

TRANSCONTINENTAL ODYSSEY OR CAMPING TRIP WITH KIDS

Wednesday, October 4, 2006

Whether your children have reached the age of curiosity about America, or your own wanderlust has reached the point of planning a trek across the continent, you can get a good start on your first or next RV adventure during the 9th Annual Fall Rhode Island RV Show Oct. 20 through Oct. 22 at the Convention Center in downtown Providence.

"This show has something for every RV traveler," said show director James McLaughlin, president of MAC Events, the show's producer. "Our guests will have a choice of pop-up camping trailers, travel trailers, fifth wheels, mini motorhomes and class A gasoline and diesel pusher motorhomes."

The exhibitors in this show represent the broad range of recreational vehicles that are available to consumers and features that are making RV travel comfortable and safe at every level.

"Besides, traveling by RV is good for you," McLaughlin said. "The Recreational Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA) in a Campfire Canvass survey of RV owners this summer found almost 70% said they were more physically active on RV trips than on other vacations." (The RVIA represents manufacturers of 95% of the RVs produced in the US.)

Rousseau's RV Center, a Lakeville, MA, dealership in business for 30 years, will be showing a selection of Rockwell tent campers, hybrid, lightweight and full-size travel trailers, and fifth wheels including the Gulfstream's Ameri-lite Trailers, Conquest Trailers & 5th Wheels, Mako fifth wheels and Prairie Schooner luxury fifth wheels.

"The larger trailers are the most affordable way to have a vacation home," said sales manager Reinie Lehberger. "The nice part is your vacation home is moveable. You can be in the mountains one year and on the lake another."

Young families have been a driving force behind increasing RV sales and Lehberger noted that the lighter-weight trailers can be towed with smaller SUVs or light pickups. "You don't need huge gas guzzlers to go RVing," he said.

Rockwood ultra-light travel trailers appeal to RV enthusiasts seeking a recreational vehicle that is easily towed. Yet they include many elegant touches such as solid wood raised-panel doors and matching drawers fitted on metal guides that allow smooth operation.

"Conquest trailers and fifth wheels are the best choice for feature-packed towables at an affordable price," Lehberger said.

Rousseau's RV, located two miles from Exit 5 off I-495 also will display a selection of Adventurer truck campers that have been manufactured in British Columbia since 1969 and earned a reputation for ruggedness, value and comfort.

More experienced recreational vehicle enthusiasts and those new to RV travel that want to get into it in a big way will find a selection of luxury motorhomes that can take them anywhere on the continent at the exhibit of Marty's U.S.R.V. The Berkley, MA, dealer's exhibit will feature the 2007 Travel Supreme. With a retail price around \$420,000, the Travel Supreme Select model is a 45-foot diesel pusher with quad slideouts that is loaded with features including a washer-dryer, plasma TVs, an air-leveling system and even a fireplace.

"We also will exhibit a Monaco Diplomat, a diesel pusher with a 400-hp turbo Cummins engine and six-speed Allison transmission for \$240,000," said sales manager Raymond Noriega.

"That is a great value in a 40-foot motorhome with four slideouts. It has comforts you would expect to find in an estate home with Corian countertops, ceramic tile floors, solid wood doors and molding and a three camera system for backing up as well as turning."

Marty's U.S.R.V. also will exhibit the Fleetwood Expedition 34-foot diesel pusher priced at \$177,000 and, in honor of the show's location, a Fleetwood Providence with a 330-hp Cummings and six-speed Allison transmission for \$222,000.

"You'll find that models in the luxury coach segment all carry many of these amenities, including satellite television and navigation systems," Noriega said. "We cater to people between the ages of 50 and 75. Many of them are retired and they are trading their gas coach in for a diesel. They head south for the winter and spend five or six months in Florida."

The 9th Annual Fall Rhode Island RV Show will feature RVs from approximately 50 RV manufacturers including Jayco, Monaco, Canterbury, Crossroads, National, Layton, Beaver, Airstream, Fleetwood and Winnebago and many others. Booth exhibitors cover every conceivable accessory as well a full range of services, including finance and insurance companies and campgrounds from throughout the East Coast.

"Our show visitors will be the first people in the region to see many of the new 2007 models and they find end-of-model-year deals on 2006 RVs," McLaughlin said. "One of the comments we hear most from first-timer RV families is how much more affordable it is to get into an RV than they thought."

The 9th Annual Fall Rhode Island RV Show will be open Friday, Oct. 20, from 1:00-to-9:00 p.m., on Saturday, Oct. 21, from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and on Sunday, Oct. 22, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The 9th Annual Fall Rhode Island RV Show is produced by MAC Events, a nationally recognized producer of high-quality business-to-consumer trade shows in a variety of industries and markets since 1968. The Spring Lake, NJ-based family-owned company produces approximately 20 recreational vehicle, home, boat and flower & garden shows a year throughout New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Virginia and Wisconsin and is a source of market research for the recreational vehicle, boating and home improvement industries.

For additional press releases with RV photos for easy down loads plus information, directions and discount coupons visit the company's newly expanded website www.macevents.com. Or contact Jack Quinn at MAC Events Media Communications (800) 332-3976 ext 122 or jack@macevents.com