

Notes from the Director's Desk

December 2009 - Maryland Good Sam - www.mdgoodsam.org



Season's Greetings Everyone,

*Snowflakes and sledding,
Caroling & decorating,
Little ones wishing, shopping and wrapping,
Cookies, candies and goodies I'm baking,
Card & note writing and mailing them too
All of which are
A few of my favorite things to do,
And I am hoping you are doing so too!*

George and I are in Ocean City and MD Good Sam goes wherever we go. I am sitting here reflecting on how fast this year has flown by and soon it will be 2010! It seems like May was just a few months ago.

This first year as your State Director, we have been so fortunate to have made the Rally, NJ, DE, two PA and the TN Samborees. We have been traveling a lot representing MD and enjoy seeing our Good Sam friends and making new ones. I want to thank each and everyone of you for your support and patience, as we have gone through the transition from the past to the current team. Your support has been so important to me and more important to the staff who have worked hard to pull off the two Samborees under new direction. They truly are a great team and I am very fortunate to have them as staff, even those who have retired! What would I do without all of you and the state staff?

Since we have stored our units for the winter, which we know many of you have done the same or soon will, the staff will begin taking time to reflect on this past year and work on what we need to improve on in 2010. We know we hit some speed bumps, but thank goodness we did not get stuck in any ruts; 2010 will be much better. We are working hard to be creative and make the Samborees more interesting and fun for all.

The staff and I hope everyone has enjoyed a great camping season with your chapters. As you end your season, may you all enjoy

getting together during the holidays to relax and plan your travels for next year, while you reminisce the good times you have spent together this year.

Chapter members know you become an extended family and have great fellowship while camping and traveling together. Which brings me to say "Thank You" to the chapter Presidents who have received emails stating you have Good Sam members wanting to join your chapter and taken the necessary steps to bring them into your chapter. Great job.

To the chapters and their members, a big "Thank You" to those who volunteered and worked hard during the Samborees. Also, to those who decorated your rigs and/or the Chapter Tables! Wow, I was so surprised during the Fall Samboree to see the number of table entries and how creative they were. You all got into the theme and did a great job. Keep up being creative and remember to include information about your chapter on the table for all to see and review! Here is the opportunity to sell your chapters. Go for it and have fun at the same time.

MD Good Sam 40th Anniversary Patch

Oh yes! The competition is on! I have received a few calls from members letting me know they are working hard on their creations. I am so excited many of you are taking the challenge and showing your creativity. I cannot wait to see the designs.

For those who made donations to Toys for Tots, we thank you. All items were brought to a local Marine drop-off site.

***Happy Holidays to All,
From your Director
And all of the MD Good Sam Staff***

Linda Hankins, MD State Director

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Home Phone: - 410/780-4209

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DIRECTIONS TO COMMUNITY HALL, JESSUP:

From the South:

Travel over Bay Bridge (US 50W)
Follow I-97N to Exit 7 (Rt. 32W)
Take Exit 6 (Rt. 175W).
Follow to Wigley Ave.

From the North:

Take US-50 W.
Merge onto I-97 N via EXIT 21 toward BALTO.
Merge onto MD-32 W via EXIT 7 toward MD-3
S/COLUMBIA/BOWIE.
Take the BALT/WASH PARKWAY NORTH
exit toward BALTIMORE.
Merge onto MD-295 N.
Take B&W Parkway N to MD Rt 175
Turn SLIGHT RIGHT onto MD-175/
ANNAPOLIS RD/JESSUP RD.
Continue to follow MD175/JESSUP RD.
End at Jessup Rd & Wigley Ave.

From the North East:

Take I-95 S toward BALTIMORE.
Merge onto HARBOR TUNNEL TRWY/I-895 S
via EXIT 62 on the LEFT toward ANNAPOLIS/
BAY BRIDGE (Portions toll).
Merge onto MD-295 S via EXIT 4 toward BWI
AIRPORT.
Take the MD-175 W exit toward COLUMBIA/
JESSUP.
Stay STRAIGHT to go onto MD-175/
JESSUP RD.
End at Jessup Rd & Wigley Ave.

From the North West:

Take I-795 S.
Merge onto I-695 S/BALTIMORE BELTWAY
OUTER LOOP via EXIT 1B toward GLEN
BURNIE.
Merge onto MD-295 S via EXIT 7A toward
WASHINGTON
Take the MD-175 W exit toward COLUMBIA/
JESSUP
Stay STRAIGHT, go onto MD-175/JESSUP RD
End at Jessup Rd & Wigley Ave.

From the West:

Take I-68 E/US-40 E toward MORGANTOWN.
Take the I-70 E/US-40 E/US-522 S exit-
EXIT 82AB- toward HAGERSTOWN/
HANCOCK/WINCHESTER.

Merge onto I-70 E via EXIT 82B on the LEFT
toward HAGERSTOWN.

Merge onto US-29 S/COLUMBIA PIKE via
EXIT 87A toward COLUMBIA/
WASHINGTON.

Merge onto MD-175 E toward JESSUP.
End at Jessup Rd & Wigley Ave.

State Committee Meeting

On Sunday, February 7, 2010, our State Committee Meeting will be held at 1:00 pm at the Community Hall in Jessup. The Chapter President or another elected official from each Chapter (with a letter of authorization) needs to be present. Remember there are four meetings a year, and each Chapter MUST be represented at THREE of the four meetings. If you've missed more than one meeting, please contact your State Director.



The four meetings held throughout the year:
February – Presidents Mtg (Jessup/Laurel)
April – Presidents Campout (Walkersville)
May – MD Spring Samboree (Frederick)
Oct – MD Fall Samboree (Frederick)

The 2010 Rally Update

The 11th annual Rally will be held at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, KY on July 22-25, 2010. Early bird dates are 20 & 21. This is the home of Bluegrass music, barbecue and the best horseracing in the world (*Highways 8/09*).

The Rally offers special rates for those who sign up before April 15, 2010. Pricing options and/or more information, visit their web site at www.therally.com or call 877-749-7122.



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Upcoming Dates 2010:

State Committee Meeting - Feb. 7

(Jessup, MD)

Presidents Campout - Apr. 16-18

(Walkersville, MD)

MD Spring Samboree - May 28-31

(Frederick Fairgrounds, MD)

MD Fall Samboree - Oct. 29-31

(Frederick Fairgrounds, MD)

Tri-Samborees:

W. VA Samboree - May 14-16

VA Samboree - May 21-23

MD Samboree - May 28-31

Special awards handed out to those attending all three Samborees, to be awarded at MD Spring Samboree. Details on Linda's Facebook @ www.mdgoodsam.org.

MD Spring Samboree

May 28-31, 2010

(Early Bird - Thu., May 27)



“Celebrating 40 Years of Maryland Good Sam Club”

Come join us in celebrating MD Good Sam Club's Fortieth Anniversary! Take a trip down memory lane and recapture those years gone by. Pull out those photos and past theme ideas for costumes/parade ideas.

As usual, there will be games & contests, a costumed theme parade, arts & crafts, an ice cream social, a breakfast, and much more. There are also vendors, seminars and tours.

Enjoy free entertainment on Thu, Sat and Sun evenings and planned activities for the children and teens.

The Samboree registration forms can be accessed and printed via our website: www.mdgoodsam.org or contact Linda Hankins mdgoodsam@hotmail.com.

2010 Chapter Anniversaries



Congratulations to the following Chapters, who will celebrate anniversaries in 2010:

Akela (10/03/70) – 40 years

Traveling Americans (5/25/80) – 30 years

Foothill Campers (3/24/85) – 25 years

Friends & Family Campers (8/27/90) – 20 yr

Good Sam Updates:

Gather in Cyberspace (*Highways 10/09*)

For many Good Sam Club members, online social networks and micro-blogs are a great way to recruit and reach out to fellow Rvers. Try connecting with like-minded Good Sam members on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/thegoodsamclub

and Twitter at:

www.twitter.com/thegoodsamclub

RV Milestone 100th (*Highways 11-12/09*)

The recreational vehicle celebrates its centennial. In 1910, the first RVs hit the road. These crude motorized campers, made by companies like Los Angeles Trailer Works and Auto-Kamp Trailers, sported none of the amenities on today's homes on wheels. They sparked the spirit of adventure and fun that has endured war, depression and vast social changes. One hundred years later, RVs still drive the highways.

Banking Center (www.goodsamclub.com)

The Good Sam Club has partnered with Waterfield Financial Services and is proud to announce the launch of its latest benefit for Good Sam members. It is designed to be easily accessible from wherever members travel and will offer industry-leading interest rates on a range of FDIC-insured products.



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Cash for Campers

www.campingworld.com

Taking a cue from the US government's Cash for Clunkers Initiative, Camping World is handing out up to \$7,500 for motorized RV's dating from 1984 – when owners purchase a new Damon, Winnebago or Four Winds motorhome from this retail chain
(Highways, 10/09)

store located at Beech Bend Amusement Park in Bowling Green, KY.

Both Good Sam and Camping World are members of the Affinity family.

(Highways, 10/09 & RV View 8/09)

40th Anniversary Patches

Chapters please remember to submit your patch designs for our 40th anniversary patch. This is commemorating 40 years of Maryland Samborees.

When you have them completed in the final form, you can send them to Linda Hankins via email or snail mail. For those that still need time, you have until the February meeting at Jessup. *Anyone emailing them*, please bring your design to the Jessup meeting, as the winning one will be forwarded to Southern Emblem to create the actual patch. The patches will be available for distribution at our Spring Samboree!

RV Hall of Fame

Sue Bray, Executive Director of the Good Sam Club was inducted into the RV/ Motorhome Hall of Fame in Elkhart, IN on August 3. Ms. Bray has been a leader within Good Sam for 30 years. She also served 25 years on the board of the American Recreation Coalition, advisory board for the US Dept. of Transportation's Scenic Byways program, and helped promote the "Take Pride in America" program.



Also among the inductees is Camping World founder, David Garvin. He launched Camping World in 1966 from a single campground

SamAlert Recall Program

www.safecar.gov



Dutchman is recalling certain model year 2009-2010

Dutchman and Four Winds

Trailers because they fail to comply with requirements of the 'certification' tag tire and loading information label. Incorrect tire installation could lead to a crash.

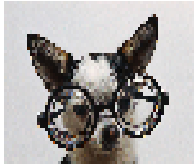
Winnebago is recalling multiple 2007-2010 model motorhomes due to a missing stove partition that isolates the furnace air. If the furnace is operated at the same time as the stove and the partition is missing, the stove flame may go out and the propane gas will contribute to flow, potentially igniting

Newmar is recalling All Star Mid Engines and Dutch Star, Kountry Star, and Ventana Diesel Pushers Coaches manufactured between April 2007-2009. An inadvertent deviation in ground cable sizing occurred, resulting in wire gauge under sizing. This could result in conductor failure, resulting in shock and/or fire without warning.

Coachman is recalling multiple model 1999-2003 motorhomes equipped with Norcold #1200LRIM refrigerators (manufactured Mar 1, 2001- Dec 31, 2002). A fatigue failure in the section of the cooling unit which contains the refrigerant could allow liquid solution to slowly leak, generating high temperatures. Hydrogen gas may be expelled and ignited.

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Just For Laughs

A burglar broke into a Christian Family's home one night.

He shined his flashlight around, looking for valuables; when he heard a strange voice echoing from the dark saying, "Jesus is watching you."

He nearly jumped out of his kin, clicked his flashlight off and froze.

After a while when he heard nothing more, he shook his head and continued.

Just as he pulled the stereo out so he could disconnect the wires, clear as a bell he heard, "Jesus is watching you."

Freaked out, he shined his light around frantically, looking for the source of the voice; and finally, in the corner of the room, his flashlight beam came to rest on a parrot.

"Did you say that?" he whispered to the parrot.

The burglar relaxed. "Warn me, huh? And what is your name?"

"Moses," replied the bird.

"Moses?" the burglar laughed. "What kind of people would name a bird Moses?"

"The same kind of people that would name a Rottweiler, Jesus!"

From our Kitchen to Yours 1-2-3- Bake (*Parade Magazine*)

Blueberry Panna Cotta - these elegant sweets require only microwaving, mixing and chilling.



2 Tbsp. cold water
2 containers (6 oz each) light blueberry yogurt
1 1/2 tsp. unflavored gelatin
1/2 cup heavy cream
1 Tbsp. honey
1 cup fresh blueberries, for serving
1 tsp. sugar, for serving

1. Pour cold water into a microwave-safe cup and sprinkle with gelatin.

Wait 5 minutes: heat it in the microwave for 15 seconds.

Gently whisk together the yogurt, cream, and honey, then stir in the gelatin.

2. Divide the mixture among 6 espresso cups or small glasses.

Chill for at least 3 hours.

Run a knife around the edges of the cups to unmold the panna cottas onto plates.

3. Mix the blueberries with the sugar. Spoon an equal amount beside each panna cotta.

Serve and enjoy.

Chapters - Please share newsletter inclusions with Debbie Trice via email: camptrice@comcast.net
