

# NIAGARA FRONTIER CHAPTER 12 NEWSLETTER

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HOLIDAY RAMBLER®  
RV Club

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## The Villages @ Turning Stone RV Park

Aug. 13, 14, 15  
Verona, N.Y.

We waited until noon before departing so we wouldn't have to drive into the sun. It was one bumpy ride; construction was terrible! It seemed to be mostly bridge repair, which required many cross-over lanes.

At Turning Stone, upon check in we received a sheet of coupons for the casino which included \$5.00 of Blackjack play, 20% off in gift stores, 10% off the Day Spa, buy one round of golf and get one round free, \$1.00 Keno Match Play, \$2.00 off a car wash, and \$2.00 off any purchase at the Corner Market. At the risk of sounding ungrateful, the coupons didn't interest us.



LARRY & BETH MURNANE

Arriving at our site, Art & Donna Hanson were backing into theirs. John & Deborah Matyas were already there. They had been to the swimming pool as they walked up to meet us. John & Wendy Gaydica were all set up. Bill & Lois O'Neill, Adam & Sue Magoss, and friends, Kenny & Cheryl Barnes arrived a little later. Chapter 1 members, Beth & Larry Murnane and their son, Owen also joined our campout. Parkill's arrived on Saturday.

Our hosts; John & Deborah Matyas ( John & Wendy Gaydica were co hosts) had reservations for fish fry at Joel's Front Yard Steak House. A unique restaurant, almost directly across from the thruway exit. The parking lot was full and extended across the road. We all had "great" food and enjoyed the environment. As we were leaving a band was setting up and the bar room was packed. It looked like a favorite "watering hole!"

Our hosts had the pavilion reserved for breakfast but it was some distance away so John decided to set up the tent so we could eat on site. Members pitched in to help with set up and we were immediately attacked by mosquitoes.



JOHN & DEBORAH MATYAS

## TURNING STONE CONTINUED



During cocktails we decided to have the campfire across the street away from the woods, hoping the mosquitoes wouldn't be as bad. Bob sprayed his "dollar store mouth wash" on the ground and we all tried to decide if that helped any. Our campfire didn't want to burn very well so Adam brought over some candle lanterns with mosquito repellent, which provided us with a little more light.

Upon our arrival, Bob discovered that our refrigerator had sprung a leak (again) in the ice cube lines and during campfire John thought it was raining as he was misted each time he walked by our coach. Ride em & fix em!

After our "biggie breakfast" of pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, juice and breads we all found things to do. Some members went to the casino, some walked the hiking paths and were attacked again by mosquitoes, and some took nappies! We went to look for tubing to fix the refrigerator. We also went to Utica College as our youngest grandson was checking in for football practice & seminars.



The Hidden Valley campout was a record with 9 dogs. This campout beat that record with 18 dogs and puppies. Kenny & Cheryl Barnes, friends of Magoss' are raising Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. Adam & Sue own one of the mothers of a litter which was being returned. We all enjoyed seeing and holding the puppies!

They had 5 adult Cavaliers, a litter of 5 Cavaliers about 3 months old and a litter of 4 Cavaliers a couple weeks old. Adam & Sue Magoss had their two other dogs; 2 Wippets and 1 Haveness. Plus Baxter Hanson..that's 18 puppies!

Everyone returned for cocktails and dinner. Our four hosts served "delicious" roast beef on weck. John & Deborah are natural entertainers as they easily prepared and served the meals. We had many delicious casseroles and at least 10 deserts to choose from. Great job!

Saturday campfire was again a slow burn. We thought the wood was wet or green! We had a good time visiting about the future campouts, which way was North and talking about the next part of our trip-Destination Week.

Those going on were pleased to hear that it would be an early breakfast at 8:30am so they could try to leave by 10:30am. We had lots of goodies to choose from with coffee and orange juice. The ladies brought out many coffee cakes, cookies, pastries, and breads for our choices. Another great campout enjoyed by all.



KENNY BARNES AND PUPPIES

# DESTINATION WEEK Aug. 13th—21st

STRAWBERRY PARK, PRESTON, CONNECTICUT: Gaydica's, Parkhill's and Rindo's departed Turning Stone about 10:00am. John Gaydica called us on the CB. Milkman can you hear me? The Milkman answered. No response. So I felt disappointed-another service call to fix our CB. Scott Parkhill approached and gave us a shout. We answered and Scott answered. Yeah! It's not our CB. Now John has the problem to check out. We all stopped at Guilderland Rest area between Exit 25-24. Bob checked the tow vehicle and he carried in 1/4 of our safety tow chain. Apparently it came unhooked and dragged until the S end sawed off. Ride em & Fix em. We had a traffic back up in Albany and again on Mass. Pike at exit 3 due to an accident. 10 mile per hour! By then we were all miles apart.

We saw many steep rock banks along the drive. Driving into Strawberry Park the road was lined on both sides with beautiful New England stone fences. The meadows had huge rocks sticking up amongst the grass. This park is definitely devoted to families! They have a staff of 110 students to direct the activities from 8:30am to 8:30pm., every day of the week.



Monday we found an RV dealer to order the tow chain. Then we all went to Groton for lunch on the ocean front @ The Fisherman Restaurant. We chowed down on seafood: coconut shrimp, clams, and lobster. After we went to the nearby beach...what's the old saying? If you put your feet in the water, your sure to return someday.

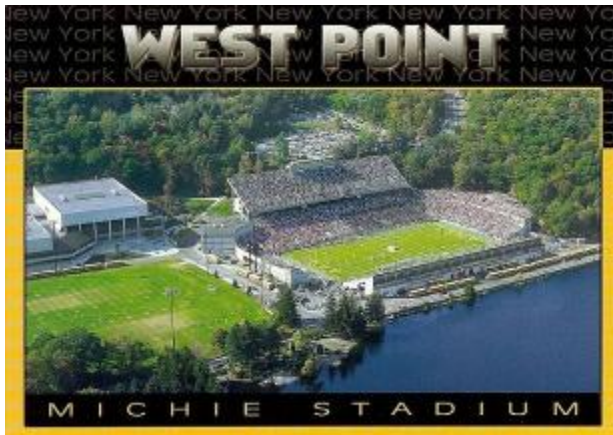


Parkhill's and Gaydica's went to Mystic area while we toured the historic submarine museum and the ship U.S.S.NAUTILUS. We were given an audio wand which explained all areas. Commissioned in 1954, the Nautilus completed the first under sea voyage to the North Pole four years later. They told us 110 men were on this ship. The quarters were so small, bunk beds 4 high with about 16" between them. My first thought was, what brave men as it looked like a death trap to me!



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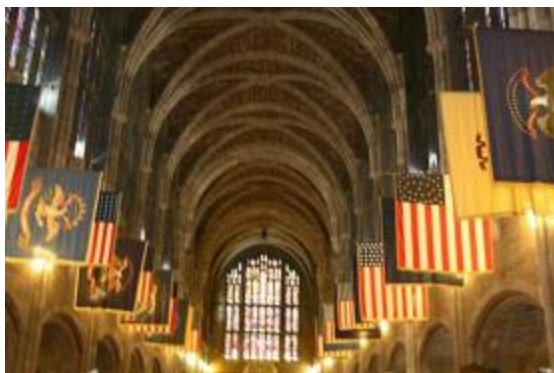
Following this we arrived late at the US COAST GUARD ACADEMY so we drove thru it to see it all. It's on a hill, with all kinds of fields for sports at the bottom, also a helicopter pad. There was piles of kayaks in the harbor which the students used to learn how to row. It was very impressive to see the squadron's marching in unison. We returned to camp to get ready to go to Foxwoods casino. There we enjoyed the buffet of 5 nationalities. An hour of gaming and Joni directed us back to camp without a map. I was impressed! One winner in the group!



From the NEWBURGH KOA we visited the UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT. Driving there from camp was about 1/2 hour. The cliffs and straight drop off edges made me want to toss my cookies! At the Visitor's Center, we asked for information on my cousin, Michael A. Casp, who was a cadet. We were told that unless we were a veteran, they couldn't tell us since the 911 tragedy. We purchased the 1 hour tour on a nice air conditioned bus with a tour guide.

The campus buildings were all grey & white granite, so pretty. At million dollar view point we could see the part of the harbor where the Army strung a chain across to stop the British. There were cannons all around with dates of the war they were used in and names on such. We watched the cadets parade going into the hall for lunch, all in uniform, all in squadrons. They served 4000 cadets and they had 24 minutes to eat. This year they had 250 women accepted, the largest ever.

The main chapel is Protestant, designed by architect Bertram Goodhue. The beautiful stained glass windows along each side and behind the alter are memorials from every class from 1802-1976. Flags hanging from the ceiling were marched before the War of 1812, War with Mexico, Civil War, Spanish American War, faded and torn they still convey the message- follow me. The organ is the largest around, with thousand of pipes. Only 4 people have known how to play it as it is so intricate and massive.



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After lunch we toured the museum. There was three floors of displays; small weapons, large weapons and uniforms. The Wars Gallery traces those wars fought between competing colonial powers in our early history to the most recent war in Vietnam. Of all the wars, the Vietnam war was described as the most evasive and violent enemy!



Parkhill's and Gaydica's went to the ORANGE COUNTY CHOPPERS on Friday and they saw the crew filming a motorcycle that was just finished. The viewing hall had large windows to watch the shop go-

ings on, the building was huge!

We went on Saturday which happened to be Pauly's wedding day. The regular crew must have all been guests at the wedding as I didn't recognize anyone.



The sales room was huge. They had t-shirts, jackets, figurines, gifts etc. Many of the choppers that they have built on TV were displayed all around the windows on the edges of the store. Pictured is the bike built for Christopher Reeves (Superman) It's a 3 wheeler, built with a ramp for loading his wheel chair.

THE CULINARY INSTITUTE OF AMERICA was in Hyde Park of Poughkeepsie. This was not the best day to be there as it was their graduation day! It was



mobbed! Graduates in full culinary uniforms (some with funny stove pipe hats) were coming and going with their bouquets of roses etc. We did see the class rooms, restaurants, and store. The store was fully stocked with every type of cookbook, cooking and baking ware plus flavors, syrups, spices, etc. Several people were trying to look at the t-shirt and sweat-shirts.

This is a sampling of a great trip that will hold many memories for us. Wish more members could have enjoyed it too. Next year maybe bigger and better! Wait till you see our new tow chains...heavy duty, hard cast aluminum hooks! Be safe!

## Chapter 12 & Region 1 - 2010 Events

Sept. 3, 4, 5, 6: Region 1 Rally  
Rideau Acres  
Kingston, Ontario  
613-546-2711

**Registration Deadline: July 30,  
2010 Write up in the Ramblings-pg 65**

**\*\*Sept. 24, 25, 26: Branches of Niagara  
Campground**

**www.branchesofniagara.com**  
Grand Island, N.Y.  
773-7600

I have confirmed there are sites available at Branches of Niagara for the September camp-out. When you call to reserve a site, mention Chapter 12, Holiday Ramblers or my name. We will be getting a 20% discount off the listed prices. We also have use of the pavilion all week-end and will be assisted in carrying over coffee pots, etc with golf carts from the owner. The campground # is 716-773-7600. Please call as soon as possible and then let me know you will be attending. (716-692-8328) Joni Parkhill

**CANCELLED**

Oct 2nd: (tentative date)

Wine train adventure @ Spring Lake Winery

- Board train on Lockport @ 10 am
- 1 hr. train ride with breakfast
- 1 hr. tour of Medina Railroad Museum
- Spring Lake Winery – lunch with music
- Wine tastings available \$\$

Board train @ 3:30pm. Returns to Lockport @ 4pm.

Camping available nearby @ Daisy Barn Campground, Wilson, NY if desired.

**I only had one couple express interest in the October train ride. I contacted the winery and it is unfortunately sold out. If anyone is interested for next year, we will need to purchase tickets way in advance. Let me know. Joni Parkhill**

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

**LOCATION: DEGRAFF COMMUNITY CENTER**

**DATE: Dec. 11th, 2010**

The DeGraff Community Center is confirmed for our Christmas Party on December 11th. More details to follow. **Joni Parkhill**

**TURNING STONE RV PARK is offering a special rate on 10/15 & 10/16/2010. Buy Friday night at full price and get Saturday night free!**

## AMERICA'S LARGEST RV SHOW

42nd Annual PA RV & Camping Show

September 15-19, 2010

Hershey, PA

[www.largestRVshow.com](http://www.largestRVshow.com)

## MAYBE A NEW DEALER IN NEW YORK STATE!

Bob received a large postcard from Buffalo RV dealer that had a new Holiday Rambler advertised on it. Many SOB's too. On the same card, there is also an Albany address that Carm Gizzie of Pullers brought to Scott's attention.

Buffalo RV , 1200 Southwestern Blvd., 4.5 miles east of Bills Stadium. Route 20, West Seneca. 716-652-4500.

Albany RV , 1101 Central Ave., 1.5 miles east of Colonies Center, Albany, NY. 518-459-4695

**CHECK IT OUT!**