

Business Meeting  
Minot, North Dakota  
August 17, 2005

President Ken Hawk welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 4:35. There were 310 members in attendance.

Ken asked Gerry DeHeer to lead us in prayer. Ken then asked for a silent prayer for the wife of Irv Steele, the founder of FCOC, who recently passed away.

Officers present were Katherine Henley - Executive Vice President, Priscilla Buck - Secretary, Pete Palasota - Treasurer, Dorothy Casada - National Director, and Roy Hopper - Alternate National Director.

President Ken welcomed visitors from Caterpillar and Cummins. Ken also introduced Reid Bigland, the new President of FCCC.

Katherine Henley spoke about the rally in Gillette, immediately following the FMCA rally. She asked how many first timers were here. There was a large show of hands. Then she asked how many were going on to Gillette, again there was a large show of hands. She talked about the rally schedule, the food, games, etc. She said there would be about 15 show coaches. There would be Tiffin, Forest River, and Newmar coaches. Then she gave everyone directions to the campground. It would be about 400 miles, so an extra travel day was provided.

President Ken thanked her for that information. Next, he asked Carl Seal to say a few words. Carl is the newly elected Senior Vice President of the International Area. He mentioned if our chapter needed anything, to please let him know.

Pete Palasota gave the Treasurer's report. A motion was made to accept the report and seconded. There was no discussion, and the motion carried.

Priscilla Buck asked if she could waive the reading of the Secretary's report as it was published in the last newsletter. A motion was made to accept the report as published and seconded. There was no discussion, and the motion carried.

Dorothy Casada gave her report on the Governing Board. She reported that it was a long election day, and that Don Moore was elected the new FMCA President. She said that the next FMCA meeting would be held in Pomona, CA, March 2006, and in Charlotte, North Carolina in August of 2006. A motion was made to accept her report and seconded. There was no discussion, and the motion carried.

President Ken discussed how FCOC has grown from 1200 members in 2001, to 6000 coach families in 2005. He stated that part of the reason was due to the support of the Board of Directors and FCCC. Ken said that has made several trips to Gaffney in the

past five years to meet with FCCC management and noted that they were always interested in what they could do to help or to add more creditability to our club.

Ken described an upcoming program with Travel Centers of America (TA). TA is partially owned by Freightliner and DaimlerChrysler. TA will issue FCOC members a discount card. FCOC members will be credited a two cent per gallon discount for every fuel purchase. This credit may be used for store or restaurant purchases, or service.

Ken introduced Reid Bigland, the new President of FCCC. One of Reid's missions for FCCC is to leverage his experience and knowledge of the dealer network to help dealers focus on RV customers. A group was started about a month ago, consisting of some of the larger Freightliner dealers throughout the US, to understand how they can provide an enhanced level of service specifically for RV customers traveling throughout the US. Currently there are 65 Oasis dealers who have stepped up to meet this higher standard.

Reid said FCC was doing very well, and that they have 4 core products. The primary product is RV chassis. They will build roughly 10,000 RV chassis in 2005. They also will build about 9,500 school bus chassis for Thomas Built buses, about 6,000 Federal Express and UPS chassis, and about 500 Shuttle-bus chassis. About 23,000 Sprinter units will also be assembled in Gaffney.

Reid stated that The Freightliner Group is a very profitable part of DaimlerChrysler. The commercial vehicle group will report income in the neighborhood of 2 billion dollars. DaimlerChrysler is worth more today than Ford and GM combined. In 2005 DaimlerChrysler should post a profit in the neighborhood of 7 billion dollars.

FCCC is involved in a joint venture with the Spartan Technology Center in SC. The State and Technology Center have given FCCC five acres of land just off of Interstate 85, near the plant in Gaffney. FCCC will complete an RV service center worth 1.5 million dollars in January of 2006. FCCC will then donate the service center to the Technology Center and lease it back for \$100 dollars a month for 20 years.

Finally, Reid spoke about the new FRED chassis (FRont Engine Diesel). FRED will be unveiled in Hershey, PA within the next few weeks. FRED will provide coach builders with a viable alternative to gas powered chassis.

Next on the agenda were the by-law changes. The changes were published in the last newsletter, as well as on the club's web-site. A motion was made to accept the changes and seconded. There was a discussion and questions were answered. The motion carried.

Hal Croyts, who was representing the nominating committee, oversaw the election of the President, Vice President of Membership, and Secretary. Nominating Committee members are Ginny Belba (Chairperson), Hal Croyts, Gerry DeHeer, Bob Tomme, Ted Lokenberg, Bud Trash, Bob Reed, and Al Moore. For each office Hal announced the nominating committee's choice, and then asked for additional nominations from the floor. There were none. Hal asked for a motion to close the nominations. A motion was made

and seconded. There was no discussion and the motion carried. The nominated officers were President, Ken Hawk, Vice President of Membership, Chuck Belba, and Secretary Priscilla Buck. For each office a motion was made, seconded, there was no discussion and each motion carried. The term for these officers is two years starting in January of 2006. Hal congratulated the new officers and thanked everyone for their help.

President Ken asked if there was any additional business. There was none. He asked Charlie and Ruth Hoffstatter to stand and be recognized for a job well done finding places for Caravans to meet and stay while waiting to go into the FMCA rallies as well as leading the Caravans. Ken also announced that Charlie and Ruth would not be able to lead the Caravan in Pomona, CA, in 2006, and asked for a volunteer. Charlie will offer any assistance he can, and asked for anyone interested to please see him after the meeting.

President Ken introduced Dean Schaper and asked him to say a few words and introduce the FCCC team. Dean introduced them, and said if they could help in any way to please let him know. The Freightliner trailer and service team would be going to Gillette, Wyoming to provide service and answer questions. Ken thanked Dean and announced that Bob Tiffin would also be going to the rally and would have a service team with him to work on Tiffin coaches.

In closing, Ken mentioned that there is going to be a new column in the newsletter, called 'Dealer Feedback'. This column will allow club members to share their experience, good or not-so-good, at Freightliner/Oasis dealers.

President Ken asked for a motion to close this business meeting. A motion was made and seconded. There was no discussion and the motion carried. The meeting was closed at 5:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Priscilla Buck  
FCOC Secretary