

## **FCOC Business Meeting – March 28, 2006 at Tucson, Arizona**

The business meeting was called to order at 12:15 pm by President Ken Hawk. Ken welcomed the 227 members present and thanked them for attending. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Carolyn Morris, the club's Spiritual Leader, offered a prayer and mentioned that there were four club members needing our prayers.

President Ken set the tone for the meeting by saying "Everything we are doing here today is designed as the beginning to a lot of things so Keep Your Fork!" He said that he would explain what that meant later.

Ken then introduced the club's officers. He first asked Katherine Henley, Executive Vice-President, to stand. Katherine welcomed everyone and asked that past Rally Masters and Assistant Rally Masters stand and be recognized. Ken thanked Katherine for her involvement in past rallies and for the great job she had done. He then introduced the remainder of the club's officers.

President Ken asked Priscilla Buck, the club's Secretary, to read the minutes of the last business meeting held in Minot, ND. Since these minutes had been published in the newsletter, Priscilla requested that the reading of the minutes be waived. A motion was made and seconded. There was no discussion, the motion carried and the minutes, as published, were accepted.

Pete Palasota gave the Treasurer's report covering the period from August first, 2005 to February twenty-eight, 2006. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

Chuck Belba, Vice-President of Membership, discussed changes to the FCOC by-laws. He discussed a letter received from FMCA in June of 2005 that requested changes to our by-laws. The major change was to voting requirements. This requested change was to allow both the "pilot" and "co-pilot" the right to vote versus one vote per coach. Chuck said that in the past, regardless of the wording in the club's by-laws, both the "pilot" and "co-pilot" have had voting power. Since the other "house keeping" changes to the by-laws had been posted on the FCOC web-site, Chuck asked the President to request a motion to waive further reading of the changes and accept the changes as posted on the web-site. A motion was made and seconded. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

Chuck then announced that the club's membership was 5,720 coaches. He then stated that he expected that the number would drop because of non-renewals. Chuck was hopeful that the new "Keeping In Touch" program will increase membership retention.

Dorothy Cassada, the club's National Director, then gave her report. She attended the FMCA Presidents Forum and learned that the last FMCA International Rally had the lowest net loss indicating the FMCA is on the right track. She also attended the International Area meeting and reported that the International Area Rally will be held in Gillette, WY from June thirtieth to July third, 2006.

President Ken then moved on to new business. He first discussed “Keeping In Touch” program which is an on-line membership database which is accessible from the [freightlinerchassisownersclub.org](http://freightlinerchassisownersclub.org) web-site. Access to the database is on the Membership page. Complete instructions for accessing and maintaining your membership information will be posted on the Membership page.

Ken emphasized that each member’s information is private and cannot be viewed or changed by anyone except that member. He also emphasized that each member will now have the capability and responsibility to keep their information current. Over time this database will provide many benefits for FCOC and its members. The most immediate benefit will be up-to-date mailing addresses for the newsletter. Reducing the number of returned newsletters will reduce costs as well as keeping members informed about club activities.

Ken now explained why we needed to “Keep Our Forks”. There was a little 99 year old lady who had a fork in her pocket after dinner. When asked why, she replied “I keep this fork in my pocket because I know there is something (desert) better to come.” And, before she passed away, she requested that a fork be placed in her pocket before she was laid to rest as she was sure that something better was yet to come. The “Keeping In Touch” will allow better things to come. The database is expected to be on-line within a few weeks.

Ken next talked about the Ambassador’s Club. Ambassadors are FCOC members who have made the extra effort to enroll new members, have worked diligently to support the club, and have represented FCOC in an extremely positive manner. Also, Ambassadors should have attended two, or more, FCOC rallies. Ken encouraged members who feel they should be an Ambassador to approach any of the club’s officers and ask about becoming an Ambassador.

Ken continued by saying that in addition to representing FCOC to fellow RVers, the Ambassadors will be tasked with calling on motor home dealers who sell coaches on Freightliner chassis’s. The intent is that each Ambassador will become the liaison between FCCC and five or six dealers. As such, the Ambassadors will assure that the dealers have the needed tools, such as FCCC brochures, literature order forms and training material, in order to better sell coaches on Freightliner chassis’s.

Ambassadors will be given business cards, a pen and pencil set, and eventually shirts. For each dealer call the Ambassador will receive a \$50.00 gas card.

Finally Ken talked about the need for a FCOC “volunteer co-coordinator”. This person’s responsibility will be to assure that when people volunteer to help, and the vast majority of members do volunteer, that they are actually put to work. Too often people volunteer but are not given a job. This creates two problems. First, people stop volunteering, and second, the camaraderie created by working together on a common goal is not realized. Volunteers make a club like FCOC successful so it stands to reason that more volunteers

will make FCOC more successful. Ken requested that anyone interested in this position talk with any of the officers.

At 12:50 pm President Ken asked for a motion to close the meeting. A motion was made and seconded. There was no discussion. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Priscilla Buck  
Secretary