



From the Coach of Madam President

“A Lame Duck Wrap-Up”

Well, it's official, I am a lame duck! Not as a complication from my recent torn meniscus repair surgery, but because a new slate of officers was elected at our club meeting in Cody, Wyoming. In a couple of months I will pass the gavel (the symbolic one...there is no real gavel) to the next Royale Coach Club president.

I want to thank these members who stepped up and agreed to serve on the Board of Directors for the next two years:

President	Smitty Schmitz
1 st Vice President	Wayne Bost
2 nd Vice President	Bo Reahard
Secretary	Anne Gould
Treasurer	Larry Jones
FMCA National Director	Graham Ricks
Alternate FMCA Nat'l Director	Jim McNulty
Director	Ron Kitchings
Past President	Laurel Volberding

I am confident the new Board will be terrific and the Royale Coach Club is in very good hands. In addition, I want to thank my Board of Directors, especially those who are retiring from the board, Bob Chalk, Charlotte Hatcher and Morris Yates. It was wonderful working with you and the club appreciates your hard work and dedication.

Reflecting on the last two years while serving as president, I took a look at the group photos from each rally (I love those photos!), and the memories came flooding back....

Cowboy hospitality & music, gunfights, geysers, bison/bears/wolves/elk, a 9/11 moment when the sun came out, and laughs with Dave Wall at the Pine Cone Theater...

U.S. history around every corner, monuments at night, a meeting with “C.T.”...

Lotsa lobsta, windjammers, Cadillac Mountain, mice with a purpose...

Tranquility in the North Carolina Mountains, the Biltmore Estate, getting-to-know-you games, and pets on parade.

Wow! This club rocks!! Our Rally masters rock!! We have been to some very special places and shared some extraordinary experiences. Admittedly, it takes a great deal of work hosting a rally, but watching everyone have so much fun together makes it all worthwhile.

Thank you, **Rally masters** past, present & future for sharing your beautiful slice of America with us!

Thank you, **Prevost Car** and **Liberty Coach**, for being such generous and faithful sponsors. We cannot say “thank you” enough for your support. We truly appreciate everything you do for us from providing comfy group transportation to bringing gorgeous show coaches.

Thank you, **dear friends in the Royale Coach Club**, for the kind words and encouragement you have shown me while serving as your president. It has been both a privilege and pleasure for me. This club is our extended family, treasured as much as “real” family, and you will be forever in our hearts. We have shared countless happy times together and a few sad times as well. We have celebrated life’s milestones, laughed a lot, cried a bit, shared our burdens and our talents. In closing, this is not “good-bye” but simply “see you at the next rally!”

Have a gratitude-filled Thanksgiving and an absolutely joyous CHRISTmas!

God be with you ‘til we meet again,

Laurel Volberding

P.S. – I was asked to share my cheese-stuffed mushroom recipe with you. I hesitate to share it because you will no longer think I am a phenomenal chef because these are so incredibly easy to make, but here it is:

2 parts Cugino’s Garlic Spread (www.cuginos.com but also in specialty shops)
1 part Italian bread crumbs

Mix the garlic spread and bread crumbs then stuff the mixture into clean mushroom caps.
Bake in a 425 oven about 15 minutes until hot and nicely browned. Enjoy!!

P.P.S. – I would be happy to take orders and have some Cugino’s shipped to Myrtle Beach. It’s about \$10 for a 16-ounce jar. Let me know and I’ll order some for you.

Clarence F. Schmitz

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Greetings from Your Incoming President,

I am honored to be given the opportunity to serve this wonderful club as the next President. Fortunately, we have a great slate of officers and board members to prop me up. One thing I will promise as President, there will be few changes. My motto is, "If it isn't broken, leave it alone".

I certainly want to thank the outgoing officers and board for a job well done. Also, thanks to the many members who have stepped up to volunteer their time and talent to make this club the best RV club anywhere. If I started trying to single them out, I would have the majority of the club roster listed. I will say that we have the best rallies, the best web site, the best newsletter, and of course, the best people.

Seriously, the one change that has been discussed, and is currently being investigated, is some sort of "alumni" status for former club members. I think we will come up with a good solution on this so that members who have decided to give up the RV life can still enjoy some of the social interaction with existing club members. As our current President, Laurel says, "It's not the coaches that make the club great, it's the people."

At some point many of us will be coach less and still want to retain the close friendships, and experience the joy of travel that brought us together initially. If you have any thoughts on this subject please share them with the incoming officers and board members.

Brenda and I are looking forward to meeting all of you at our upcoming rallies. I'm working hard trying to get all of the names and faces memorized, but I'll admit up front, that my memory isn't what it used to be. Please don't be offended if I don't recognize you immediately. I love to meet new people and add them to my list of friends. Please make it a point to communicate with me at rallies, by the internet or via telephone.

One thing that would help all of us to become more familiar with our fellow members is to make sure that Bo Reahard has a current picture of you and your spouse available to post on our website. Bo has done an outstanding job with that website.

Lastly, if you find your travels bring you to the Midwest, we welcome you to stay at our one coach, campground in Joliet, Illinois. We have power and water hookups and we are only forty miles to downtown Chicago. We had a couple coaches in on their way to Cody this fall and we enjoyed showing them around.

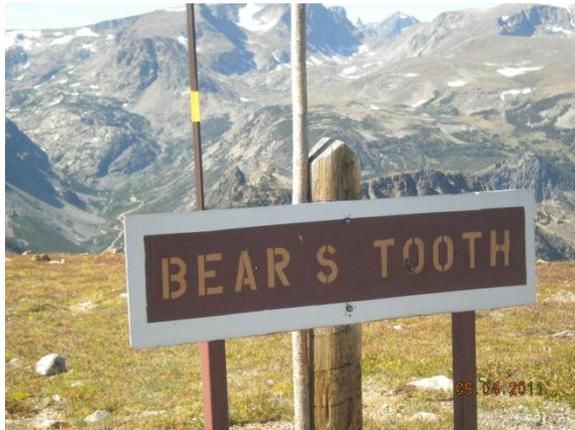
Cowboy Country and Yellowstone National Park Fall 2011 Royale Coach Club Rally



Rally Recap by Kally Kitchings

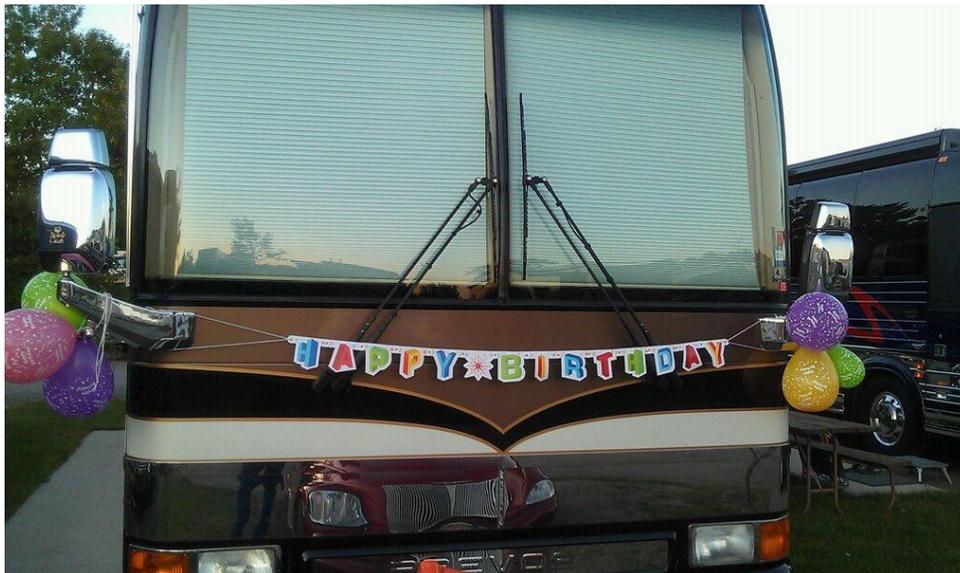
Oh My Goodness, I don't know where to begin - - - with the actual rally or with the very early pre-rally! Terry and Kathy Solberg's Cowboy Country and Yellowstone National Park did not official start until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday September 7th but Ron and I were one of six couples that went to the Cody Cattle Company for dinner and a show on Saturday September 3rd!! There was no doubt that the Royale Coach Club really wanted to get to Cody.

Because the "early arrivals" had advance notice of activities that would take place during the rally we were able to plan our days and evenings doing things that would not be done during the rally. I think the main thing everyone wanted to do was ride the "most beautiful drive in America" as hailed by Charles Kuralt. The Beartooth Highway Loop was amazing. Ron and I saw 2 pure white mountain goats. The motorcycle riders sure bundled up for their ride because it got a little cool at over 10,000 feet elevation.





I got up rather early on Monday September 5th to go for a run and found a surprise waiting for me. I stepped outside my coach and found it had been decorated sometime during the night for my birthday! I went back inside to get my iPad to take a photo and found out that Richard Harris had already posted a photo to facebook. I eventually found out it was none other than our Madam President that was responsible for the Happy Birthday wishes - - - Thanks Laurel!



During the pre-rally everyone did their own thing during the day but we all got together at night for cocktails and dinner. The last night at the pre-rally Terry and Kathy surprised us with an invitation to their lovely home for cocktails and appetizers. We sure had a good time.



Now back to the rally. We all assembled at the Ponderosa Campground Teepees for our orientation from Terry and Kathy. Kathy told us our club was being represented by 23 states and one Canadian province. Little did we know that door prizes were being awarded. We also had our group photo taken by Mary Catherine Ricks (Thanks MC!) Kathy also introduced the guests Sandra and Jackie Mathews (Jim Mathews' daughters) and the first-timers George and Diane Aristides, Mike and Carolyn Lien, and Matt and Joyce Tucker to the club. Then it was off to a wonderful dinner at Cassie's Restaurant. There was live music and a few people got up to dance. One thing there was plenty of was laughter!





A breakfast buffet at the Sunset House started our day on Thursday followed by the Cody Trolley Tour. Cody is well known for the Buffalo Bill Historical Center which is where we spent the remainder of the morning and afternoon. Then it was off to a genuine “Street Gunfight”. The gunfight was outside the Irma Hotel (named for one of Buffalo Bill’s daughters) which is where we had a delicious prime rib buffet dinner. I was able to get wonderful “couples” photos of everyone. If you want your photo emailed to you please email me a request and I will get it right out to you.



Prior to the gunfight performance it was asked to the entire crowd who was the oldest attending the performance. The number started at 50 years of age and kept going upward until our own Ron Volberding was the last man standing!! Don’t worry Ron; I won’t list your age here!

After dinner it was a short walk across the street to the Dan Miller Cowboy Music Review. This was a family style musical show with Dan Miller's wife and young teenage daughter also performing. But after the daughter left for home (it was a school night) Dan did perform a song that did get plenty of laughs. Here are the words to the chorus:

It takes a whole lot of liquor to like her
That's why I drink all the time
It takes a whole lot of liquor to like her
But when I'm liquored up I like her just fine

I had never heard this song before so I was flabbergasted when I heard it on the radio couple weeks later. It was being sung by Hank Williams, Jr. To get all the lyrics or hear the song just Google Hank Williams, Jr. Liquor to Like Her.

Friday morning brought us another breakfast buffet and the Royale Coach Club Business Meeting. The remainder of the day was free to do as we pleased. Ron and I always try to play a round of golf while at the rally and this rally was no different. Well, maybe it was a little different. This time while playing golf with Bo & Stanley Reahard and Bill Bunch we also played "a round" with the antelopes. It was amazing to see these beautiful creatures on the golf course.



It was time to gather together again and we give many many thanks to our wonderful sponsor Liberty Coach for the wine and cheese reception at their beautiful show coach. Everyone was really enjoying themselves just sitting and visiting with our club family. The weather could not have been better for the reception. Thanks Liberty for everything you do.



After the Liberty reception a handful of people attended the Cody Collegiate Rodeo. Cody Wyoming is known as the Rodeo Capital of the World! I sure am glad no one asked me to get on one of those bulls!



It was time to make a move on Saturday morning. Everyone hitched up their toads and headed west - - - to West Yellowstone. The drive through the park was very enjoyable. There was no rush and we were able to take in the beauty and the devastation of the park. The beauty of the park for the trees, rocks, hills, streams, vistas, animals and blue sky and the devastation of the landscape because of past and current fires.





We all arrived at the Grizzly RV Park in West Yellowstone MT in plenty of time to set up our RV's and relax before the dinner and GI Jukebox show at the Pine Cone Playhouse. Of course I always have a wonderful time no matter where I am and as you can see from the below photos that this night was no exception. The first two photos are the "cause and effect" photos. Skip Evans scaring me was the cause and the spilt wine was the effect. The last two photos are just me having fun. I'm just glad I did not have to spin the hula hoop while wearing the buffalo coat!



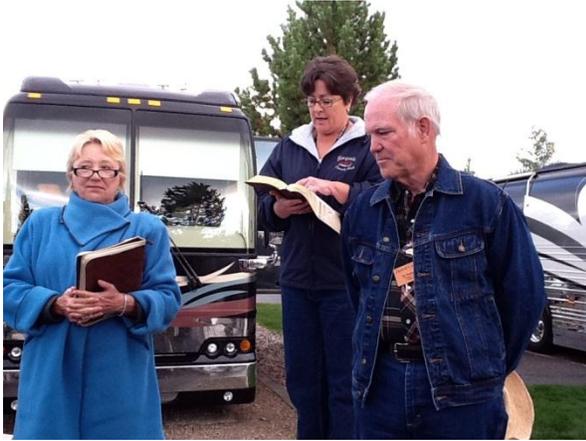
Another person that seemed to be having a great time was Elizza Zidek. She laughed and laughed while a show cast member seemed to be smitten with Dave Wall. I don't think Dave laughed much at all.



On Sunday we toured the Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center in West Yellowstone. Our timing was perfect for lunch - - - not our lunch, the animals lunch. We were there for feeding of the wolves and bears. I watched one wolf bury his food to dine at a later time. After watching the film Yellowstone in the IMAX Theater we had the remainder of the day free.



A last minute treat was a pizza party that Terry and Kathy threw together. Just prior to eating our entire Royale Coach Club family paid tribute to those who lost their lives in the Sept. 11th attacks ten years earlier. Our many thanks go out to Laurel Volberding, Bo Reahard, Stanley Reahard and Elaine Yates for leading us in our remembrance.





Does anyone think John Habicht was having a good time!!

Monday was our guided tour of Yellowstone National Park with the tour buses being provided by Prevost. Thanks Prevost for everything you do for our club. The highlight of the tour was the stop at "Ole Faithful" and she did not disappoint anyone. The waterfalls, the vistas, lakes and the entire landscape was simply breath taking. There were no bear sighting but we sure saw plenty of LIONS AND TIGERS AND - - - oh, wait a minute - - - I mean bison, deer and elk!!



Our farewell dinner at the Bar-N- Ranch was delicious and was enjoyed by all. The ranch was a short ride outside of town and was a beautiful restaurant. The wait staff wanted to make sure the entire building was seen so one of the waiters gave a few of us ladies a guided tour of the men's room to see the flowing water sink. The good bye hugs started in the restaurant and continued through the parking lot to the Prevost buses that would take us back to the campground (Thanks again,Prevost!)



Terry and Kathy gave us a wonderful rally and tons of new memories. Thanks for everything! You were toasted at every table throughout the night!





POLSON POST-RALLY

Laurel Volberding, Roving Reporter

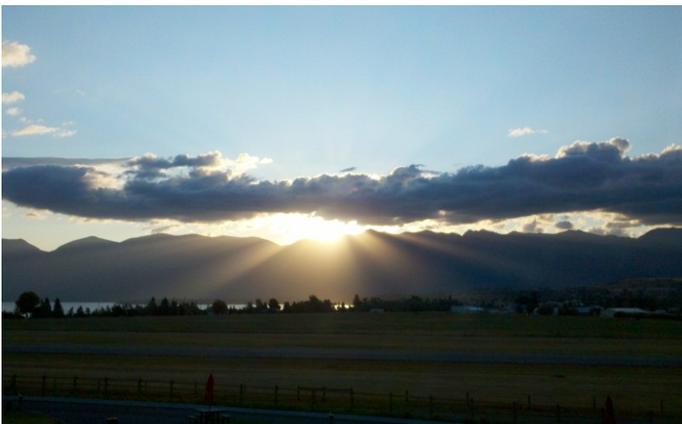
Ten couples extended their time in the West with a visit to the Polson Motorcoach Resort overlooking beautiful Flathead Lake. Terry & Kathy Solberg invited us to spend time visiting one of their favorite places, and we joined the Brown's, Bunch's, Gould's, Hansen's, McNulty's, Ricks', Strickland's and Williams' for post-rally festivities.

We left West Yellowstone and travelled north on Highway 191, although others chose to take an alternate route. To say the drive was "scenic" is an understatement, but of course we were accustomed to the beauty of Yellowstone. It was another piece of "God's country" pie. After driving on I-90 about 200 miles, we drove north on Highway 93 through the Flathead Indian Reservation, where the road signs announcing towns were written in English and in the language of the Native American people living there. After a 350 mile day, we arrived at the resort in Polson, greeted by the very welcoming owners.

Our time in the Polson was do-it-yourself, but on Wednesday night we resurrected the leftovers from our final dinner at the Bar-N Ranch and feasted yet again. A few folks relaxed by the bonfire after dinner, laughing and sharing stories, and dare I say a bottle (or two) of wine. Food, fun, fellowship... we can't get enough of it!



There is much to see and do in the area and so we did, each in our own way. Some drove Going to the Sun Road in Glacier National Park, while others toured around Flathead Lake stopping in quaint towns like Bigfork, Hungry Horse, Kalispell and Whitefish to enjoy a meal and some "retail therapy". Perhaps the most memorable moments were those we had each morning looking out our front windows...watching the sun rise over the Mission Mountain Range, knowing we were given the gift of a new day and the freedom to travel this great land of ours.



*"O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
O For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!"*

Katharine Lee Bates



Ocean Lakes Family Campground
6001 South Kings Highway
Myrtle Beach, SC 29575
Main Phone Number 1-877-510-1413
<http://www.oceanlakes.com/Default.asp>



Royale Coach Club's 2012 Spring Rally

"Fun in the Sun at Myrtle Beach"

Monday, April 30th to Friday, May 4th, 2012
Ocean Lakes Family Campground

Top Ten Reasons to Meet us in Myrtle Beach

- 10) To make sure you are not voted in as Rally Master for up coming Rally
- 9) Warm up after a cold winter up North.
- 8) Need to just relax or exercise on the beach with a surprise leader
- 7) Be there the night we Murder someone at Mystery Dinner and Night Tour of Ripley's Aquarium
- 6) Tour of beautiful Brookgreen Gardens and enjoy a wonderful lunch
- 5) Breakfast every morning until "10" so we can sleep in!
- 4) Enjoy free time to Golf or Ride Your Bike or Shop at the many new malls
- 3) Lady's Night game of "What's in the Purse" with prize for everyone
- 2) Guy's Night of Tec Talk and Peanuts around the fire

AND THE NUMBER 1 REASON TO MEET US IN MYRTLE BEACH

To see your friends that you have missed over the winter!



visit MYRTLE BEACH SOUTH CAROLINA

<http://www.visitmyrtlebeach.com/PLAY/>

It's time to wax your surfboard, grab your suntan lotion, throw on your flip-flops, OR just settle in to your favorite beach chair for a week of fun in the sun at Myrtle Beach, SC.

April 30th 2012 - May 4th, 2012.

The club will be staying at the first class RV Park "Ocean Lakes" in Section HH in front of the Dining Hall with 3 point, 50 amp hookup and cement pads



2008-2009 National "RV Park of the Year"
- awarded by the National Association of RV Parks & Campgrounds (ARVC)

<http://www.oceanlakes.com/Default.aspx>

Enjoy 5 days of relaxing activities and great food, starting with our Welcome Party "Around the World Food Stations" of heavy hors d'oeuvres and drinks. Enjoy breakfast and a different style dinner every day. (Including a Men's Chili and Corn Bread Cook Off)
AND THE MIDDLE... will be filled with activities such as

- Tuesday enjoy the different shops and attractions at "Broadway at the Beach"
 - <http://www.broadwayatthebeach.com>
- Then end the evening with a Mystery Dinner and Night Tour of
 - [Ripley's Aquarium, Myrtle Beach, SC](#)
- Thursday explore Brookgreen Gardens with general admission and
 - Lunch at The Pavilion RestaurantTake the rest of the day doing the tours you want to do.
 - <http://www.brookgreen.org>
 - Free days to enjoy Golf or Bike Rides.
- Trips to the New Downtown Boardwalk area and the Skywheel
 - <http://www.skywheelusa.com/>
 - Shopping and Entertainment at "Barefoot Landing"
 - <http://www.bflanding.com/>
 - Or check out the upscale area of
 - The Myrtle Beach Market Common
 - <http://www.marketcommonmb.com/>

What ever YOU like to do to relax will be there for YOU to enjoy!

Travels by Max



By Maxamillion "Max" Kitchings

This was one of the best trips ever! Not only did I get to see a lot of friends that I have not seen in a while I also got to do so much more than I usually do at a rally. I want to tell you all about it.

When we arrived at the campground Senji Harris was already there. We played for quite a while then his mom took him on a motorcycle ride. Senji's mom always makes sure he is safe on the motorcycle. Here is a photo of him riding.



I guess I am still too little to ride in the motorcycle so mom and dad took me on this really cool drive up in the mountains. I got to go wading in a stream and play in the snow. While mom and dad were eating lunch by the stream I sat on a warm rock and kept a lookout for bears.



We drove and drove that day. Mom made me put on my coat when I played in the snow. Then we stop at this one place that had these metal Indians riding on metal horse and I had my picture made with them. Here I am with the Indians.



When we got back to the campground Miss Laurel and Mr. Ron had finally gotten there with Millie. My dad held me up to their window and all the sudden Millie just went nuts. She started hissing and showing her teeth at me. I didn't do anything to her so I just don't understand why she was so mad at me. I sure am glad there was a screen between us and really glad no one wanted us to take a picture together.

Miss Kathy and Mr. Terry invited everyone over to their house for a visit. And since everyone was invited that meant that I got to go too. I had such a good time because I got to run around outside without that cord thing attached to my neck. And my friend Sage told me all the neat places to sniff. She is a bit older than me so I know she knows what she is talking about. She also liked to greet all the people when they arrived at her house. Here is her picture.



I got to go to the first official gathering at the rally - - - and so did my new friend Kandy Evans. We had a great time together. I sure am glad her mom and dad, Miss Marilyn and Mr. Skip, brought her to the rally. Here we are getting to know each other. We look so much alike we could be brother and sister! She is just so cute!



The next day I really got a treat. I got to go on the trolley bus for the tour of Cody, Wyoming. I got to see so many of the beautiful bronze statues of different animals and people that are all over the town. We drove by one of those places that mom and dad are always going to called a golf course. The man on the trolley told us about a hundred years of history of Cody and that was just a little "TMI" for me to remember. I really enjoyed just looking out the window and being with all my friends. I was a little disappointed that Miss Norma did not let Oliver go on the tour. I hope Miss Norma does not let Oliver read this article because I am not sure he knows that I went on the trolley. I would not want him to be upset that he did not get to go. The trolley is not like our buses - - this one has lots more color.



The gathering at the beautiful Liberty Coach was wonderful. That is where my mom got a great picture of Oliver. I sure am glad his mom let him come to Wine and Cheese reception even though neither one of us got any wine or cheese.



The next day was awesome. We all moved our buses from one city to another and we got to ride thru Yellowstone National Park. This was the day that I had been waiting for ever since mom and dad told me about the trip. There was so much to see out the windshield. Luckily dad was driving really slowly so I got to see a whole bunch of things.



I saw all different kinds of animals. Those bison were really really big! I stayed real safe inside of our bus. I also saw deer and elk. I am used to the deer and elk

because there are some that live outside my house in Colorado. But my goodness, those bison were just plain big. But some people wanted to get really close to the animals. Here is a picture my mom took of Miss Carolyn McCollum. I sure am glad those bison did not come running toward her.



It took almost a half a day to drive through Yellowstone National Park and I was really tired by the time we got to West Yellowstone, Montana. I decided not to go out with mom and dad for dinner and the show. And maybe it's good that I didn't. When mom got home that night she smelled awful. She said she tried on some kind of coat made out of a buffalo. The people that owned it said it was made in the late 1800's. That means it was way over a hundred years old. No wonder it smelled. It probably had never once been cleaned! I sure hope she doesn't wear it

again because she really smelled yucky. I think I sneezed for an hour after she got home. Sometimes mom is just goofy. Here is her picture.



I don't think anyone noticed me sitting in the dash of our bus when Miss Laurel, Miss Stanley, Mr. Bo and Miss Elaine read from the Bible and sang *God Bless America*. I just think that was so wonderful for my friends to remember all the people that died so long ago. Let's never forget.

After everyone finished eating their pizza that night I came out for just a little while. It was such a beautiful night. The rain had made everything smell so clean and fresh. I got to watch the big bright full moon rise up in the pink sky above the trees. I heard everyone say how much they loved a full moon. I even heard a few men howl at it. Some people can be so funny. Isn't this picture just great?



I actually said most of my goodbyes at the pizza party because I knew I would not be going to the final dinner the next night. I sure did enjoy seeing everyone and meeting a few new friends. I sure hope everyone had safe travels back to their homes and I can't wait until we see each other again.

I have to mention one other person. Miss Charmaine came to visit me when everyone else went on the Yellowstone tour. She is such a nice lady. I just wish she would have brought Bonnie and Clyde with her!!

See you in the spring.

Maxamillion "Max" Kitchings

