ALL 2014 | STAYING CONNECTED

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TRIP PLANNER
A six-day fall tour

THE BUCKET LIST Crazy fall festivals WINE AND DINE A Summerfest recap

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CHAPTER RALLY II Urbanna, Va.

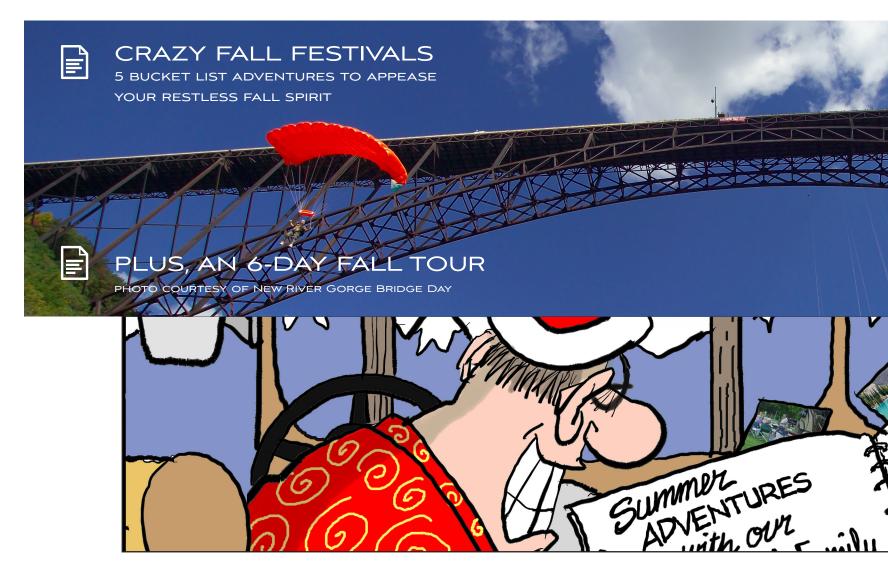
> THE RAMBLES Entegra memories

# RV REAL ESTATE: LOTS TO LOVE

Motor coach resorts give owners a slice of home

PICTURED: RIVERBEND MOTORCOACH RESORT

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LOTS TO LOVE

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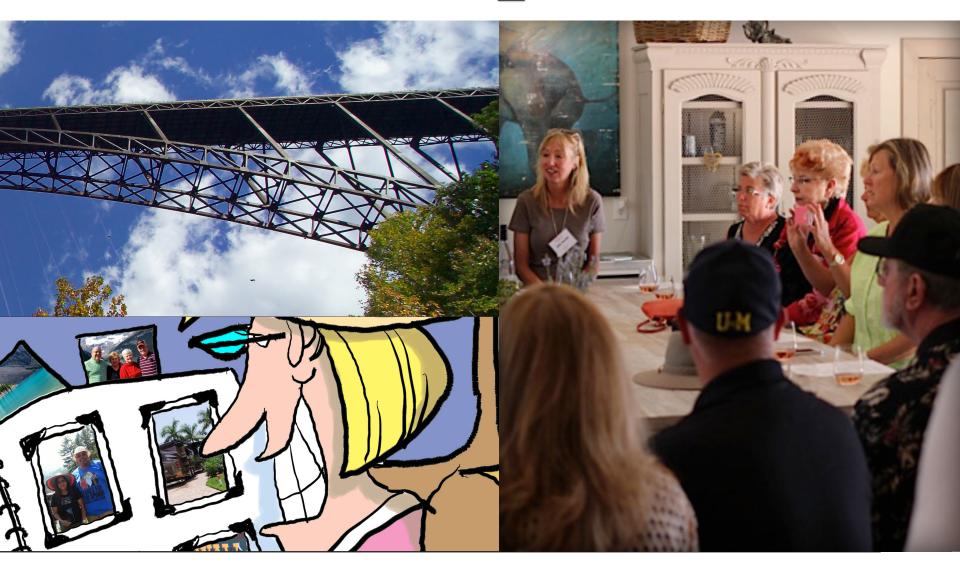
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LOOK FOR THESE INTERACTIVE ICONS TO STAY EVEN MORE CONNECTED DURING THE JOURNEY.





CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS EDITION WITH YOUR FRIENDS.



DEAR FRIENDS, WITH WARM REGARDS FROM JOYCE SKINNER

# How did it get so late so soon? ... December is here before it's June. Dr. Seuss



#### Hello Friends!

"How did it get so late so soon? It's night before it's afternoon. December is here before it's June. My goodness, how the time has flewn. How did it get so late so soon?" — Dr. Seuss

By the time you read this, it will be September already, and I find myself wondering just where the summer went! Isn't it crazy that when we're young, we wish to be older, and when we're older, we want time to slow down. The older I get, the more I long for the good old days when life wasn't as busy and the pace was slower. Actually, as I write this, I am on a plane headed for the FMCA rally in Redmond, Ore., and I realize this is my only chance to do so before the deadline.

Going to these functions is always an enjoyment for me (even though it's work) because I love to connect with our customers. Doesn't it just seem like yesterday when we gathered in Paso Robles for Summerfest?! It's always a pleasure to meet folks that we have never met before, while catching up with those who we call our friends. It's like a family reunion in many ways!

Speaking of meeting new Entegra Coach family members, our office staff was thrilled to meet Stella, the infamous pot-bellied pig, plus Bruzer and Diesel Pusher, two bull mastiffs, when Ron Ingram and his wife, Leslie, came in for service recently. Stella was well behaved and did nothing but lay on her pillow all day, and the dogs loved our customer service lounge. (See a snapshot on the following page). I'm sure our other guests watched in awe as they saw these three animals disembark in the motor coach. These pets sure know how to travel in style, taking on a whole new meaning of "Ask me how I roll."

DEAR FRIENDS CONTINUED

E

Flying over Denver, I see snow on the Rockies, and I am reminded that the seasons change so quickly — and just like the seasons, things are changing at Entegra Coach. We are growing again! A new building is being erected to house Entegra Coach production only because of the demand we have enjoyed in both Class A and Class C products.

We are also expanding our offices to accommodate more folks solely dedicated to the motorized side of Jayco's business. Growth is good and just another testament of the commitment Jayco has to the motorized segment of its business. Our new 2015 products are showing well, the website has been updated and we are hearing positive feedback on everything. It really is an exciting time to be part of Entegra Coach!

We are investing time and effort into dealer training. Ted Cook has been visiting our dealers and training them on how to give the best customer delivery, as well as providing some technical insight while he is there. My group is working hard to provide training materials and technical information for our upcoming service school (for dealers and service centers), so that these folks can better assist you in your service needs.

There truly is never a dull moment within our walls — whether it's sales, product development, engineering or customer service. Our goal is to find ways to exceed your expectations in hopes of becoming the leader in this industry. We are setting our own bar high, and we aim to reach it!

Motor coaches are made for traveling, and that's just what so many of you have been fortunate enough to do. I consider myself lucky enough to share



THE INGRAMS TREATED US WITH A SPECIAL VISIT.

these trips with you through pictures and phone calls and the stories you share. There are so many beautiful places in North America to visit, and while you cannot take the land home with you, you can take the spirit, the soul ... and a souvenir or two. Enjoy your travels and always know that we are here to help if you should need us.



Joyce Skinner is Entegra Coach's Director of Customer Service. CLICK THE ICON TO EMAIL JOYCE.

## PROMISES, FULFILLED

A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK AT OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

Normalized and the service of the se



**VIDEO #1**: We believe a promise made is a promise kept. Meet some of our employees who help us stay true to our word.



VIDEO #2: Around here, we have a saying. Without compromise. Take a behind-the-scenes look at Entegra Coach's unmatched quality.



VIDEO #3: The ride of your life starts here. Discover how we create the quietest-riding, best-handling motor coach.

SOME OF OUR ENTEGRA COACH OWNERS CALL



<sup>6</sup> It's nice knowing you have a home base.

— LINDA SPANGLER



LINDA AND VAUGHN SPANGLER KAYAK WITH MANATEE NEAR THE "WINTER HOME," WHILE ENTEGRA COACH OWNERS ALVIN COOPER AND KRIS AYERS ENJOY ENCHANTING RIVER VIEWS AT RIVERBEND MOTORCOACH RESORT.

# LOTS TO LOVE

EVEN YOUR COACH NEEDS A HOME - LUXURY RESORTS ANSWER THE CALL

BY AMY SPEER

Surrounded by spring-fed turquoise water, Linda Spangler guides her kayak down Florida's picturesque Crystal River. Nearby, a curious manatee pops its walrus-like face out of the water.

Like Linda, an Entegra Coach owner, the manatee is a snowbird — figuratively speaking — always drifting to find the next warmest place. But Crystal River is the manatee's winter home, just like it is for Linda, where the clear, warm water always beckons.

Linda and her husband, Vaughn, are fortunate to own a well-located lot at **<sup>CC</sup>** Nature Coast Landings RV Resort in Crystal River, Fla. You might say they have one of the coolest backyards ever. Not many people can hop onto their bike and see the sun set over the Gulf. (Or kayak with a manatee.)

COVER STORY CONTINUED



#### COVER STORY CONTINUED ...

But having an adventure-packed backyard isn't what makes Crystal River feel like home. Believe it or not, it's all about the lot — simply having a place to come back to after a cross-country jaunt.

"It's nice knowing you have a home base," Linda says, "A place to put your coach. It feels comforting to me."

And it's not just the Spanglers who have a hankering for "home." Linda's friend, Barry Poole, has seen a peaking interest in the resort life. Poole opened two luxury motor coach resorts — P Bear Creek and P Deer Creek — in the last seven years with a third one — Thornton Creek set to open in December. With the economy's upturn, Poole is finding that more coach owners are eyeing resort property. Each of Poole's gated RV communities are packed with amenities, right down to all the custom lot add-ons a person could want — guest house, outdoor kitchen, gas fireplace, water feature and large pad.

Of course, all of this comes with a price tag. Nestled on valuable land and packed with many amenities, purchasing a lot is truly a real estate purchase — complete with deed and property tax. And don't forget the HOA fees for the resort's hassle-free maintenance.

But you don't have to aim for a Class A resort only. The Spanglers choose a resort that has a pleasant mix of different RVs — not just motor coaches. For Linda, one of the greatest amenities she's found at her resort is friendship itself — something that comes easily when you have a place



**BEAR CREEK MOTORCOACH RESORT:** Located in the Blue Ridge Mountains in North Carolina, this resort features lots that range from 1 acre to 3 1/2 acres, allowing owners to have a pad, a cabin and/or an outbuilding. Call Barry Poole (919-724-1957) for a complemintary stay. **DEER CREEK MOTORCOACH RESORT**: Nestled in the heart of the mountains in Virginia and North Carolina, Deer Creek is minutes away from biking, hiking, canoeing, fishing and golfing. Call Barry Poole (919-724-1957) for a complimentary stay. to call home. Oftentimes, when traveling the country, Linda and Vaughn "bump" into their fellow Floridian neighbors.

"When you buy a house, you don't walk outside and have the same camaraderie that you have in a RV resort," says Mary Davenport, a RE/MAX real estate agent who specializes in second-home sales. "It's just a feeling you get. It's like college, when you lived on campus, and there were all these things to do."

And Davenport is always eager to show off that lifestyle at the enchanting **RiverBend Motorcoach Resort** in LaBelle, Fla., where pickleball is the hottest rage.

But even though Davenport is a RV real estate expert, the industry is lacking a reliable resource that coach owners can

tap into when shopping for a lot. Sure, a Google search will turn up some classified-like websites, but Davenport says these sites are usually filled with outdated listings, and so word-of-mouth is important in her RV real estate business.

Owners talk among owners, selling up the RV resorts they visited, and that's why Poole is always eager to invite coach owners to stay at one of his resorts for a complimentary three-night stay. It's a no-hassle experience, one where he leaves his visitors alone because he knows the lot owners will do all the talking.

In the end, the shopping experience is all about experiencing the resort. "You definitely don't want to buy sight unseen," Linda says. And who would? Lot hunting, especially with a special invite like Poole's, sounds like an adventure in itself.



**RIVERBEND MOTORCOACH RESORT:** Enchanting river views and a friendly community are the big draws at RiverBend, located in LaBelle, Fla. Click the flag icon above to visit the resort site, packed with compelling virtual tours and an interactive map showing property for sale.

**LAS VEGAS MOTORCOACH RESORT**: Celebrate the Las Vegas lifestyle. Minutes away from the strip, Las Vegas' twinkling lights can be seen from the resort's clubhouse. The 425-site resort usually has 35-40 lots for re-sale with many featuring a high-end outside kitchen.



RESERVED

ABOVE: AT DENNER WINERY DURING THE SUMMERFEST II. RIGHT: TOM SEARLE HAS A CLOSE WHALE ENCOUNTER!



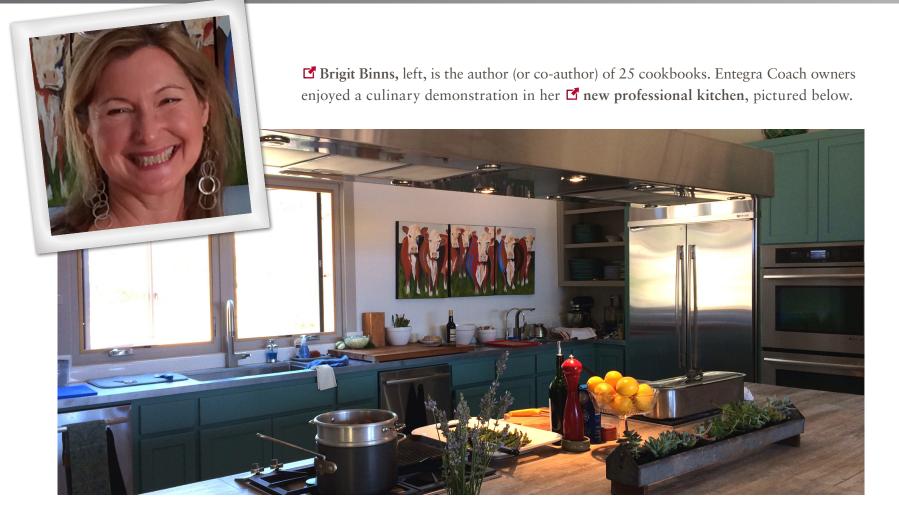
# In the second se

Like a fine wine, the Entegra Coach Summerfest gets more exquisite with each passing year. The second-annual Summerfest was a cork-popping success with 70 self-proclaimed "Festers" meeting at the <sup>I</sup> Wine Country RV Resort in stunning Paso Robles, Calif. Festers took in beautiful wine vineyards, savored culinary delights and formed new friendships, all in four days.

"It was totally different from the first Summerfest because we got to meet a whole new group of people," Entegra Coach owner Linda Spangler said. Linda and her husband, Vaughn, made the cross-country trek from sunny Florida, with their "hit-of-the-party" black standard poodle, Elly Mae. The food festivities ran the gamut, starting with fabulous meals catered by Jim Cahoots of Cahoots Catering. Gourmet pizza, a breakfast waffle bar, BBQ chicken, prime rib and herb-crusted salmon were among Fester favorites.

The wining and dining didn't stop there. Owners partook in a four-course progressive dinner tour in downtown Paso Robles — antipasto at Buona Tavola, salad at Thomas Hill Organics, prime rib at the Paso Robles Steakhouse and dessert at Robert's. The group's own personal guide, Laura Gurreau — owner of Central Coast Food Tours — kept everyone entertained with stories of Paso Robles' rich history.

A SPECIAL THANKS FROM HOSTS TOM AND REGINA SEARLE We wanted to give a special thanks to Rick and Terry Kenaston of Beaver Coach Service of Bend, Ore. Ty and his team drove a new 2014 Anthem and Cornerstone over 600 miles from Bend to allow us to tour these beautiful coaches. Also, on our last evening, we enjoyed a delicious dinner sponsored by Joyce Skinner, Pat Carroll, Chuck Lasley and Ted Cook of Entegra Coach. Special thanks to all of them for coming half way across the country to be with us.



## STRAIGHT FROM CALIFORNIA

SALMON AND FENNEL SALAD WITH CHAMPAGNE VINAIGRETTE

#### Renowned chef Brigit Binns opens up her recipe box for Entegra Coach owners

During the Entegra Coach Summerfest, owners did more than just sample Chardonnays, Reislings and Merlots on the group's exploits in California's southern wine country. In fact, these Entegra Coach "Festers" teased their tastebuds in a whole different way, embarking on a culinary demonstration in the kitchen of renowned chef and cookbook author Brigit Binns. Binns recently completed construction on her new indoor/outdoor professional kitchen, and the Entegra Coach owners were the first "class" to inaugurate the splendid space, which opened up to Binns' beautiful gardens. During the demonstration, Binns whipped up three different salads, each paired with a wine from **Adelaida Cellars** for the Festers' sampling.

#### SALMON AND FENNEL SALAD WITH CHAMPAGNE VINAIGRETTE SERVES 4; PREP TIME 20 MINUTES, COOKING TIME 15 MINUTES

1

#### SHOPPING LIST

#### For the salmon

- ◆ 1 lb. salmon fillet, preferably wild
- Salt and freshly ground pepper

#### For the vinaigrette

- Finely grated zest from 1 lemon
- 1 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
- 1 tbsp. Champagne or white wine vinegar
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- ♦ 2 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 6 tbsp. fruity extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tbsp. finely snipped chives

#### For the salad

- 2 bulbs fennel, trimmed, quartered and cored
- 6 oz. (about 6 cups) bagged or boxed spring or baby salad greens
- 1 tbsp. finely snipped chives
- ▲ DOWNLOAD THE RECIPE
- DOWNLOAD THE SHOPPING LIST



#### DIRECTIONS

#### Poach the salmon

Season both sides of the salmon lightly with salt and pepper. In a lightly oiled steamer set over simmering water, poach the salmon until firm and opaque through to the center, about 10 minutes per inch of thickness. Transfer to a plate. Cool slightly, then flake with a fork into large chunks.

A quick cooking tip: If the salmon fillet still has its skin on, you don't need to waste time removing it before cooking; it will protect the delicate flesh during the steaming process. After cooking, the salmon flesh will flake away from the skin, which can then be discarded.

## 2 Make the vinaigrette

In a large bowl, combine lemon zest, lemon juice, vinegar, ½ tsp. salt, some pepper, mustard, olive oil and 1 tbsp. chives. Whisk together until the vinaigrette is smooth.

## 3 Assemble the salad

Cut the fennel quarters into slivers, sides-down, cross-wise and as thinly as possible. Place the fennel in the bowl with the dressing and toss to coat evenly. Add the greens and flaked salmon; toss until thoroughly mixed. Divide among four plates and scatter with the remaining chives.



## ENTEGRA COACH OWNERS TO GATHER FOR 2ND RALLY



he FMCA Entegra Coach Owners Association is holding its second national rally in October! The FMCAsanctioned chapter is headed for the **Bethpage Camp-Resort** in Urbanna, Va., located on the scenic Chesapeake Bay. Perfect for rally-goers, the resort is packed full of amenities, including a water park, rally room, waterfront sites and a sandy beach. The four day-event gathering is slotted for Oct. 1-5.

2014 CHAPTER

ост. 1-5

Any Entegra Coach owner is invited to attend, even non-ECOA members. While the Sept. 3 registration deadline has passed, owners can still sign up for rally; however, registration is dependent on available space at the resort and the ability of the catering service to accommodate late requests. Rally organizers will notify you if there's an issue with your registration. Click here if you would like to **TREGISTER LATE**.

The registration is a two-part process outlined in the form in the clickable link provided above. Camp fees go to the resort; catering fees should be made payable to Entegra Coach Owners Association. The rally includes two breakfasts and two dinners.



#### ABOUT THE ENTEGRA COACH CHAPTER

The Entegra Coach Owners Association (ECOA) is a chapter of the Family Motor Coach Association (FMCA). The group has grown to 164 Entegra Coach members since it was chartered on Aug. 30.

#### "RALLY ON THE CHESAPEAKE"

There are a number of area attractions to consider if you decide to make the trip to Urbanna. Approximately 40-45 minutes away from the resort, history buffs can travel to **I Jamestown** to experience America's beginnings or **I Williamsburg's** many historical museums. Meanwhile, adventure seekers can hop onto one of **I Busch Gardens'** thrilling rides, also in Williamsburg. Finally, Reedville offers the **I Tangier Island Cruise**, a 1 1/2 hour cruise to the unspoiled and romantic fishing village. Tangier can only be accessed by tour boat or small airplane.

*— Amy Speer* 

#### NEXT STOP

The next ECOA rally is slotted for May 19-22 at **G** Buckhorn Lake Resort in Kerrville, Texas.

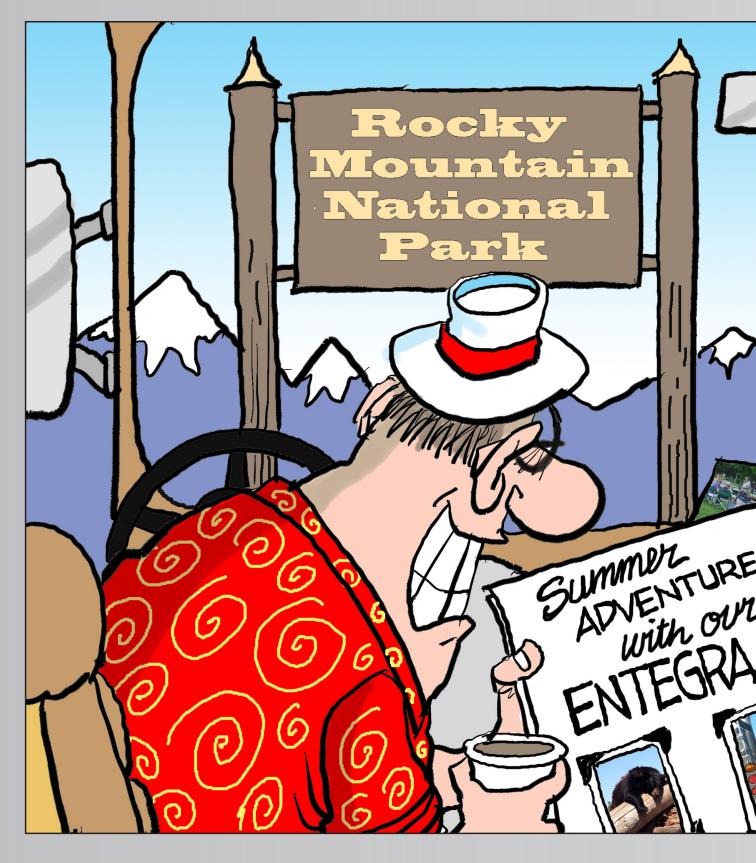
#### ECOA APPAREL

The Entegra Coach Owners Association has added apparel to the chapter website, including shirts, beach towels and caps. Select shirts can even be customized with your name! CLICK HERE TO SHOP!

#### ECOA INFO

Want to learn more about the Entegra Coach FMCA-sanctioned chapter? Click the icon to EMAIL ECOA PRESIDENT PAT BAUER.

#### THE COACH LIFE





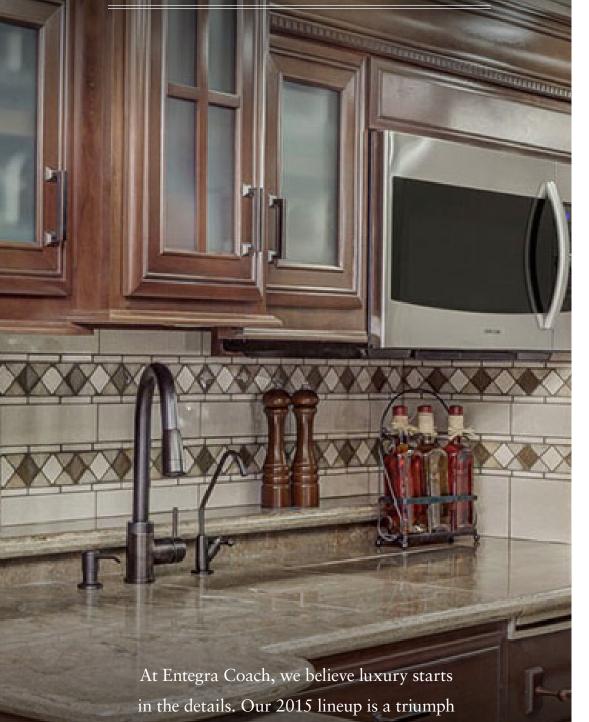
The 2015 Entegra Coach Cornerstone 45B, pictured here in Stanford décor with Natural Glazed Cherry cabintery, flaunts one of our most residential interiors.

# REFINED, MORE THAN EVER

OUR NEWEST MODELS MASTER ALL THE RIGHT DETAILS

## **DIVINE TOUCHES**

FOR 2015, WE ADDED THOUGHTFUL DETAILS



of elite comfort thanks to timeless features.



**POWER AWNING:** A roof-integrated, two-stage powered awning with LED lights ramps up Entegra Coach's livable outdoor space.



DREAM KITCHEN: Our kitchens are packed with every culinary convenience, like chrome overhead slideout baskets and a pull-out countertop extension.



**WELL-APPOINTED:** Ingeniously comfortable, our well-equipped cabs continue to deliver on Entegra Coach's commitment to cab-forward design.



**ENTERTAINMENT:** Our coaches feature a 40" exterior television. Inside, Samsung TVs and Bose sound systems complete the entertainment package.



**REFRESHING**: New graceful touches, like Cornerstone's porcelain tile and frameless, full-view glass shower, make our bathrooms more residential.



**A POWER HOUSE:** From Aspire's 10,000-watt Onan generator to a 12,500-watt Onan generator in the Cornerstone, we deliver power off the road.



THE HIDDEN DETAILS: Select models hide away the entertainment system and a must-have safe, creating a more luxurious master suite.



**NEW PAINT PACKAGES:** Our 2015 exterior paint packages will certainly turn heads. Take for instance, Cornerstone's Electric Blue paint, pictured above.

#### TRAVEL TECH: AQUA-HOT

## THE ULTIMATE MULTI-TASKER

Tucked away in your coach's basement, there's a little white box that makes all sorts of glorious things happen throughout your Entegra Coach. Today, we're going to take a close look at this high-end feature — the Aqua-Hot hydronic water and heating system.



#### WHAT DOES THE AQUA-HOT SYSTEM DO?

The **Aqua-Hot system** has three important jobs in your Entegra Coach. (Let's just say it's the ultimate multi-tasker.) First, this system heats your coach evenly using the *only* **in-floor heating system** on the Class A market, providing quiet, odorless heat to five comfort zones — the living room, kitchen, bath, bedroom and basement. (While other manufacturers force air into the basement, AquaHot provides dedicated heaters to this area.)

This system also provides a **110-degree continuous supply of hot water** throughout your unit. Shower after shower, the Aqua-Hot delivers toasty water with zero recovery time.

Finally, Cornerstone and Anthem boast an **engine pre-heat** feature in the Aqua-Hot 450 diesel series. The 450D series circulates engine coolant to the Aqua-Hot system where the fluid is heated in roughly 30 minutes, as opposed to 12-15 hours required of an electric blocker heater. According to Harold Ogden, Aqua-Hot Director of Sales and Marketing, this feature prolongs the life of the engine, reducing engine wear by more than 30 percent.

#### HOW DOES THE AQUA-HOT SYSTEM WORK?

The Aqua-Hot 450 diesel series stores heat in the system's boiler, created by one (or a combination of three) heat sources:

- Heat from fuel (from the coach's diesel or propane tank)
- Heat from electricity
- Heat from the engine

The latter source is a unique feature that draws heat from the engine to the Aqua-Hot system as you drive, helping the coach conserve the other heat sources while en route to your next destination. Plus, when you arrive at your stop, your water is instantly hot. The electric source allows you to tap into resort-paid utilities instead of using your own fuel.

In short, the Aqua-Hot system properly distributes the stored heat where it's needed the most, helping Entegra Coach deliver the ultimate in comfort.

— Amy Speer

## ENTEGRA COACH CARE

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR AWNING



☑ THE FULL SERIES OF ENTEGRA COACH CARE VIDEOS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL.

TIP

3

TIP

4

To operate the Cornerstone and Anthem awnings, you must have 1/10; the Aspire can operate on battery power alone. To obtain 1/10 power, either start the generator or turn on the inverters.

TIP

1

TIP

2

Once you have power, use the interior awning switch panel to operate the awnings. Using the panel, you can extend or retract the front or back awning with the push of a button. To operate the awning from the outside, use your awning remote, switching between Awning 1 and Awning 2 with the left and right arrows. Press "OUT" to extend the selected awning; press "IN" to retract it.

You can operate both awnings simultaneously by switching between the two awnings as the first awning is operating.

— Samantha Davies

## PUP CARE, PART TWO

GUEST COLUMN BY REGINA SEARLE | A TWO-PART INSTALLMENT

Last edition, Entegra Coach asked me to write a guest column about a pet emergency Tom and I experienced two summers ago when when Spock, our 10-year-old Alaskan Malamute, was diagnosed with Valley fever, a common condition found in the state's low desert regions. The experience made us realize that our four-legged traveling companions can be exposed to unexpected illnesses. So as a Part II installment of our Pup Care feature, we're taking a look at more travel pet care tips. (Last edition, we covered all things related to ticks, and you can read that article by clicking here.) We hope this column finds you and your critters in good health!

HEARTWORM DISEASE: Let's start with mosquitoes, which can inflict serious illnesses in dogs, one of the most common being heartworm. After being bitten by a mosquito carrying the larvae of a roundworm, the worm can cause heartworm disease, which can lead to shortness of breath, fatigue and cough. Cases have been reported in all 50 states. The good news is that heartworm is easily prevented through topical medication or a monthly pill. If your pup is outside a lot, you might consider one of these preventative measures.

**EXPOSURE TO RABIES**: As you travel, it may be useful to carry along a copy of your pet's immunizations. In an urgent

SPOCK'S TALE SPURRED THIS TWO-PART GUEST COLUMN

situation, it may be difficult to recall dates. If your dog is bitten by a rabid animal, you should contact a veterinarian immediately. The vet will want to know if your dog is current on his/her rabies vaccinations. If so, a rabies booster will be given to your dog. Dogs that are current on their vaccines will require a 45-day quarantine period, which most often can be done at home. Dogs not current on their vaccinations require a six-month quarantine.

It's important to note that the rabies virus may remain alive on your dog's skin for up to two hours. If you must handle your dog during this period, you should wear gloves and protective clothing to avoid exposure.

Keep in mind that rabies is a common transmissible disease and a real concern in the wildness. The principal hosts for rabies include bats, woodchucks, bobcats, mountain lions and raccoons.

**SNAKE BITES:** In the U.S., snakes bite more than 15,000 domesticated animals each year. Rattlesnake bites account for 80% of all deadly pet incidents. If a rattlesnake bites your dog,







SHARE YOUR PET PHOTOS We love seeing photos of your four-legged travel buddies. Click the icon to share!

wrap a constricting band (fashioned from a shirtsleeve or other fabric) on the affected limb, snugly at a level just above the bite wound. This compression will slow the spread of venom. After that, immediately go to the nearest animal hospital. As a precautionary measure, talk with a vet to see if a rattlesnake vaccination is right for your dog. In addition, consider taking a rattlesnake aversion training class.

ANIMAL OUTINGS: Paw injuries are common from long hiking or very annoying foxtails. Investing in a good pair of boots for your dog may prove useful. And last, but not least, if your dog likes to wander, you may want to invest in a dog collar GPS tracking system to track your dog if he goes astray.

We're happy to report another fun-filled year of travel with our dogs — Spock, Prince and Rachal — all vaccinated and upto-date on their flea, tick and heartworm medicines. And we keep packing the hiking booties.

Entegra Coach owner Regina Searle has been a licensed physician's assistant since 1978. We wanted to thank her for writing both guest installments.



## TRIP PLANNER FALL FOLIAGE TOUR

FIVE STATES, SIX STOPS AND INFINITE COLOR | By Julie Piotraschke

When the brightness of summer fades, there seems to be a little sigh — a pause in the air when the day is done. Say hello to autumn, when Mother Nature gives her last hurrah and when travel is more about what you see rather than where you go.

With our Fall Foliage tour you can capture these brilliant hues in five New England states. While it's hard to pinpoint when and where exactly the colors will peak, you'll be surrounded by a vibrant picture show fit for any postcard. You'll be glad you came.

BAAR

## A SPLASH OF COLOR

#### 1ST STOP: THE BERKSHIRES, MASSACHUSETTS

Augusta

Providence

York CONNECTICU

Concord

Boston

Hartford

DELAWARE

MARYLAND

THIS FALL TOUR

Frenton

Dover

Norfolk •• Virginia Beach

Wilmington

leston

Washington

Burlington Montpelie

Schantor

While the Boston Harbor might figure prominently in America's history books, the **Berkshires** — a mountain range in the western part of the state — ranks high in any travel book. Because of its location in the northern part of New England, this area sees some of New England's first changing leaves.

NEW HAMPSHIRE "Western Massachusetts has vast forests, which provide a great opportunity to see beautiful color," says Lori Harnois of C DiscoverNewEngland.org. You'll be able to enjoy the beauty RHODE ISLAUP close thanks to its numerous hiking trails, including the 🗹 Appalachian Trail. Don't forget to stop and visit Bish Bash Falls, the state's tallest waterfall. Away from the woods' splendor, the Berkshire region is noted for its esteemed visual and performing arts center, including the Norman Rockwell Museum and the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art.

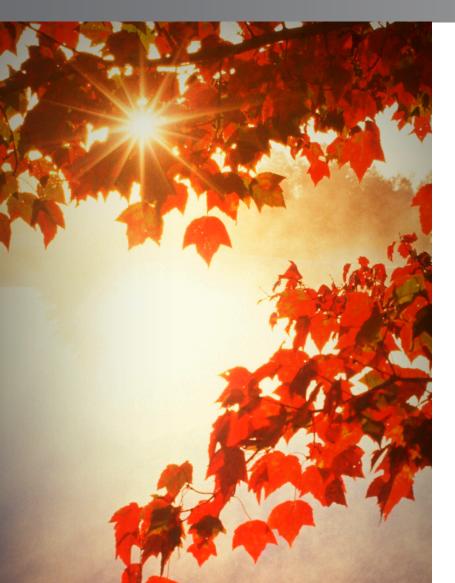
You can even catch the region's **59th Annual Northern Berkshire Fall Foliage Festival**, complete with a parade. You'll find so many gems in this area, you may park your coach here for the entire season!

#### 2ND STOP: MARTHA'S VINEYARD, MASSACHUSETTS

Often d Martha's Vineyard gets overlooked once the summer crowds of 100,000 return to the mainland, which means you can enjoy the foliage without the crush of tourists. The Vineyard Haven ferry accommodates large coaches; however, you'll have to camp on the mainland since

TRIP PLANNER CONTINUED





#### "

This area is a natural phenomenon. Nowhere else will you see such colorful trees painted across such a diverse landscape. —Lori Harnois

## FIVE STATES, SIX STOPS:

#### TRIP PLANNER CONTINUED ...

Martha's Vineyard only has one campground with sites for coaches 40-feet and shorter. Still, it's worth the ferry trip with the island's large variety of oak trees providing golden bursts. Less-traveled scenic roads lead down to the sandy beaches, where you can catch live starfish near the boat docks or wait for the famous Menemsha sunsets to light up the sky.

"The best time to visit Martha's Vineyard is in September and October," says Nancy Gardella, executive director of Martha's Vineyard Chamber of Commerce. "This season signals a robust harvest of farm-to-fork culinary experiences drawn from our abundant oceans and small farms."

#### **3RD STOP: LITCHFIELD, CONNECTICUT**

Roll your coach through the tree-lined hills and back in time to rural **I** Litchfield, Conn., with its Colonial clapboard houses and antique shops full of well-kept treasures. Settled in 1721, the town has preserved its historic flavor.

The area is enveloped in a blazing array of oranges, yellows and reds, especially C Litchfield Hills, C Mount Tom State Park and C Topsmead State Forest. You can even enjoy the splendid scenes while sailing on C Bantam Lake, Connecticut's largest natural lake, while the C West Cornwall Covered Bridge, which was built in 1841, provides one of the most photographic

### NEW ENGLAND JAUNT CAPTURES FALL'S SPLENDOR

scenes. When you've had your fill of leaves, try the wineries in Litchfield, part of the **Connecticut Wine Trail**.

#### 4TH STOP: BURLINGTON, VERMONT

Welcome to <sup>C</sup> Burlington, named one of the "prettiest" towns in America by *Forbes* magazine. This stop is located on the shores of <sup>C</sup> Lake Champlain, and you only need to take a two-hour drive from this town to experience what leaf viewers dub as their "Mecca" — the <sup>C</sup> Green Mountains. Home to Vermont's ski area, these mountains include the <sup>C</sup> Long Trail, a wilderness jaunt that stretches 273 miles. For the best fall panoramas, consider summiting <sup>C</sup> Mt. Mansfield or <sup>C</sup> Killington Peak, open to hikes during the off-ski season.

If you prefer staying low to view the leaves, make your way to the bike-able (or walk-able) **d Burlington Bike Path,** which follows the Lake Champlain shoreline through vibrant parks and neighborhoods. Need a break from leaf peeping? Don't miss the **d Church Street Marketplace,** a four-block openair mall with street entertainers and loads of shopping.

#### 5TH STOP: PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

For New Hampshire's best fall foliage, head to **I** Mount Monadnock, the most climbed mountain in the United States. Whether you decide to summit, or just hover around the foothills, you'll be treated to a full array of autumn splendor. As a coach owner, you might enjoy the Currier and Ives Scenic Byway, a colorful 30-mile route that weaves past farms and orchards and through CROllins State Park and the CIRCURSTREE CONTRACT C

The coastal town of **Portsmouth** is also worth a stop, dubbed one of the top 100 walking cities in America by *Prevention Magazine*. Meanwhile, a boat ride on the Portsmouth Harbor offers a different view of the colors.

#### 6TH STOP: FRYEBURG, MAINE

"Maine is all about fall foliage," says Janet Bartucci, from VisitPortland.com. And it's a passion that the state takes seriously. Numerous websites provide weekly fall reports for a season of color that spans nearly two months — much longer than its neighboring New England states.

That longevity can be attributed to Maine's 57 species of broad-leaved trees, including sugar maples, white ash and black and white oak. Combined they create an autumnal rainbow of purples, scarlets and oranges. But that's not all the state boasts. Maine is the first place in the U.S. where the sun rises. It has more moose per square mile than any other state. And geographically, Maine is larger than the other five New England states combined, offering eight distinct regions to catch the fall show.

## AUTUMN THRILLS

BUCKET LIST #7-11 - BIZARRE FALL FESTIVALS FOR YOUR TO-DO LIST

Not ready to hibernate? Well, don't worry — you're not alone. The crisp autumn air will sometimes make the restless do crazy things, which may explain the many bizarre festivals that take place in the fall. Who wants to look at leaves when there's swamp buggies to race?

For this edition, we put together a Bucket List of fall-crazed adventures.



# watch the falling leaves guys

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEW RIVER GORGE BRIDGE DAY

BUCKET LIST ADVENTURE **BASE JUMPING:** Let's start with a real *fall* adventure. Check out the **35th Annual Bridge Day festival**, one of the largest extreme sport events in the world where nearly 80,000 spectactors are expected to watch hundreds of BASE jumpers launch themselves off the 876-foot tall New River Gorge Bridge on Oct. 18 in Fayette County, W. Va. This marks the only day of the year where traffic is shut down on the bridge and spectators can legally walk across the world's second longest single-arch bridge.

BUCKET LIST CONTINUED

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WHEN IT COMES TO PUNKIN CHUNKIN (THE ART OF TOSSING PUMPKINS), IT REQUIRES SERIES EQUIPMENT.



BUCKET LIST CONTINUED ...

LET IT HURL: If you've never chucked one or two neighborhood pumpkins, now's your chance to get in on the fun. From Oct. 24-26, the folks in Bridgeville, Del. let the pumpkins fly during the infamous

Punkin Chunkin competition. Ingenious catapults, impressive air cannons and handmade slingshots wield squash more than 1,000 feet high. Admissions runs
 \$10 per person. You can even camp at the Chunk.

BUCKET LIST ADVENTURE

9

WWW

squirre

might be missing out on a good dose of Double-Dog-Dare-You fun. Who doesn't want to eat squirrel gravy, marinated bear and a little sautéed snake? Mark your calendars for the Sept. 27 Roadkill Cookoff in Marlinton, W. Va. The menu's main ingredient?
Wild game — A.K.A. any animal commonly found dead on the side of the road.
Tasting tickets are available.

ROADKILL COOKOFF: If you don't have roadkill on your Bucket List, then you

Can't make this event? Check out the **<sup>II</sup> Turkey Testicle Festival**, in Huntley, Ill., where a local pub serves up to 1,000 lbs. of turkey testicles on Nov. 27. Just think of it as Thanksgiving's equivalent of a Rocky Mountain Oyster. Don't say we didn't dare you.

ADVENTURE **100** 

VISIT THE ZOMBIE CAPITAL: If you wished more trick or treaters knocked on your motor coach door, consider making a trip to Pittsburgh, Pa. to get your costume fix. Known as the zombie capital of the world because George Romero filmed "Night of the Living Dead" there in 1968, Pittsburgh turns into an all-out **Zombie fest** on Oct. 11-12. We suggest you invest in boat loads of costume makeup. Can't make this zombie event? Here's a list of **Z other zombie walks** scattered throughout the nation.

BUCKET LIST ADVENTURE



HEAD FOR THE SWAMP: For our avid racing fans who need a fall fix, there's nothing like watching a mud-slinging swamp buggy race in Naples, Fla. Slotted for Nov. 1-2, these ungainly vehicles kick up monster spray in this mile-long race. Watch this **Swamp Buggy Race** video to see this fast-paced Bucket List adventure.



PHOTO BY GLENN CHRISTOPHER @ GCHRISTOPHERPHOTOS.COM

eat swamp dust

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