax and enjoy the day.

Dinner that night was a catered roast beef, chicken and sausage supper, with all the fixings, followed by entertainment by Back Porch Rhythm. A demonstration of clogging, flat-footing, rhythm sticks, washboard, spoons, gourd shakers, limber-jack dancing doll, bones and hand boning was performed by one of the talented dancer/musicians. Following the entertainment, we had a 50/50 raffle, with lots of prizes given out.

Sunday morning we enjoyed another continental breakfast, followed by a worship service, then breaking camp and heading for home. Everyone seemed to have a great time at Bloomsburg, and the weather certainly cooperated with us this year!

*--submitted by Carol Mandik*

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### *Upcoming September Rally*

*"Day at the Races"*

*Delaware State Fairgrounds, Harrington, DE*

*September 20-22, 2013*

The September Rally, which will be held in Harrington, Delaware will be very good and slightly different from other rallies held in the past. First, our program on Saturday will be in the morning, after breakfast. Followed by activities on the Fairgrounds, so there will be no group tours. If any wish to go on offsite tours, no problem. We have information to help you get there. With what we have available to us alone, this will be a very enjoyable weekend.

The #1 activity at the Fairgrounds will be a Bar-B-Que competition sanctioned by The Kansas City Bar-B-Que Society and sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Police of Dover. They will have 50 competitive teams participating in competition for trophies and money. All the attendees at the rally will be given information, as soon as their reservation is received, of how to contact the FOP to get their discount tickets. #2 activity at the Fairgrounds will be the Corvette Car Show and this will actually be the closest activity to our rally campsite. Further down the road in the arena will be the ladies' Barrel Racing Contest which will be going on most of the day on Saturday. The last, but not least activity you can attend at the Fairgrounds is its annual Equipment Auction. I have been told this includes everything from bicycles to motorhomes to tractor trailers. This should be interesting and open to the public. If these 4 activities are not enough, the casino is always available 24/7.

The evening activities will be a mini-meal on Friday, followed by games and conversation. Saturday evening will also be games and conversation after a long day of activities making the evening very restful. The Saturday night program, along with games and conversation will be a 50/50 raffle and what is called Crazy Door Prize give-a-way. For those who care to arrive early on Thursday or stay over for Sunday night or Monday evening, the Registration Table will collect the fees for these two extra nights. The fee for early arrivals is \$32.00.

The meals for the weekend, as I mentioned, Friday night will be a mini-meal, Saturday morning breakfast will be catered by a local restaurant, Stargate Diner, and dinner on Sunday will be at the Casino. There will be a continental breakfast Sunday, followed by a devotional service and departure from the Fairgrounds.

Hope to see you all there for some fun with us in this early fall campout. Our registration bags at this campout will be sponsored by Parkview RV Center, Stoner Product Solutions, Walex Products, PA Dept. of Agriculture, Protect All, Winnigard and several other manufacturers of products for the RV industry.

Come join us and see how much fun this can be and what will be an enjoyable weekend. We look forward to seeing all of you there. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you want additional information.

*--Joe Thurston, Rally Master*

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## ***Penn Coachmen Travels***

Hello to all from beautiful South Dakota. We entered this state on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August, and as we approached Rapid City, we detoured via the Badlands Loop. What an unbelievable change from passing through hundreds of miles of corn, soybean and sunflower fields as far as the eye could see. As we approached the badland area, the terrain subtly changed to soft rolling hills with waving prairie grass and suddenly we were aware of tall formations ahead. As we entered the park, the prairie was still present all around us but so

were granite towers and deep canyons with more formations. It was quite a contrast and the stark Badlands took over as we proceeded along our drive. We took advantage of many opportunities to pull off the road for photos and short trail hikes.

We spent a day at Mt. Rushmore. The sculpture that, not without controversy, altered the peaks of one of these granite towers. It was an incredible experience to realize the almost impossible vision of the early planners, mainly the overbearing, but highly talented sculptor, Gutzon Borglum. The 4 presidents were chosen to represent **Birth** (of our nation), **Expansion** (LA Purchase), **Development** (Panama Canal and National Parks) and **Preservation** (the U.S. during the Civil War). The National Park Service has done a beautiful job of presenting this site in very informative, meaningful and tranquil setting.



Fred has just shared this tidbit of information, "SD is the 46<sup>th</sup> least populated state". Hence, these wide open spaces!!

We'll try to keep sending snapshots of our travels as we continue on this journey. We send our love.

*--Barbara and Fred Thum*

### ***Another report from Penn Coachmen travelers:***



Jon and I are now full-timers. We left PA following the Centre Hall rally and went to South Dakota for 2 weeks where our Utah grandsons joined us. We saw the Badlands, Wall Drug, Mount Rushmore, Deadwood, Windcave National Park, Hot Springs, Mammoth Pits and spent many hours driving through Custer State Park. We also enjoyed Rapid City. We then went to the FMCA rally in Gillette, WY where Jon volunteered on the parking crew and I was a seminar monitor. The boys had a great time and when I asked Eric how he liked it he said that he wanted to go next year! Then we went to Utah to return them to their parents and visited another 8 days there. While there, we went to "This is the Place"-the Utah Heritage Center, the Natural History Museum, the Summit County Museum, Coalville (where we were camping) and the Olympic Training Center where we watched the aerial skiers practice. The boys and I rode our bikes 10 miles on the Union Pacific Rail Trail. I also toured Echo and Park

City. We returned to PA on July 4 to clean out the house. We left again on July 22 for the Entegra factory in Middleberry, IN. We enjoyed meeting other Entegra owners and touring Indiana Amish country with lots of great food. Now we're in PA until G.E.A.R. After G.E.A.R. we're heading to Mission Bell RV Resort in Mission, TX and looking forward to seeing fellow Penn Coachmen who are in the Rio Grande Valley. Our reservation is from November 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014.

*--Maryanna & Jon Hall*

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Lew and I celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with our family (All 11 of us) in Florida for 11 glorious, fun-filled days. This is a photo where we had our anniversary dinner at O'HANA Restaurant at the Polynesian Resort in Disney World. It was a wonderful gathering before our grandson, Mitch traveled to San Jose, California to begin College.



--Eunice and Lew Smith

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UPCOMING EVENTS

South Central Area Rally	September 11-13, 2013	Sedalia, MS
America's Largest RV Show	September 11-15, 2013	Giant Center, Hershey, PA
Great Lakes Area Rally	September 18-22, 2013	Goshen, IN
Eastern Area Rally	October 9-13, 2013	York, PA
Western Area Rally	January 8-12, 2014	Indio, CA
FMCA 89 <sup>th</sup> Family Reunion	March 17-20, 2014	Perry, GA



*Special Request from Jackie Shaak: If you have any photos from any of the 2013 Penn Coachmen Rallies that you feel are interesting or fun, will you please email them to Jackie Shaak at [jcsdiamone@yahoo.com](mailto:jcsdiamone@yahoo.com). These are needed and some of them will be used for the 2014 Penn Coachmen Yearbook. Thank you!*

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*Let's keep the following Penn Coachmen in our prayers:*

- Ed Molinsky—Awaiting imminent chemo and radiation treatment for a malignancy on his esophagus.*
- Louise Bivett—Recovering from spinal surgery.*
- Joe Veneziale—Ongoing health problems.*
- Al Brandis—Testing for possible cardiac problems.*
- Earl & Jean Ruch's great grandson, Grayson, as he is gaining weight but he is still having treatment on his lungs. Even though he is hospitalized locally, he is under the care of Childrens Hospital at Philadelphia.*



*Take the time—send an email, a card or phone call to the above Penn Coachmen to encourage and give get-well wishes!*

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***Request from the Novice Duo (refer to paragraph 1):***

The first Penn Coachmen Newsletter is “put to bed” and we are exhausted (Bless you, Louise). Now, here we go again starting to gather interesting articles and updates for the October edition. We need your help. i.e. Current rally recap, photos (especially from rallies), gossip, illnesses where prayer is needed, family events, motorhome travels, recipes, jokes and any miscellaneous items you care to submit. This is your newsletter, let’s do it together.

***Thank you, Bob and Norma***

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***Ok gang, let’s close this month’s Newsletter with a chuckle:***

An elderly couple had dinner at another couple’s home, and after eating, the wives left the table and went into the kitchen.

The two gentlemen were talking and one said, “Last night we went out to a new restaurant and it was really great. I would recommend it highly.” The other man said, “What is the name of the restaurant?” The first man thought and thought and finally said, ‘What’s the name of that flower you give to someone you love? You know, the one that’s red and has thorns.’

‘Do you mean a rose?’

‘Yes, that’s the one,’ replied the man. He then turned towards the kitchen and yelled, ‘Rose, what’s the name of that restaurant we went to last night?’

