

General Business Meeting  
Perry, Georgia  
March 19, 2002

The general business meeting scheduled for March 19, 2002 was called to order by President Ken Hawk at 5:00 p.m. with a total of 376 attendees. There were 352 members present as well as 18 representatives from Freightliner Corporation and 6 representatives from Caterpillar Corporation. President Ken welcomed everyone and once again reminded us of the importance of these meetings to keep members updated and informed of the clubs activities. Ken thanked everyone for their attendance and interest in the club, and noted that this is how we keep learning new things each time we gather together and exchange ideas.

Ken then introduced the officers of the club- Katherine Henley, Exec.Vice-Pres., Chuck Belba, V.P. of Membership, Rudy Morris, V.P. Webmaster, Ginny Belba, Sec., Bernie Dobrin, Treas., Dorothy Casada, National Director, Rudy Morris Webmaster and Ray Noel, Ass't Director. Ken also introduced Ginger Painter, FMCA International V.P. Rudy Morris stated the club web page could be accessed at [www.freightlinerchassisownersclub.org](http://www.freightlinerchassisownersclub.org) . Rudy stated that there was a link on the webpage to both him and to Ken.

Ken then introduced Lynn Layman who is a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity. Lynn stated that FMCA is an official sponsor for Habitat for Humanity and asked for individual contributions from club members by "building a house". This was a small replica whereby people could buy a window, door, roof tile, etc.

President Ken then introduced Irv Steele, the originator of the FCOC Club, and his wife Elaine, who are retiring from Freightliner this year. Ken also introduced Dean Shaper from Freightliner who gave us a brief update on the Oasis program. Dean stated that participating dealers are being identified and we will be given information and feedback through the website. Dean also recognized and introduced the support staff from Freightliner and mentioned that President Jack Conlon would be arriving shortly. Dean talked about the Homecoming Rally which is being held in Marion, N.C. beginning on Saturday. Dean spoke about a new advertising program where we as club members can participate. As we travel around to various campgrounds and dealerships we could be disseminating our Freightliner information and the benefits of owning a Freightliner chassis. Dean suggested that anyone wishing to participate could stop by the booth and sign up to help.

President Jack Conlon arrived, was welcomed and introduced, and spoke to us about some of the changes in the past 3 years since he has taken over as President of the Gaffney facility. He stated that they were all looking forward to our homecoming rally and the plant visit.

President Ken introduced Ray and Sally Jones and thanked them for their participation in the booth and recognized Sally as our immediate past club Secretary.

Ginger Painter was given the microphone to tell us about the upcoming International Rally in San Antonio, and also reminded us that she was going to be retiring as our area Vice-President. She stated that 3 people were running for this office. Max Durbin was in attendance and asked for our support. He is the FMCA Chairman of Governmental affairs and has been elected Secretary of the International Group in preparation for this job. He is very interested in FMCA and wants to work to better the organization.

Secretary, Ginny Belba read the minutes from the last business meeting (August 14, 2001- Redmond, Oregon). After a motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the minutes as read, they were approved by unanimous vote.

Ken recognized Bob Reed, asked him to stand whereby he received a round of applause, welcoming him back from his recent heart surgery.

Treasurer, Bernie Dobrin, gave a Financial report stating that we have \$38,874 in the checking account and \$10,072 in a CD account. There are still outstanding bills, and one account payable from the 'Mt. Shasta Rally. Bernie noted that the balance is always higher in the beginning of the year because of the dues payable the first of the year. Once again, Bernie stated that all checks are received in Gaffney and deposited by Kathy Kyzer into the main account. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Financial report as presented and approved by unanimous vote.

Chuck Belba gave a report on membership and the process of trying to track down checks that haven't cleared. He again stated that the checks need to go directly to Kathy Kyzer in Gaffney. Chuck stated that we will probably lose about 600 members for lack of payment of the annual dues. He asked all members to help spread the word that the first year is a free membership paid by Freightliner, as many new owners are not so advised by their dealer.

Dorothy Casada gave a brief report, passed out applications for San Antonio International Rally. Dorothy also stated that Les Alexander, Max Durbin, and Ed Ruess were the ones running for the V.P. Position, and asked that anyone interested or with input to contact her.

The confusion in our by-laws regarding the bi-annual audit, was clarified and a motion was made and seconded to approve an audit on an annual basis. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Reggie Tobin, the Rallymaster for Marion Rally gave us directions to Marion and an agenda for the Rally. She stated that there would be 3 buses for the tours – Caterpillar first, Freightliner first, and then to the Outlet mall for those that didn't wish to tour the plants. Reggie asked people to sign up for the bus tours as soon as you arrive in Marion.

Ken reminded us that Freightliner would be available for those that need to have work done on their rigs. Ken went on to discuss the newsletter and the problems with bulk rate postal service being slower than ever, and we will consider going to 2nd class postage. Ken requested a section –“Letters to the Editor” And Recipes-Helpful Hints for the newsletter. All articles are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each quarter month, and sent to Bob Smellie. His address is on the back of the newsletter.

Katherine Henley spoke to us about the Branson FCOC Rally scheduled to follow the Kansas FMCA Rally in October. Katherine introduced Pat and Bob Tomme, who will be assisting Katherine with this Rally, and also passed out fliers. The cost for 4 nights of camping, 6 shows, 3 dinners is \$485.00 per coach (2 people). Ken stated that this was indeed a bargain price for all that was included.

Bernie reminded everyone of the importance of MED-EX and to be sure to pick up your card at the FMCA booth. This is a free service to FMCA members, and he encouraged everyone to get the card and

carry it in you wallet (not in your motorhome). It can save you a lot of money in the event of a medical problem while traveling.

Ken talked about the caravan from the High School to Perry Fairgrounds, and mentioned that we will have a police escort to hold the lights and make it easier for all of us. Ken asked for help for the Kansas Rally caravan.

Ken mentioned the Discovery Rally to be held tomorrow (Wed.) at 10:00 a.m.  
The election of officers will be held at the next business meeting in Hutchinson, Kansas in October, 2002.

Ken closed the meeting with a comment on the tremendous support that we receive from Freightliner Corporation, and on behalf of the club membership thanked the Freightliner representatives.

Ken invited all to our Pizza party (and Sub-sandwiches) held in Lot A at the end of 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Take the Green Tram.

There was a motion for adjournment and the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Belba, Secretary