

Freightliner Chassis Owners Club

"10th Anniversary 1995 - 2005"

3rd Quarter, 2006



Freightliner Flyer

www.freightlinerchassisownersclub.org

And We All Came Together ...

*@ Lowe's Motor Speedway
~ Charlotte, NC.*



Team Freightliner



Signing IN



*The Place ...
The Meeting !!*

Then on to Marion, NC.

And



Freightliner Chassis Owners Club



Under the lights @ Marion, NC



Getting to Know those of FCOC !



Freightliner Chassis Owners Club Officers



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~ President's Message ~



To All FCOC Members;

Here we are again on a beautiful day in Texas. So many grand experiences to tell you all about. The last 2 rallies of the year, and how great they were. The FMCA rally at Charlotte, NC. was an interesting rally because of the area. Wow!! beautiful scenery all around us and much to see about the Nascar Racing events. I can understand why people get so hooked on racing. We took a van around the track at about 85 MPH and what a thrill. Then the driver went to the top of the turn and stopped. There were 10 of us in the van and I was hoping that a few folks a little larger than me would not lean over because we would have turned over on the track. They say it is an 18 degree bank and I felt like it was 45 degrees and it was all over. We made it safe but with a few scares included.

Then down to business: We had the FCOC business meeting where we held the election of officers for the coming term. Bill Buck Executive Vice President and Tom James, our new Treasurer were elected to a 2 year term. Dorothy Casada was also re-elected for another term as National Director. Congratulations to all the new officers. They take office on January 1st of 2007.

Now for a special thanks to those officers that are leaving their posts. Katherine Henley, wow what a worker and special help to me and of course the club. She was always there when I needed her and she took care of the preparation of the rallies and even had to fill in as a rally master at Gillette. What a special person to have on your side. I feel very blessed having worked with her and have known her in this most important position. She did so much for your club to help it grow and be the kind of club we are today. Our club gave her and her chauffeur Larry Henley a special gift to always remind her of FCOC. I would like to tell you what it is but there are still 2 officers yet to receive their gift from the club. The next newsletter will have pictures of their accepting the gift. Pete Palasota is the retiring Treasurer. Pete has been a tremendous asset to FCOC. Pete has done his job well and always looked out for how we can save more money.

Pete has the ability to balance the books and keep control of the club funds as they get used to pay the bills and keep us afloat after some expensive rallies. Pete is a true professional and I am proud to say that I worked with him on the board of directors. Best of luck to the both of you.

The business meeting was interrupted toward the end by the pizza party. We managed to close the meeting and also participate in the fun and activities of enjoying pizza with one another.

Then on to Marion where we had plans for a real party and educational program. Rally Masters Clint & Jill, Bauman did a splendid job with this rally and also had to overcome some juggling of the schedule for the tours of the Freightliner plants, Caterpillar, and the Michelin Plants. But all in all, the rally was a complete success. I want to also thank Rick & Donna Kennedy as Assistant Rally Masters for their work helping keep the rally together. Wow!! What a team!!! Great job to all that helped with the details. A big special thanks to Freightliner, Caterpillar, and Michelin who provided the busses and lunches on the busses. Besides them giving of their time to have tours of their facilities. Is that great support or what?? Thanks to all.

As you know, my goal is to have you learn just 1 thing about your coach and just make one new friend at the rally, then our time and effort and the time you spent here was also well worth it.

A few other items of importance ... Please remember to go to the FCOC Web site and click on "Keeping in Touch" and up-date your personal information. This will insure that you will get your newsletter and other club news. Any questions, let us know, because we are still in the building stage of this program. So "Keep your Fork" there is more to come. Also let us know if you did not get your personalized T/A card. They were sent out about a Month ago. Thanks to Tony Sippel for helping this program get off the ground. Another note, if you plan to attend the INTO rally in Harrington, DE. April 19th to April 22nd, 2007, please let me know because we will be volunteering to do Security at that rally. So please help us out and work with FCOC to again be recognized as the great FMCA chapter we are.

To all the members now numbering 6000 plus and all the FCOC vendors, please take care of each other and have a Great rest of the traveling summer and be especially careful on your travels.

Thanks for your support

Ken Hawk

*It's not the destination
... it's the journey*



T H E L E A D E R A T E V E R Y T U R N TM

To: FCCC-ALL

Subject: Robert Harbin - FCCC Organizational Announcement



We are pleased to announce that Robert Harbin has been named President of Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation (FCCC) effective October 1, succeeding Reid Bigland who was recently promoted to President and CEO Daimler Chrysler Canada.

Robert most recently held the position of Director, Tritec Motors and Business Development based in Brazil. He has held various management positions inside DaimlerChrysler including:

Plant Manager at the Twinsburg, Ohio Stamping Plant, Manufacturing Manager at Belvidere, Illinois, and Manager - Manufacturing Facilities Engineering - Warren Stamping/ Sterling Stamping Plant in Michigan.

Prior experience outside DaimlerChrysler has included Manufacturing and Sales Engineering experience at GM and Delta Fluid Systems.

He holds degrees in Mechanical Engineering from Kettering University and a Masters of Business Management from the University of Michigan.

As President of FCCC, Robert will be responsible for all facets of the business including Engineering, Manufacturing, and Sales. FCCC manufactures premium chassis for the motor home, delivery walk-in van, school bus and shuttle bus markets.

Please join me in welcoming Robert to Freightliner Customer Chassis, and Freightliner LLC.

Thank you,

Jack L. Conlan,
Sr. Vice-President, Parts and Service



T H E L E A D E R A T E V E R Y T U R N TM



THE LEADER AT EVERY TURN™

Freightliner Custom Chassis Opens New Factory Service Center

Gaffney, S.C.—Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation continuously seeks ways to provide customers with the finest service experience offered by any motorhome chassis manufacturer. In the spirit of continuous improvement and optimal customer satisfaction, FCCC is thrilled to announce the opening of the new Factory Service Center in Gaffney, South Carolina.

Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation partnered with Spartanburg Technical College on this project, and the 12,000-square-foot facility is an extension of FCCC's nationwide service network that includes 400 service centers, more than 65 of which are Oasis locations.

The new Factory Service Center also offers a training facility that enables interns from Spartanburg Technical College to take advantage of a unique opportunity to become certified RV technicians. "We recognized the need in the industry for more trained service technicians, and we acted on it," said Dave Hoover, manager of customer support for Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation. "Our training center is the first of its kind in the industry."

"The Service Center underscores our leadership in the chassis business and our strong and still-growing presence in the Gaffney-Spartanburg area," said Reid Bigland, president of Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation. "It provides new educational opportunities for the citizens of Cherokee County, and it will please our customers with the exceptional level of service it's designed to provide."

"Our owners have always had excellent service experiences in Gaffney," continued Hoover, "and we've taken that experience to a higher level." Owners interested in scheduling a service visit at the new Factory Service Center in Gaffney should call 864-206-8683.

Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation manufactures premium chassis for the motorhome, delivery walk-in van, school bus and shuttle bus markets. It is a subsidiary of Freightliner LLC, the leading heavy-duty truck manufacturer in North America. Freightliner produces and markets Class 3 – 8 vehicles under the Freightliner, Sterling, Western Star and Thomas Built Buses nameplates and is a company of DaimlerChrysler, the world's largest commercial vehicle manufacturer.



THE LEADER AT EVERY TURN™



Freightliner Chassis Owner's Club
join today!

Freightliner Chassis Owners Club Membership *Renewal* Application

Name _____ Application Date _____

Co-Pilot _____

Phone (____) _____ Cell Phone (____) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____ Circle One Freightliner, Oshkosh, John Deere

Manufacturer of Motor home _____ Model _____

Year _____ Length _____ Vin # of Chassis _____

Purchase Date _____ Applicant must have a FMCA # _____

or Applied for #. _____ Application Date _____

Dues are \$10.00 per Year or 5 Years for \$45.00 US Dollars

Send to: Kathy Kyzer c/o FCCC

552 Hyatt St. Gaffney, SC. 29341

(864) 487-1700

Meet your newly elected officers starting 2007...

Bill Buck



*Executive Vice-
President*

Tom James



Treasure

Dorothy Casada



*Re-elected National
Director*

Roy Hopper



*Re-elected Alternate
National Director*



~Check Out the "2007" Schedule~



- FMCA's 77th International Convention

March 19, 20, 21, & 22, 2007

Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter

Perry, Georgia



- FCOC Post Rally

"Florida Freightliner Frolic"

March 24, 25, 26 & 27 2007

Lazydays Rally Park, Tampa, Florida

- FMCA's 78th International Convention

August 13, 14, 15, & 16, 2007

Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center,

Redmond Oregon



SCHEDULE

Take Note !

Some important changes for the members of FCOC.

During the FCOC Rally at Marion, NC, a critique sheet was distributed to all the attendees. The majority of the areas were graded 4+, on a scale of 1 to 5. A few attendees commented that the number of gifts distributed at this rally were fewer than at previous rallies.

There is a good reason for this. At past rallies we made it a practice that every coach would get a gift. This became a huge nightmare. The main problems were who would obtain and transport the gifts. If you have ever noticed the Henley's van, it was often full of gifts with only room for the driver. At one of the rallies, we had so many gifts to distribute, that we did not have time for the band to finish playing.

So the Board of Directors decided to streamline the gift giving and to limit the number to ten gifts per night. If time will not permit gifts to be distributed on a particular night, those gifts will be distributed the following night. It is expected that Freightliner will continue to provide a gift for each coach so, just as in the past, every coach will receive a gift.

The Board of Directors also decided that every FCOC rally should include a raffle and make a donation to a local charity. The raffle might be a 50/50 raffle with half of the proceeds to be donated. Or, as done at the Myrtle Beach rally, a number of expensive items were raffled off and all of the proceeds donated to a local charity. For each rally, the Rally Masters and the Board of Directors will work together to decide the most appropriate type of charity raffle.

The FCOC members who participated in the charity raffles at the Myrtle Beach rally and the Marion rally should feel proud that they were able to help those less fortunate. The charities that received our gifts were very appreciative of your thoughtfulness and generosity. Many of the vendors who contributed gifts that were raffled at Myrtle Beach stated that had they known how their gifts would be used would have sent more gifts. We all need to remember that we are very fortunate to be able to live as we do and to also belong to organizations such as FCOC.

Here is their answer to my email..... See page 9 "Let's all shop at Sears" Article

Dear Customer:

Thank you for contacting Sears

The information is factual. We appreciate your positive feedback. Sears regards service to our country as one of greatest sacrifices our young men and women can make. We are happy to do our part to lessen the burden they bear at this time.

Bill Thorn

Sears Customer Care



Articles of Interest !

I would like to make mention of a Repair facility that helped us with a problem.

The garage that showed extra effort to help us, was in Jordan, MT on Montana Highway 200. Their name is Pioneer RV Garage, (he told us he had repaired another RV the day before us so he added RV to his name), PO Box 26, Jordan, MT 59337, Phone #406-557-2263 (Bob, the owner, and Ray the service tech). These gentleman replaced our alternator (you're familiar with these) with a new Delco in approximately 3 hours at a labor rate of \$40.00 per hour and handled the Extended Warranty and couldn't have been any nicer or more competent. It was such a pleasant surprise in the middle of nowhere in a town of 500 plus or minus, and got us on our way. This event took place in August of '05. After a phone call to Pioneer, I verified their still doing well and working on more RV's. The Gunter's would take their car to them as well but the distance is prohibitive from Florida. We wanted to tell all the FCOC club that nice people do exist and we should make every effort to visit this garage when in the area.

Take care and safe travel.

Sincerely, Howard and Julie Gunter.

Let's all shop at Sears!!!

I assume you have all seen the reports about how Sears is treating its reservist employees who are called up? By law, they are required to hold their jobs open and available, but nothing more. Usually, people take a big pay cut and lose benefits as a result of being called up... Sears is voluntarily paying the difference in salaries and maintaining all benefits, including medical insurance and bonus programs, for all called up reservist employees for up to two years. I submit that Sears is an exemplary corporate citizen and should be recognized for its contribution.

Suggest we all shop at Sears, and be sure to find a manager to tell them why we are there so the company gets the positive reinforcement it well deserves.

Pass it on.

So I decided to check it out before I sent it forward. I sent the following email to the Sears Customer Service Department:

I received this email and I would like to know if it is true. If it is, the Internet may have just become one very good source of advertisement for your store. I know I would go out of my way to buy products from Sears instead of another store for a like item even if it was cheaper at the other store.

webcenter@sears.com

1-800-349-4358



Next FCCC Rally ~ 2007 !

Florida Freightliner Frolic

March 24th to March 28th 2007

Sit back and relax and let the program for the March FCOC Rally at Lazy Days Rally Park rest with me. Most of the meals, the picnic and the entertainment are already in place. A little polishing, and tying of loose ends, and we will insure a top notch Freightliner Owners Club rally.

Two songs keep floating through my head. One song is about "Palm Trees Are Gently Swaying", "Pack Up Your Troubles In Your Ole Kit Bag" . I would like to put these two songs together and make a parody of them, something like, "PACK UP YOUR FREIGHTLINER CHASSIS" "JOIN US AT LAZY DAYS WHERE THE PALM TREES WILL BE GENTLY SWAYING IN THE WARM FLORIDA SPRING BREEZE"

Lazy Days Rally Park has 299 sites with all amenities, rating it among the top campgrounds in the country. A large recreation hall with a stage and sound system has recently been renovated. All roads and sites are paved. The heated pool and hot tubs are immaculate. Every day except Sunday there is a breakfast and lunch served. The park provides a shuttle bus to carry the residents to the main office and cafeteria.

One can spend a whole day visiting new or used RV coaches, Cracker Barrel. Flying J and Camping World are adjacent to the park and well within walking distance.

Within a 1 hour radius of the Park are casinos, Busch Gardens, Cypress Gardens, Sea World, Disney World, Water World, Beaches, golf courses, and Plant City, the strawberry capitol of the world. There is so much to see and do, you may want to stay a few extra days and take advantage of all the attractions.

We have 200 sites reserved for the FCOC Rally. This 4 1/2 day rally has many surprises in store for you. No, I cannot tell what they are: they are surprises!!! Soooo, pack up your freightliner chassis and join us "where the palm trees are gently swaying".

Look forward to seeing you in Florida at the FCOC Rally!!!!
Pete and Alice Pizzano
Rally Masters



FLORIDA FREIGHTLINER FROLIC



Registration Form

(Registration Deadline March 1, 2007)

FCOC Tampa, Florida Rally — March 24 to 28th 2007

Lazy Days Rally Park
6210 County Road # 579
Seffner, Florida 33584
(800) 905-6627

Rally Includes

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 10 Meals | Door prizes | Full Hook-ups | Offsite Picnic |
| Welcome Social | RV Displays | Student Driving* | Vendors |
| Red Hat Tea | Ice Cream Social | Entertainment | Bingo |
| Daily Newspaper | Hot Tub | Tennis | Seminars |

Freightliner Tech Service and Good Fellowship

*Lazy Days has a free Student Driving course available for those staying at Lazy Days. You must contact Lazy Days DIRECTLY for more information or to attend this course.

FMCA # _____

Pilot: _____
Last Name First Name Name Tag

Co-Pilot: _____
Last Name First Name Name Tag

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip Code _____

Primary Phone # _____ Other Phone # _____

E-mail Address _____

Are you a military veteran: Pilot - Yes ___ No ___ Co-Pilot - Yes ___ No ___

In order to recognize special dates, please indicate any birthdays or anniversaries occurring during the dates of the Rally: _____

First time at FCOC rally? Yes ___ No ___ Handicapped Parking? Yes ___ No ___

Red Hat Tea: Yes ___ No ___ Can you help during the Rally? Yes ___ No ___

Mfg of Coach _____ Model _____ Length _____

We have 200 sites reserved. Make check payable to FCOC for \$295.00 and Mail to:

Rick & Donna Kennedy
158 Rainbow Drive #5878
Livingston, Texas 77399

Email: rickkennedy100@hotmail.com
Phone: (410) 353-6224

Business Meeting and Pizza Get-to-gether Charlotte, NC



A group of people are seated at tables under a large red and white striped canopy. The scene is outdoors on a grassy area, likely at a fair or festival. People are seen in the background, some standing and some sitting. The canopy is supported by metal poles. The overall atmosphere is casual and social.



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FCOC Business Meeting – August 16, 2006 Lowe's Motor Speedway, Charlotte/Concord, N.C.

The business meeting was called to order at 4:50 P.M. by President Ken Hawk. Ken welcomed the 435 people present and thanked them for attending. Bob Tomme offered an opening prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ken acknowledged the large number of Veterans present.

Ken then introduced the club's officers present. He first asked Katherine Henley, Executive Vice President, to stand and thanked her for a great job she has done for the club for the last six years. Katherine welcomed everyone, especially the first timers, and commented that the spring FCOC Post Rally will be March 24-28, 2007 at Lazydays Rally Park with Pete and Alice Pizano serving as Rally Masters. Ken introduced the other Club officers: Dorothy Casada, National Director, Roy Hopper, Alternate National Director, and Pat Tomme, Care Person. Ken also introduced Jill and Clint Baumann, Rally Masters, and Rick and Donna Kennedy Assistant Rally Masters for the Post Rally at Marion, N.C.

Ken then introduced Tony Sippel, New Product Manager for Freightliner Custom Chassis who, in turn, recognized the members of his staff present and explained a new benefit for FCOC members. Tony explained the Travel Centers of America (TA) Road King Card that members will receive in the mail shortly. He also discussed the new Front Engine Diesel (FRED) as a good replacement for customers with front-end gas models. Tony also commented on a benefit coming shortly to FCOC members for financing a new coach through Daimler-Chrysler Credit.

Ken next introduced Jay Blumenthal, the FMCA International Area Vice President, who invited everyone to attend the International Area Rally at Harrington, Delaware, April 19-22, 2007.

A motion was made by Charles Lenau and seconded to accept the minutes of the last business meeting held in Tucson. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

Ken asked Tom James to read the Treasurer's Report for the period March 1 through June 30, 2006, which had been prepared by Pete Palasota, Treasurer. A motion was made by John Canfield and seconded by Randy Kemp to accept the report as read. There was no discussion, and the motion carried.

The next order of business was the election of officers. Ken presented the slate prepared by the Nominating Committee. A motion was made by Butch Griffith and seconded by Ed Proksa to elect Bill Buck to the position of Executive Vice President to replace Katherine Henley. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Casada and seconded by Teddie Ford to elect Tom James to the Treasurer's position to replace Pete Palasota. There was no discussion and the motion carried.



FCOC Business Meeting ~ continuation ~

A motion was made by Ed Proksa and seconded to re-elect Dorothy Casada to the National Director position. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Casada and seconded by Barb Knutson to re-elect Roy Hopper as Alternate National Director. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

Dorothy Casada reported on the FMCA Governing Board meeting. She indicated that the following sites and dates have been approved for the upcoming national FMCA conventions:

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Perry, Georgia | March 19-22, 2007 |
| Redmond, Oregon | August 13-16, 2007 |
| Pomona, California | February 25-28, 2008 |
| St. Paul, Minnesota | July 14-17, 2008 |
| Perry, Georgia | Spring, 2009 |
| Louisville, Kentucky | Summer, 2009 |
| Albuquerque, New Mexico | Spring, 2010 |
| Redmond, Oregon | Summer, 2010 |

Dorothy went on to say that the FMCA renewal rate is 85% and that the active membership in FMCA as of June 30, 2006 was 122,327 members.

President Ken explained the "Keeping in Touch" program and stressed that we should all update our personal information in this confidential database on a regular basis in order to receive the FCOC Newsletters, the TA Road King card, and other club information.

FCOC club member Don Ingle took the floor and stated he felt that President Ken Hawk should be reimbursed for his travel expenses, especially fuel to the FCOC rallies, his dues and his rally fees. A motion was made by Walter Wight and seconded by Bob Smith to pay President Ken Hawk's FCOC dues, travel expenses, including fuel, and rally fees to the FCOC rallies. Jill Baumann suggested that the payment of expenses of the other officers be added to the motion. The motion was tabled to allow more discussion.

Ken presented Katherine Henley a plaque commemorating six years of outstanding service to the club, lifetime dues to be paid by the club, and a satellite radio.

Ken presented Pat Tomme with a plaque for her outstanding work as the club Care Giver.

At 6:00 P.M. President Ken asked for a motion to close the meeting. A motion was made and seconded. There was no discussion and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned to the club pizza party.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hopper for Priscilla Buck, Secretary

Continuation of Bus.Mtg.
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Minutes continued... August 20, 2006

FCOC Business Meeting - Marion, NC – August 20, 2006

This business meeting was a continuation of the FCOC Business Meeting held at FMCA in Concord, NC on August 16, 2006.

The meeting was opened at 1:10 pm by President Ken Hawk. There were seventy-seven members in attendance. Ken explained to those present that this meeting was a continuation of the business meeting held the prior week at FMCA, not a new meeting. The sole purpose of this meeting was to address the issue of expense reimbursement for FCOC Officers attending FMCA rallies, FCOC rallies, and other FCOC events.

Ken stated that even though this issue might not have to be presented to the membership, he, and other FCOC Executive Board members, would not make this decision without the membership's involvement. He stated that even though Congress has been known to vote themselves pay raises, the FCOC Officers would not do likewise.

At the FCOC Business Meeting in Concord, NC, Don Ingle stated that the FCOC President should be reimbursed for travel expenses to include fuel and rally fees. A motion was made by Walter Wight to reimburse the FCOC President the following; FCOC dues, and travel expenses, including fuel and rally fees for FCOC rallies. The motion was seconded by Bob Smith. Jill Baumann suggested that the expenses of other FCOC Officers should also be reimbursed. The motion was tabled until the continuation of that business meeting in Marion.

A motion was made and seconded to take the above motion "off of the table" and dismiss it. The motion carried. Ken then asked Gerry DeHerr to come forward and introduce a re-written motion for reimbursement. The motion, as initially presented and finalized, follows.

The President of FCOC shall be eligible for a 50% (100% as finalized) refund of fuel expenses, from point of origin to his/her next destination, to attend FMCA and/or FCOC rallies and other activities directly related to FCOC. (Effective immediately as finalized*)*

All other FCOC Officers (excluding those already paid by FMCA) shall be eligible for a 25% refund of fuel expenses related to the same activities.

Registration fees to attend the foregoing activities by the President shall be paid by FCOC.

Fuel receipts marked "First fill-up" to "Last fill-up" must be submitted to the Treasurer for the refund.

Final approval shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer, as FCOC funds must have a 10% surplus over liabilities before refunds are paid.

** See discussions below*

Gerry made a motion to accept the above. Ed Laughter seconded the motion. Ken asked if there was any discussion. Ron Sliger asked when this would become effective. After discussion, it was decided that reimbursements would be effective for the current Concord/Marion rallies.

There was discussion to clarify reimbursement in the situation when spouses are both officers. In this case, there will be one reimbursement for both.

Ray Easter suggested that the above be amended to reimburse the President 100% of fuel costs rather than the 50% originally proposed. After discussion there was a standing vote on this change. The results were 43 in favor and 34 against.

The above was changed to reflect a 100% fuel cost reimbursement for the President. All other officers will receive the originally proposed 25% fuel reimbursement.

There was discussion to clarify the reimbursement policy for any officers receiving monies from FMCA. The result was that those officers would receive the 25% fuel reimbursement less any monies received from FMCA. Those officers would include the National Director, Alternate National Director, or the FCOC voting representative, if appointed, in the case neither the National Director nor the Alternate National Director are able to attend FMCA's Governing Board meeting.

There was discussion to clarify which officers are eligible for reimbursement. Officers eligible are the President, the Executive Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Membership Vice-President, the Newsletter Vice-President, the Web-Master Vice-President, the Secretary, and the National and Alternate National Directors.

There was clarification that, in no case, would the fuel reimbursements exceed the mileage reimbursement allowed by the IRS for non-profit organizations. The current IRS allowance is 44.5 cents per mile. It was stated that the Treasurer will be responsible for monitoring this amount.

President Ken asked for a motion to close the meeting. A motion was made and seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion carried and the meeting was closed at 2:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Buck, FCOC Secretary



During the Homecoming Rally #2 we had a 50/50 raffle and raised \$372.00 for a local charity.

The **McDowell Mission Ministry of Marion, NC** does many works in there area.

Freindship Home: a safe place for women and children. Offering food, clothing, shelter and job assistance.

Men's shelter: offers food, clothing, shelter, and job assistance.

Crisis Ministry: For those who have homes but, need assistance with winter heating, food, rent payments, and transportation to work.

Transportation Ministry: Assist elderly and indigent to get to doctor and dental appointments.

Prison Ministry: Ensures a dedicated chaplain is in there prisons.

We met Bill Sexton who is in charge of the Men's Shelter. He is pictured here. He told us that they helped him when he was in need. He felt that to work in this ministry was his way to repay the love and acceptance he received.

If you would like more information or would like to make a donation please go to www.mcdowellmission.com . Or call: 828-659-3981.



E-mail and Internet while on the road

Getting access to e-mail and the internet while traveling is becoming easier all the time but there are enough choices to be confusing. Everyone has different needs and should learn about the options and decide which one(s) meet his(her) needs best. This is an attempt to give a brief insight in to the various choices to allow the choosing process to begin.

Dial up access:

Most campgrounds now offer dial up access if you have a local or 800 number to call. This requires that you take your computer to a central point and plug into a phone connection. Also you need an Internet Service Provider (ISP) which usually has a cost involved. These can run from Bamnet at \$0.01 per connect minute to AOL at \$23 per month.

Cell Phone access:

The three main cell phone providers; Verizon, Sprint, and Cingular, have some form of Internet access nationally. Others have access but do not offer the coverage area that these three companies have. Access runs from very slow (4.8 baud) to broadband which is very fast but costly and national coverage is not complete as yet. Cost runs from zero (other than your phone fee) to about \$60 per month. You can obtain an excellent tutorial on each of these coverage's at www.groups.yahoo.com and the group Internetbycellphone.



For the Cold days Ahead !

SOUPS & STEWS

No-Fuss Potato Soup

6 cups cubed peeled potatoes
5 cups water (or chicken Broth)
2 cups chopped onion
1/2 cup chopped celery
1/2 cup thinly sliced carrots
1/4 cup butter
4 teaspoons chicken bouillon granules
2 teaspoons salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1 can (12 ounces) evaporated milk
3 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
Snipped chives, optional

In a large slow cooker, combine the first nine ingredients. Cover and cook on high for 7-8 hours or until the vegetables are tender. Add milk and parsley; mix well. Cover and cook 30-60 minutes longer or until heated through. Garnish with chives if desired.

Yield 8-10 servings about 3 quarts.

This is from a Taste of Home slow cooker recipes book

Continued from page 18

Air Card access:

This is a subgroup of the Cell phone access. Here you buy a PC Card that has its own phone number and can be used 24/7 even while you are using your phone. It is data only and is what the companies are pushing with their broadband access. The cost is also about \$60 if you also have a phone contract, about \$80 without the phone contract.

WiFi access:

Many laptops now include built-in WiFi hardware. This works well but is short range. Many campgrounds offer WiFi access, some for a fee and some free. There are several external devices that have the power to access from a longer range, one popular one is made by Hawking. These plug into the USB port on your computer and can be aimed to pick up the strongest signal. More on WiFi can be obtained at groups.yahoo.com and the group Internetbywifi. Many localities offer Wifi access at libraries, Starbucks, etc. Also, all Flying-J have Wifi at their locations for a fee. In campgrounds, many campers that have satellite dishes (see below) will leave their systems open which allows anyone to piggy-back on their internet access.

Satellite access:

This is the most expensive method. Equipment costs run from \$1500 to over \$6000 and have to be carried somewhere unless it is roof mounted. The service can run \$100 per month in addition. Also, setting up the dish antenna can be somewhat tricky. Download speeds are very fast but upload speeds are somewhat slower.

It's that Time Again!

Preparation for Storage Check List

When storing your motorhome for an extended period of time (60 days or more), the following steps should be taken to give it maximum protection. When removing your motorhome from storage, [follow these steps](#).

Date placed in storage: ____/____/____ Mileage on vehicle: _____

- Fill fuel tank and add a high-quality fuel stabilizer to the fuel (never store with a partially full tank of fuel).
- Change the engine oil and filter (used oil does not give adequate protection).
- Cooling system was originally protected with antifreeze to -34 degrees F. If colder temperatures are expected, adjust the mixture. If coolant has been in the vehicle for five years or 100,000 miles, flush the cooling system and fill with an appropriate mixture of antifreeze and softened water, and be sure that the coolant contains a rust inhibitor.
- If it has been more than 18 months or 24,000 miles since the transmission has been serviced, change the fluid and filter.
- Service the fuel filters.
- Run the engine until fully warmed up.
- Operate the air conditioning.
- If possible, store the vehicle in a dry, well-ventilated area, protected from sunlight.
- Check tires for damage and set tire pressure to maximum as indicated on the sidewall of the tire. Clean the tires using the normal, mild soap that you would use to clean your RV.
- If possible, raise the vehicle onto safety stands. Do not store the vehicle on the hydraulic leveling jacks. Hydraulic jacks will "bleed" pressure over time, lowering the coach back onto the tires.
- Cover tires to protect from heat and sunlight.
- If possible, release the parking brake.
- Remove and clean the battery. **Always disconnect the negative (-) cable first.** Store the battery in a cool, dry place and **keep it charged.**
- Lubricate all grease fittings on the chassis and drivetrain.
- Cover all engine and transmission openings with moisture-resistant tape.



Take Note!



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BrakeSwitch P.O. Box 3713 Mooresville, NC 28117 Phone: (888) 349-5414
www.brakeswitch.com Remember ... FCOC members ask for a Club discount !

Red Hat Society

The Red Hat Meeting at the “Home Coming Rally #2” held at Tom Johnson’s Rally Park in Marion, North Carolina was attended by 74 red and purple clad ladies. The scheduled entertainment cancelled, so Katherine Henley, with several helpers, provided the following helpful hints:

- Place aluminum foil under the cover of your ironing board to make ironing easier and faster.
- To clean your Thermos bottle, fill with water and add 2 denture-cleaning tablets. Let them sit for an hour, then rinse.
- Use dental floss to sew buttons onto jackets or coats – it lasts a lot longer.
- For accidental burns, pat the burned area with vanilla extract to stop the burning.
- To remove pet hair from furniture or other surfaces, rub with a dryer sheet.
- Before putting food containing tomato into plastic containers, spray with Pam to prevent staining.
- Place aluminum foil on the barbeque grill after use and let cool. Wad up the foil when cold and use it to scrape and clean the grill.

Our next meeting will be held during the FCOC Post Rally “Florida Freightliner Frolic” March 24, 25 and 26 & 27th, 2007 at Lazydays Rally Park, Tampa, Florida.

Since many RV’ers depend on the cell phone to stay in touch with family and friends, I am passing along the following information from Pittsburgh’s WTAE Channel 4 News.

Never, ever answer a cell phone while it is being CHARGED!! A few days ago, a person was recharging his cell phone at home. Just at that time, a call came and he answered it with the instrument still connected to the outlet. After a few seconds, electricity flowed into the cell phone unrestrained and the young man was thrown to the ground with a heavy thud. His parents rushed to the room only to find him unconscious with a weak heartbeat and burnt fingers. He was rushed to the nearby hospital, but was pronounced dead on arrival. Cell phones are a very useful modern invention; however, we must be aware that it can also be an instrument of death.

Never use the cell phone while it is hooked to the electrical outlet.

Be sure and bring you cup and favorite “Red Hat”

See you in Tampa!



Red Hat Society



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