

# Motel Owner Vacations in a Motorhome

## When She wants Break from Routine She Takes Family Outdoors to Relax

By A. W. HARRIS

How does the owner of a busy motel get away from it all? Carol Russell, whose Inn in Colorado Springs sits in the shadow of Pike's Peak, has her own personal escape hatch.

When she needs a break from a successful hostelry that most nights posts the "No Vacancy" sign, she climbs into her Avco motorhome and drives away. For a week, or more likely a weekend, she becomes herself a traveler.

Carol became interested in the burgeoning field of motorhome travel through a family friend and fellow businessman, William Becker, a recreational vehicle dealer in Central Colorado, where doorsteps lead directly to innumerable mountain streams, resorts, and national parks.

Most days Bill Becker lunches at Carol's Inn, and on one occasion drove there in an Avco motorhome, which caught her eye. One test drive led to another, which Becker's sales pitch ended in a purchase.

Carol's brother, Wayne Dondelinger, and his family that includes three young children, swap weekends with Carol and her two teenagers. "Occasionally we all go together," Carol says. "It's one active motorhome on those days. But even that beats the confines of a car."

Brother and sister are avid ski buffs, and the role played by their motorhome as a ski chalet rates full marks from both families. "Now we can ski all the slopes, and not feel the need to continually return to the same one because we own an apartment there."

Carol's moveable ski-chalet serves as more than a substitute for owning resort property. Colorado lodge accommodations are snapped up weeks in advance and lines form early at the chair-lifts. Parked for the night in her motorhome, she beats the accommodations problem and is only a short schuss to the expert slope.

During the day, the motorhome serves as a readily

accessible and cozy warm respite from the cold outside; lunch time lines are by-passed, and a hot meal quickly is prepared. At the end of an energetic day, there is a private place to rest, shower and change for dinner.

One housekeeping shortcut she follows but does not necessarily recommend to others: "Use sleeping bags placed on top of the motorhome bunks. I hate to even think about making beds during vacation," is her explanation, understandable in view of the 230 beds requiring attention back home.

Relaxation is what Carol Russell seeks in a motorhome, an environment far removed from her world of housing, feeding and entertaining several hundred guests each day. Occasional journeys from these responsibilities are what she and her brother value, and what motorhome ownership provides.



The option to travel where they want, when they want and to stay as long as they want is the reason more and more families are selecting a motor coach as a vacation home.

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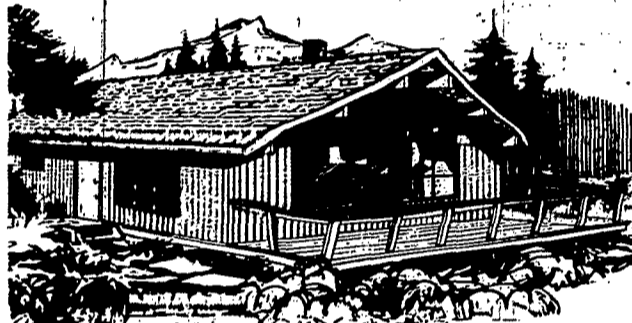
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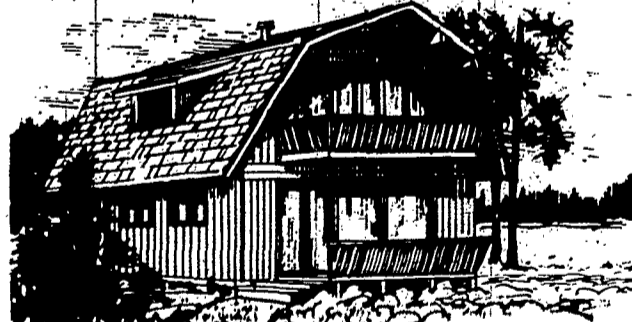
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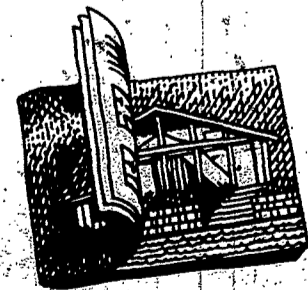
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