

FCOC Business Meeting
Redmond, Oregon
August 17, 2004

The meeting was called to order by President Ken Hawk at 4:28, with 400 members in attendance. Carolyn Morris, our club's spiritual adviser, led us in prayer. After the prayer, Carolyn spoke about a new prayer program. She said she had many requests for prayers as we travel across the country, so she established an e-mail group that you could contact if you had a specific prayer request. If anyone would be interested in helping her, or being contacted by this group, let her know. You can find her e-mail address in the back of the newsletter.

President Ken introduced the officers present; Katherine Henley, Executive Vice President, Priscilla Buck, who was nominated for Secretary in Albuquerque, Pete Palasota, Treasurer, and Dorothy Casada, FMCA National Director. Katherine Henley, who is also in charge of rallies, asked the audience how many were there for the first time. There was a good show of hands. Then she went through the list of Rally Masters, past, present and future and asked them to stand up and be acknowledged. She thanked them for all their help in making her job a lot easier. She does, however, need Rally Masters for the rally being held in Minot, North Dakota in August of 2005. Please let her know if you would be interested.

President Ken read the Mission Statement that is usually found inside the cover of the newsletter. He then discussed the fact that Chuck Belba, the Vice President of Membership, and wife Ginny, the previous Secretary, were not there due to family issues. Chuck Belba was also our Parliamentarian and this was considered an important job, so President Ken asked Chuck Samuels if he would take over. Chuck Samuels accepted. He then asked Priscilla Buck if she would take over Ginny Belba's position as Secretary and take the minutes for this meeting. Priscilla agreed to do that.

Carl Seal was asked by President Ken to say a few words. Carl is one of four FMCA International Area Vice Presidents. He is new in this job and we are one of his Chapters. He said he would very much like to get to know everyone and is here to support our club in any way that he can and asked that any requests and comments be directed to him.

Jack Conlan, President of the Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation in Gaffney, was introduced. He thanked everyone for the warm welcome, and extended his thanks to FCOC for being the best organization within FMCA. Jack introduced Chris Patterson, who is the Senior Vice President for parts and service at FLLC and has executive responsibility for FCCC. Then Jack introduced Gary Poole, who is a new member of FCCC. Gary's title is Product Manager-RV. We will be seeing Gary at future rallies. Jack finally introduced members of the Freightliner Chassis team before turning things over to Chris Patterson.

Chris welcomed us to Oregon which is the home of FLLC. FLLC is a holding company that includes a number of business units. Chris said the first Freightliner trucks were actually assembled in Portland Oregon in 1942. FCCC is a very critical part of their overall activities and has been in business for 62 years as a commercial vehicle producer, and for nine years in the motor home chassis business. This year Jack and his colleagues at FCCC will account for about 55% of the diesel pusher chassis sold in North America. This is a great accomplishment and reflects the confidence that is placed in them each year by coach manufacturers and buyers.

Freightliner has seven strategically located warehouses across the US and Canada to support dealers with parts. Chris noted that many of the components in motor home chassis are very unique. The seven warehouses carry about 400 million dollars worth of inventory and provide dealers with daily shipments so dealers are able to replenish their inventory quickly. Parts are shipped at no cost to dealers. Parts can also be overnight air expressed to dealers in order to have customers up and running the next day.

Chris also discussed the OASIS Program. He is working aggressively to improve the level of service that OASIS dealers provide to us. One of the initiatives is to help dealers understand the OASIS Program. Currently there are over 60 OASIS dealers located on main highways. Chris is looking for input from coach owners. Motor home traveling has become a big deal over the years.

Chris thanked President Ken for the opportunity to address this group and for letting him be part of it. The audience applauded.

At this time President Ken wanted to mention a few other groups that were equally important. The Caterpillar and Cummins groups were asked to stand for a round of applause. Both groups said if anyone had any comments or questions to please let them know. President Ken also wanted to recognize the vendors. He pointed out the fact that not only do they manufacture many of the things that go in our motor homes, but support us financially as well.

The minutes of the Albuquerque, NM business meeting were not in the last newsletter, so President Ken distributed several copies of them to the audience for review. He mentioned that the same business that was discussed at the meeting in Albuquerque, NM would be brought up again today. The only change was the length of term for officers, being either one year or two. We voted to change the by-laws stating that the officer's terms would be staggered so we would not get all new officers at the same time. This by-law is now in effect for this election. The only correction however, was that the Treasurer would have a two years term this year, not a one year term as was on the ballot in the newsletter. That was a misprint. At that point, President Ken asked for a motion to accept the minutes, as well as the change to the term of the Treasurer. A motion was made and seconded. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

Pete Palasota gave the Treasurer's report. A motion was made to accept the report as presented and seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Dorothy Casada our National Director was asked to give a report on FMCA. She stated there was not much new at the moment. FMCA did have an election of officers. The only change was Jim Kern who is the new FMCA Treasurer. Dorothy said that if anyone wanted to see the financial report, or had any questions, to see her after the meeting.

Next on the agenda was the election of new officers. President Ken asked Bob Reed, the Chairman of the Nominating Committee to come up. Bob said he had received 38 ballots by mail. The by-laws state you have to ask if there are any nominations from the floor for any of these positions. There were none. A motion was made to accept the vote as presented. It was seconded, and no discussion was held. It passed by a unanimous vote. The officers are the same as last year with the exception of the Secretary. Priscilla Buck has replaced Ginny Belba.

The other issue concerning the officers is that the Vice President would usually run for the Presidency. However, Katherine Henley, our current Vice President has stated she does not want to do this. In order to "groom" the next club president, President Ken is considering a new position of Operations Manager that he would appoint. This person would follow him around and do some of the things he does, which would prepare him or her to become the next President. President Ken asked the audience if they knew of anyone who might consider this position next year. If you do, please speak to President Ken about it.

President Ken has asked for help with the newsletter, so it can get out in a timely fashion. If anyone has computer knowledge, and would be willing to help out, please let him know. Chuck Belba, the Vice President of Membership could also use some help. We now have about 4400 members, and expect at least 5000 by the end of the year. That is a lot of members to process.

If anyone knows of any person who is working hard to get new members, President Ken will make them Ambassadors to our club. So if you see anyone that has a Freightliner chassis, talk to them. The best way to get new members is by word of mouth.

President Ken asked Chuck and Donna Samuels the Rally Masters for the Mt. Hood rally, to say a few words. It will be held August 20th through the 23rd, 2004. Chuck said it was sold out, and he expected that everyone would have a good time. Chuck then introduced the assistant Rally Masters Dean and Donna Singer.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 with a reminder that the Pizza Party is being held the next day at 3:00PM. If you did not receive your rally packet, you can get them at the Pizza Party.

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Buck
Secretary