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THE RALLY 2010

July 22 - 25, 2010 Louisville, KY
(Early bird days are July 20 & 21)

Entertainment... Seminars... Exhibits... New Rigs... Area Tours... Fun... It's the biggest event of the year for the RV enthusiast and the 2010 event will be held in Louisville, Kentucky, July 22-25. It's more than just an exposition - it's an experience, - it's the Greatest RV Rally in the World and it's coming to Louisville, Kentucky aka Main Street U.S.A. - a vibrant city bursting with heartland charm and southern hospitality.

Good Sam Club Day will be on Saturday, July 24th and we are very excited to be organizing a baseball theme for Good Sam Club day. We are planning a beanbag baseball world series, an auction for RV products and many other fun activities during the day.

We are still looking for volunteers so if you or a member of your staff would like to volunteer please email Good Sam Club Activities Manager, Diana

Impeartrice, at dcimpeartrice@affinitygroup.com

GOOD SAM CLUBS AND THE INTERNET

The internet is increasingly becoming an essential piece of doing business today with websites, blogs and social networking sites allowing instant access to information, news and people. Good Sam Clubs, like every other business, is using these internet tools to reach a broader audience at greater speeds and we are asking you to be involved in this process.

Many of you are already using the Good Sam Club website (www.goodsamclub.com) to post information but there is so much more that can be done.

State/Provincial Directors should be posting news and information on their state/providence's page and encouraging their Chapter Presidents to be doing the same. These pages are a great way to announce upcoming events, talk about past events and share photos.

Good Sam Club is also on the social networking site Facebook and this is another great tool for you and Chapter Presidents to stay in touch with your state/providence's members and keep them involved by posting frequent newsfeed updates, invitations to

events and photos of past events. We would like to see each state/province and chapter have their own Facebook account and befriend each other and all their members. This is a wonderful way to stay in touch and share your travel adventures with other RV enthusiasts.

Recently an email went out to all the Good Sam Club State/Provincial Directors announcing that the Good Sam Club is starting a blog. The idea for the blog is to give those who love RVing an opportunity to share their stories, travel adventures and local events with other RVers.

For those of you not familiar with the blogging phenomenon, it allows people to post their news, thoughts and opinions online to an open audience. People reading the author's blog can then add their own commentary.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Good Sam Chapters to share what's going on around their cities, states and provinces. Local events, charities, Samborees and Chapter weekend adventures are all fantastic things to share. There will be a special section on the blog dedicated to Chapters and your activities, and we are working on the ability to allow you to target your posts or stories by area.

If you want a sneak peak, check out

<http://GoodSamBlog.com/>. Remember, this is a work in progress!

We are still looking for a few people to blog on a regular basis as well as hoping for ongoing Chapter participation. Our bloggers should be individuals who enjoy writing, have good grammatical skills, and of course, have lots of RVing interests they want to share with fellow members. If you are interested in helping this Blog take flight or have any suggestions, please let Robin Russell know via email at rrussell@affinitygroup.com.

Many Sambassadors, State/Provincial Directors and Chapter Presidents have been asking the same question, "how can we increase chapter growth?" and we believe using all the internet tools mentioned above is a great start to increasing growth by reaching an expanded audience. If you are posting events on the Good Sam Club website, Facebook and blogging about all the fun you are having people are going to want to be involved in that because nobody wants to be left out of the fun!!

If you need assistance with how to use any of these internet tools please email Good Sam Club Activities Manager, Diana Impeartrice, at dcimpeartrice@affinitygroup.com and she will be more than happy to help you or point you in the right direction.

New Good Sam Club Activities Manager

Diana Impeartrice

Most of you are aware that I began my journey as Good Sam Club Activities Manager on April 5th and hit the road running. I have had the opportunity to speak with many of you already and am truly touched by all the offers of assistance and the warm welcome I have received.



My First Patch!

It's with great pleasure that I share my first Samboree experience with you all. On April 15th I attended the Southern California "Pajama Party" Samboree for the opening ceremonies and I must have caught the fever because I'm ready for another one. I received my first patch and plan on collecting more! Thank you to Southern California State Director Jo Ann Yett, her husband Vern and all their staff for their kindness and royal treatment. The pride and dedication displayed by the Good Sam Club members I met that day was to say the least, impressive. I'm glad I was able to attend a Samboree so soon after beginning my position because it really showed me what the Good Sam Club means to the members and what an important role

each and every one of you play in making Good Sam Club an amazing organization. I'm proud to be a part of it and hope you all know that I'm here to help you as much as possible and am always open to hearing your thoughts and opinions on how to keep the Good Sam Club moving forward.

American Idol Contestant is Samboree Entertainment Alumni

Aaron Kelly

Could the next American Idol really be the same entertainer that performed at Pennsylvania's Samboree in July 2009?

Absolutely!

Good Sam Club members discovered Aaron Kelly from Sonestown, Pennsylvania before more than 25 million Americans were introduced to him on the ninth season of American Idol.



Sambassador Estermay Brooks and Aaron Kelly

When a rainstorm interrupted the outside performance 16 year old Aaron didn't let it dampen the show and instead had the guest join him on the covered stage and continued his performance. Aaron's energy was contagious and soon he was teaching Good Sam Club members some of his special dance moves.

Past Good Sam Pennsylvania State Director, Nathan Strite, was given Aaron's contact information when Aaron was just 14 years old and was told "get him quick because he is going to go" and go he did. After Aaron's Samboree performance he headed home to pack for his trip to the American Idol tryouts in Florida. As of today Aaron is one of the final five contestants still in the run to be America's next idol.

According to American Idol's website Aaron was asked "If you could perform in any venue in the world, where would that be and why?" Aaron responded "CMA awards - all the people I listened to on the radio would be listening to me, it would be so cool". I think Aaron meant to answer...at The Rally in Louisville, Kentucky where all my Good Sam fans could enjoy hearing my smooth country voice!

2010 RVER OF THE YEAR

Good Sam Heroes

Nominate the next RVer of the Year

Five years ago, Good Sam member Richard Daniels encountered an underfed Labrador retriever during a walk at a South Carolina campground. He learned from the park's manager that the dog had been living off scraps there for years. So Richard took the stray dog home, named him Old Fella and, to make a long

story short, founded a network of foster homes for abandoned animals in Old Fella's name.

After witnessing the televised images of Hurricane Katrina, Good Sam members Sue and Monty Scales commandeered a Jayco trailer and drove south to New Orleans where the two construction professionals put their skills to good use. Since then, the couple has purchased a fifth wheel of their own and dedicated their lives to rebuilding communities ravaged by natural disasters.

In recognition of their selfless dedication to the community at large, Richard Daniels and Sue and Monty Scales were named the Good Sam Club's 2008 and 2009 RVers of the Year, respectively. Now it's time to select nominees for this year's award. Do you know an RVer who's given back? Do you have an RVing friend or acquaintance who has improved the lot of RVers or fellow citizens? E-mail your nominees to rveroftheyear@goodsamclub.com and explain why they deserve the 2010 RVer of the Year honor. Please include your contact information.

We'll publish profiles of the five top nominees in the September issue of Highways. Members will be able to vote online, and we'll profile the winner in the January 2011 issue of Highways.

rveroftheyear@goodsamclub.com

RV CENTENNIAL

Miles of Memories

Share your RV history and you could win 100 gallons of gas

You don't have to be 100 years old to appreciate the RV industry's centennial. Whether you're an RV newbie or a seasoned cross-country trekker, your RVing experiences make you a vital part of this rich heritage.

To celebrate the RV milestone, the Good Sam Club is asking you to share your first RVing experience. The best memory will win 100 gallons of gas or diesel fuel. To enter, click on the website below through July 25, 2010. Don't spare any details about your first RV experience and make sure to include photos, if you have them. The winner will be announced in the November-December edition of Highways.

blog.rv.net/centennial-celebration

A Note from **Robin Dickson**

News from Dogs for the Deaf



Hello from Oregon and Dogs for the Deaf. I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you that for the past few years we have been training other types of dogs-- in addition to the Hearing Dogs for people with deafness and hearing loss.



Autism Assistance Dogs are trained to help families with an autistic child. Large dogs are used for this program and they are trained to serve as an anchor when the autistic child tries to bolt and run. A common trait of these children is bolting and running in a split second. They will run into the street, into the river, anywhere, and this causes many deaths and injuries each year. With the large dog wearing a special harness, the child is tethered to the dog, and the adult has control of the dog. If the child tries to bolt and run, the dog is trained to immediately sit and stay, preventing the child from running into an unsafe situation. Autism Assistance Dogs also provide a calming effect on these children and help to lessen temper tantrums and meltdowns so common with autism. The dogs also are proving to help the child with eye contact and bonding. All of these benefits are an incredible help to the family, and we are able to use some of the larger, less adoptable, dogs from the shelters for this type of training.

Miracle Mutts (special dogs for special people) are trained to help people with a wide variety of physical,

mental, and emotional challenges. These dogs help with depression, loneliness, anxiety attacks, post traumatic stress disorder, MS, cerebral palsy, the effects of a stroke, and many other challenges. The dogs provide a reason to get up in the morning, something positive in the person's life, motivation to exercise and do rehabilitation, and many other benefits. By providing this motivation, the person's health and condition improves, and they are able to be more functional members of society and happier.

All of our dogs are rescued from shelters and trained to help in one of these various ways. Please remind your chapter presidents and members about the service provided. The dogs are all placed free of charge, too, except for an initial \$50.00 application fee.

If you have any questions, check out our website www.dogsforthe deaf.org or call us at 541-826-9220. As always, we welcome Good Sam members to tour our facility and we have free RV camping.

Thank you all for the incredible help and support of our special work.

Robin Dickson
Pres./CEO
Dogs for the Deaf, Inc.



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**Sale ends
June 15, 2010**

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