

Freightliner Chassis Owners Club

"10th Anniversary 1995 - 2005"

1st. Quarter, 2007



Freightliner Flyer

www.freightlinerchassisownersclub.org

*See the Pictures
of ...*



Friends @ Parry GA

&



Florida Freightliner Frolic Rally

**S
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And

**FCOC
Post Rallies**

*~Coming Soon~
FMCA's 78th. Convention
Redmond, Oregon
August, 2007*

*~Be There~
Yakima Mountain
FCOC Rally
August 17-
August 21, 2007
Yakima State Fair
Park*





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~ President's Message ~



Dear FCOC Friends,

I hope this letter finds you happy and healthy in your travels thru-out our country.

As many of you may have found out, in the past six weeks the Hawk house has gone thru some rough times. My wife Dorothy has been diagnosed with breast cancer. By the time you read this the surgery will be over. With your support and your many prayers she will be on her way to a speedy recovery. You all know how much I believe in prayer power. With the help of our good Lord, I feel confident that with his help, she will put this behind her.

Because of this difficulty, Dorothy and I could not make the Perry or Lazy Days Rallies. Boy what an empty feeling. We have been to 12 rallies since we joined FCOC and we know that we missed a good one. We were kept aware of the happenings and things that went on at the Perry Ga. FCOC Business Meeting. What a fantastic turn-out. Nearly 500 members in attendance, Wow!!! During this rally time, I turned the duties of the President over to Bill Buck, the Executive VP. I want to thank Bill for stepping up and taking over with just a few weeks to get it together. I am told that he did a wonderful job. Things went well at the business meeting. Freightliner Custom Chassis introduced a new program using the resources of Daimler/Chrysler to offer a finance program especially for FCOC members. FCCC will offer this for a short time depending on the results of course. So, if you are planning to purchase a new Freightliner Chassis based motor home, call Kathy Kyzer at (864) 487-1700 and she will direct you to the right people. Oh I should also tell you that this is a special rate only available to FCOC members. You can be pre-approved if you desire and shop around for the model you want. My thanks to Tony Sipple and Dean Schaper for working hard to get this program started.

Now on to the Lazy Days Rally. All I heard were great comments from many that attended. My thanks to Rally Masters Pete & Alice Pizzano and Assistant Rally Masters Roy & Kathy Hopper for a job well done. I also heard that an extra treat at this rally was that FCCC passed out \$25.00 gift cards. Thank You FCCC and the folks that came to be with the FCOC members at the rally. And that includes the FCCC President Mr. Bob Harbin. Thank you Bob for being at the rally.

Participating at a rally is a great help to those that organize the procedures. Both Perry and Lazy Days had a lot of people volunteer for different duties: from Tram workers and Pizza servers to all the volunteers at Lazy Days. I say to all of those folks that helped, "Thank You!!" I really realize this club is the best in FMCA and it is because we have so many people that want to help. This is what separates FCOC from all the others and it shows at these rallies. Again a BIG THANK YOU to all those involved. Most of you understand how difficult it is to run a successful rally, but the rallies are successful because of your helping hands.

Some other news that is now out for printing. You know a club like ours is supported by a major company, FCCC. Within that company is a man who has been the best supporter anywhere. His name is Dean Schaper, Marketing/Sales Manager of FCCC. Dean Schaper has been a strong leader on our behalf and has brought a lot of contributions and implemented a lot of great ideas to our club.

Continued on page 4

Well Dean has decided to retire from FCCC and I will tell you we will all miss his leadership at FCCC. His date of retirement is around July 1st. I understand that Dean may come to an FCOC rally or two - I sure hope he will. I also feel confident that Dean has created a well trained staff of folks that will continue to support our club. It is Dean's leadership that has been a real benefit to FCOC. So if you get by Gaffney and want to say good luck and enjoy retirement, I encourage you to do so. All I can say is Thank You Dean for supporting me personally and supporting this great club. See what is coming to FCOC. We are growing at such a fantastic rate that the board of directors decided to create areas as FMCA has done. This will allow area rallies to be held which will provide FCOC activities closer to home for many more members. The majority of members at this rally were from the eastern side of the US. This also told us that with 6000 coach members we have to offer more than just 2 rallies per year, and that is our plan. We are going to establish the same geographical area boundaries as FMCA. We are initially activating three or four areas. When these areas are operational, additional areas will become active.

Until we meet again, please keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

Take Care of each other

Ken Hawk

Ken Hawk
President

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



FYI!

Cell phone companies are charging us \$1.00 to \$1.75 or more for 411 information calls when they don't have too. Most of us do not carry a telephone directory in our vehicle, which makes this situation even more of a problem. When you need to use the 411 information option, simply dial: (800) FREE 411, or (800) 373-3411 without incurring any charge at all. Program this into your cell phone now. This is the kind of information people don't mind receiving, so pass it on to your family and friends.

Disclaimer

FCOC is not to be held responsible for personal statements, opinions, or representations advanced in papers, chapter newsletters, web site, in discussions at any meetings or its Internet site and Discussion Forums, or the validity of statements contained in any advertisements or printed material of the FCOC chapter of the International Area of FMCA.



THE LEADER AT EVERY TURN™



THE LEADER AT EVERY TURN™

Dear FCOC Members,

My first six months at FCCC have been exciting. At FCCC we are gearing up for many changes including the EPA 07 engine emissions. With the Sprinter no longer in Gaffney, we are reorganizing our manufacturing facility to add a third production line for Walk In Van chassis. We have also built an addition to our roll test building that will house two chassis dynos that will allow us to perform additional tests required for the '07 engines.



I had the pleasure of attending your Business Meeting in Perry GA as well as the owner's club rally in Tampa FL. I believe these rallies are an excellent opportunity for us to learn from you and for you to learn more about the chassis. Both events were well attended by FCOC members. Especially satisfying was the high number of "First Timers" at Lazydays.

As I mentioned at the club meeting, I have owned three motorhomes and know how important the chassis is to having an enjoyable experience. My focus at FCCC will be building a quality chassis that meets or exceeds your expectations.

I would like to wish all of you safe travels during the next few months and I look forward to seeing you at the Redmond FMCA rally or the next time you are in Gaffney, SC.

Sincerely

Bob Harbin

Bob Harbin



THE LEADER AT EVERY TURN™

Farewell letter to my friends at FCOC

Dear friends,

After 34 years in the truck and chassis business I am going to retire from FCCC the end of June. My successor will be Jonathan Randall who will be coming on board June 1st. Jonathan comes to us from our corporate headquarters in Portland where he was the director of marketing for the truck group. Jonathan will be adding a new dimension to the department with his extensive background in marketing.



I started working with RVs in 1989 and remember when our old friend Irv Steele approached me back in 1994 and suggested we form an Oshkosh Chassis Owners Club. It sounded like a great idea and a win-win situation. Club members would have an avenue to learn more about their chassis, have an opportunity for fellowship at club rallies and we would have a sounding board for feedback on chassis issues and concerns. The first club meeting was in Las Cruces, NM in April of 1995 and we had a club with about 35 members.

Then in June of 1995 the Oshkosh Chassis Division was sold to Freightliner and the club was renamed the Freightliner Chassis Owner's Club (FCOC) and has grown to almost 6000 members thanks to all your hard work and dedication.

Looking back over the past 12 years the club has certainly been a Win-Win for both of us. We have had an opportunity to have a sounding board out of which several ideas have spawned.

When we heard that club members were not happy with the level of service at the Freightliner dealers we instituted the OASIS program to identify those dealers that catered to the RV customer. You gave us an avenue for feedback on your dealer experiences that allowed us to measure dealer performance and weed out or work with those dealers that were not performing.

After Freightliner acquired a stake in the Travel Centers of America we worked with them to develop a program for FCOC members. After the Daimler and Chrysler merger we introduced the new car discount purchase program that allowed club members to purchase Chrysler cars and trucks under dealer invoice. This year we introduced a special financing program to club members through our affiliates at Daimler Chrysler Truck Financing (DCTF). And like Ken Hawk always says "don't throw away your fork because there is more coming" because we are always looking for something new we can provide FCOC club members.

I have certainly enjoyed working with the club and seeing it grow and prosper. And who knows you may just see me at club events supporting FCCC in the future or I may just have to buy a motorhome and try out the lifestyle all of you have bragged about all these years.

I also plan to help out my wife, Rae, with her business which is supplying preschool teachers with curriculums that promote literacy. So maybe I can combine the motorhome and her project and travel the country side selling her books. So if you know of any preschool teachers out there that need some help send them our way or send them to www.readitonceagain.com.

Take care ya all,

Dean Schaper



Dear Fellow FCOCERS,

What a wonderful outpouring of love I have received from you all. For information to those who, like Ken & I were unable to attend the March rally, I have been diagnosed with a very aggressive form of breast cancer.

We have been in Big "D" taking all the tests necessary and surgical procedures required to put this ugly disease out of our lives.

The support you all have shown to me has meant more than mere words can express. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your interest and love.

Fondly, Dorothy Hawk

HELP WANTED



Your club needs volunteers. We need a few people to volunteer for some duties that really are not too difficult. Your team of officers will help in any way we can.

Currently we need a Rally Master for Yakima Washington FCOC Rally. This one should be easy except that you would have to check to see that things are done correctly. Most of his work has been done, such as Rally Sites, Caterer, and all we need is to contact the Entertainment people for confirmation.

We also could use help in the area of AREA CO-ORDINATER. This is the job of a person that would run an area such as a small FCOC group. The job would be to appoint Rally Masters and hold small rallies in their respective area. Again, your FCOC team of officers will help in any way possible.

To apply or inquire about the job, call the Volunteer Co-coordinator
Rick Kennedy. (410) 353-6224 e-mail fcocvol@hotmail.com
Thank You in Advance

Ken



 **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 an FMCA # _____ or Applied
for #. Application Date _____

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

Send to: **FCOC c/o Kathy Kyzer**

552 Hyatt St. Gaffney, SC. 29341

(864) 487-1700

COME WITH US TO ALASKA



We booked a trip to Alaska for 58 days in 2008. It is with Adventure Caravans. We would love to have folks from FCOC join us. Dates are June 18- August 14. We will get special pricing for this trip only. This is a limited time offer. Please call soon if interested.

Clint and Jill Baumann at 216-970-6247.



~Check Out the "2007" Schedule~



- FMCA's 78th International Convention

August 13, 14, 15 & 16, 2007

Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center,

Redmond, Oregon

- FCOC Yakima Mountain Post Rally

August 17, 18, 19, 20 & 21 2007

Yakima State Fair Park



Yakima, Washington

Area Rallies

- Midwest Area Rally

September 12,- 16, 2007

Delaware County Fairgrounds

Manchester, Iowa

- South Central Area Rally

September 25,-28, 2007

Missouri State Fairgrounds

Sedalia, Missouri

- Rocky Mountain Area Rally

October 3,-6, 2007

San Juan County Fairgrounds, McGee Park

Farmington, New Mexico



SCHEDULE

Fellow FCOC Folks

First, my subject for this newsletter is about medical insurance and an experience we had just recently. This is not to slam any Insurance company or agency but to help you be aware of some of the things that can and do happen to us.

Most of us over 65 are eligible for Medicare and then we choose a supplement insurance company to take up the expenses where Medicare leaves off. We usually have the opportunity to change supplement companies only once per year. Well here is our story;

Dorothy & I were asked by our primary physician to please evaluate a certain insurance company that might benefit both parties. We did just that and found that we have a need that many of them don't include. That need as motor homers, we travel all over the country and would never know when we would need a doctor. Point #1 not mentioning the company, except that we could only go to a small list of doctors in any other area besides Dallas. That meant that we could only get sick or need medical attention in Dallas. Impossible I say... Yup. That company did not fill the bill for us traveling around. Well, this presentation by 3 gentlemen did maybe bring out that there maybe was a plan that would fit us more with our needs. After some research, Dorothy and I landed on a company that would cover us all around the country. Another advantage was that this company would save us approximately \$320.00 per month. We would have to pay 0, yes zero premium. We signed up with the feeling of insecurity in our decision, but we did it anyway. That meant that we would have to cancel Medicare and the supplement as well. Ok let's try it for \$320.00 per month, yes go for it. They told us they would take care of canceling these 2 companies. They assured us that we could use any doctor in the country and that was our biggest concern. We did it and now for "the rest of the story" About 45 days into this new found money and still feeling like we should have been more cautious, we checked again because we were heading for Georgia and then Florida. The claims lady said that the plan had changed since we signed up. In order to get care for anything and then anywhere, we had to go to the emergency room in any state and or hospital. We looked closer and found that this is not what we signed so the cancellation process began.

Now for the fun !!! We sent letters to the new company to cancel as of Feb. 1st and they said they would contact Medicare and our supplement company to get us re-instated. How nice of them!! Well they did not contact anybody.

As you may know things are starting to happen with Dorothy and surgery is now in the conversation. We told all the doctors and the hospital to go back to Medicare. The new company told them to go ahead and send the bills to them and they would take care of things. Well they did not and the bills start coming in from the new company and they are paying much less that their policy states. Oh Help!!!! More calls to Medicare and the supplement and of this day, April Medicare and the supplement say that we are re-instated and not to worry.

I feel confident that the Medicare and supplement people will come thru but my bringing this up is a warning to all of us that expect to get what the contract says.

I did not mention the names of the new company and will not because it is libel but if you want to call us we will help you thru a potential crisis

If we had not needed to process any claims, we would be way ahead. As it turns out we will be happy paying our \$320.00 per month for the security of getting all the bills paid.

We find out from the new company that Medicare gives them \$10,000 per person and that is why we did not have to pay a premium. Interesting business eh??

If this has opened up one person's eyes or thought process, then we have been successful in bringing this subject up. Please take care and especially be ware of new found money lurking in the bushes. Have a wonderful summer and I hope we will see you in Redmond and in Washington .

God Bless
Dorothy & Ken

FCOC Business Meeting @ Perry GA



Testing 1 - 2 - 3 ..



And then ~ Pizza



Let's Eat ...

Action @ Perry GA.

FCOC Volunteer team help ... We need 8 Volunteers ... You, You & You ...



O.K.... Let's GO!

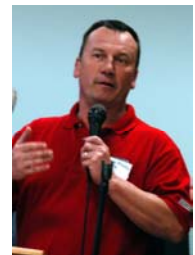
Thanks to All that Joined In ...

Entertainment @ FMCA Perry GA ...



FCOC Rally at Lazydays

Checking In ...



Good Food & Lots of It !!!



FCOC Rally at Lazy Days



Pete Pizzano presenting a check for \$2655 to Ron Maffei, General Manager of the Lazy Days Partners Foundation



A ~ G r r r 8 ~ Rally Committee!!

Rallymasters



And the Winners Are



*The Julian's receiving the Fantasy Tours Prize ..
Congratulations !*

FCOC Caravan to the Redmond 2007 FMCA Convention

Charlie & Ruth Hoffstatter Caravan Organizers

Phone # 512-567-1499 or 888-218-0008

E-mail~~ crvacc@yahoo.com

On Sunday, August 12th, 2007, we will be assembling at the parking lot of the Redmond High School in Redmond, Oregon for our caravan into the Redmond FMCA Convention grounds. We have use of the High School Parking lot until 1:00 PM. Overnight parking will **NOT BE PERMITTED** on the night of the 11th. Our entry time slot into the FMCA Convention is 1:00 PM. Please arrive on the 12th at the parking lot by at least 11:30 AM so we can hand out the necessary materials. If you need to pick up FMCA entry credentials from the FMCA Will Call area, you will need to do that before coming to the High School. It is about 4 miles from the High School to the FMCA Convention site. I would recommend that you go to the Will Call area the day before or early on Sunday morning. At 12:00 PM we will have a short meeting to go over entry and caravan details. We will be leaving the High School grounds around 12:45 PM for our journey into the FMCA Convention parking area.

We will use CB channel 7 to communicate during the caravan.

We need a volunteer to be tail gunner with a cell phone. If you would like to do that please contact Charlie Hoffstatter before we meet on the 12th, or contact the caravan leader on the 12th.

The Redmond High School address is 675 SW Rimrock Dr., Redmond, Or. 97756

The phone number is (541) 923-4800

The directions to the Redmond High School are as follows:

Coming from the North, South or East go to intersection of US Hwy 97 and Hwy 126 (SW Highland Ave.) in the center of Redmond. Take Hwy 126 west 2.4 miles and then turn right on SW Rimrock DR. High School parking lot will be on your left shortly after turning onto SW Rimrock DR.

Coming in from the West (Sisters) take Hwy. 126 (SW Highland Ave.) 18 miles east. Then turn left on SW Rimrock DR. High School parking lot will be on your left shortly after turning onto SW Rimrock DR.

We will be looking for you there !!!

Many thanks to Karen Tompkins at Redmond High School.

CONTACT US IF YOU WILL BE GOING @ 512-567-1499 OR TOLL FREE 888-218-0008 OR
AT OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS crvacc@yahoo.com

NOTE:

When registering for the FMCA Convention make sure you register for General Parking Area. This will allow you to run your generator from 7:00 AM till 11:00 PM.



YAKIMA MOUNTAIN FCOC RALLY

Registration Form

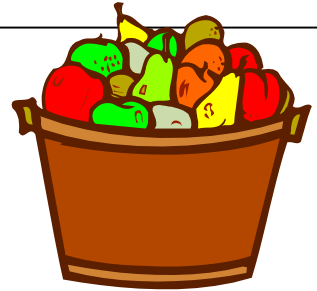
(Registration Deadline August 1, 2007)

August 17th to August 21st, 2007

Yakima State Fairgrounds

1301 S. Fair Ave.

Yakima, WA



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 _____

(Registration confirmations will be sent to the e-mail listed above, otherwise confirmations will be mailed)

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

Do you have any special meal requirements: _____

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 with full hook-ups. Over's will still have electric, water and pumper truck.

Make check payable to FCOC for \$295.00 and Mail to:

Rick & Donna Kennedy

Email: FCOCVol@hotmail.com

158 Rainbow Drive #5878

Phone: (410) 353-6224

Livingston, Texas 77399

===== cut here =====

Request parts for pick-up at Yakima Rally, August 17, 2007

Name: _____ FMCA No. _____

Coach Mfg: _____ Model: _____ Engine: _____

Engine Number, if available: _____ Vin Last 6 digits _____

Filter Number: Air: _____ Oil: _____ Fuel: _____

Special services desired, time permitting: _____

Service Techs can spend 1 hour on elective service. Be sure to confirm requested service upon arrival.

Freightliner Chassis Owners Club Business Meeting

Perry, Georgia – March 20, 2007

The FCOC Business Meeting at Perry, Georgia was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Executive Vice President Bill Buck. President Ken Hawk was not able to attend the rally due to a family issue. There were 467 club members in attendance.

The meeting was opened with an invocation by Ron Griffith followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Then, via cell phone, President Ken welcomed everyone to the business meeting. Following Ken's welcoming remarks, Bill recognized the first-time attendees and the volunteers. Both groups were well represented.

The club officers present were introduced: Dorothy Casada - National Director, Roy Hopper - Alternate National Director, Priscilla Buck - Secretary, and Tom James - Treasurer. Those officers not in attendance were also recognized: Rudy Morris - Web Master Vice President, Chuck Belba - Membership Vice President, and Bob Smellie - Newsletter Vice President. Bill asked Pete Palasota, our past Treasurer, and Katherine Henley, our past Executive Vice President, to stand and be recognized. Both were thanked by a round of applause. Katherine then presented her Executive Vice President Plaque and badge hanger to Bill Buck. Arlene and Ron Griffith, FCOC's new Historians replacing Linda and Werner Sharp, were introduced. Caravan leaders Charlie and Ruth Hoffstatter were also introduced and thanked for their hard work.

Bill next introduced Jay and Donna Blumenthal. Jay is the FMCA National Vice President of the International Area. Jay invited everyone to attend the INTO Rally to be held in Harrington, Delaware. Jay reminded everyone that FCOC had volunteered to provide security at the INTO Rally. He introduced Sonny and Carole Gillespie. Sonny is the Senior Vice President in the International Area. Jay also introduced Kathy Rundgren, Vice President in the International Area and FCOC's representative to FMCA.

Bill recognized Joanne Durbin who is running for the office of National Secretary. Joanne spoke of her qualifications and asked for FCOC's support. Ginger Painter, the current National Secretary was also recognized.

Tony Sippel, the New Product Manager for FCCC was introduced and then introduced Bob Harbin the President of FCCC. Bob stated that as one who has owned three motor homes, he understands our issues and concerns. He hopes that FCCC will be able to meet everyone's expectations.

Tony then introduced the rest of the FCCC team, the Caterpillar group, and the Cummins and Detroit Diesel representatives.

Tony also spoke about two programs: the Travel Centers of America (TA) Road King Card program and a financing program from Essex Credit. TA is making changes to their in-store software to allow the Road King Card to be used at any pump. This will allow card holders to fuel up on either the truck side or the car side. Tony then explained that Essex Credit will provide very attractive interest rates for FCOC members. The member's actual rate will be based on credit-worthiness. These reduced rates will be available for purchases and refinancing.

This program will only be available for a limited period of time. Essex Credit will be mailing information to FCOC members in the near future.

Bill then moved to the subject of FCOC Officers reports. He stated that since the minutes of the previous business meeting were published in the newsletter it was appropriate to accept the minutes as published. He asked for a motion to that effect. A motion was made and seconded. There was no discussion. The motion to accept the minutes as published passed.

Tom James, the Treasurer, then gave his report. A motion to accept the report was made and seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

Finally Dorothy Casada, FCOC's National Director, reported. There are eight National Offices up for re-election at the Redmond, Oregon Rally this summer. FMCA membership has dropped. This is partially due to the fact that many "first year" members who were given a free membership do not renew that membership. Dorothy also stated that the monthly magazine has been updated and modernized.

Bill reminded everyone at the meeting that FCOC was supplying tram volunteers for the Perry rally. Ron Sliger, FCOC's Tram Captain spoke of the need for additional tram volunteers. Enough club members volunteered to satisfy Ron's request.

Pete Pizzano, the Rally Master for the FCOC Rally at Lazy Days, gave an overview of the rally's schedule and gave directions to Rally Park. He also introduced his wife Alice and Kathy and Roy Hopper, the Assistant Rally Masters.

Bill then spoke of the problems using email to communicate with club members. Email was used to recruit volunteers for the trams at the Perry Rally. One or more FCOC members reported that email sent by our Volunteer Coordinator Rick Kennedy was spam. The request for help was sent from fcocvol@hotmail.com. When the complaint was received, Hotmail turned the email account off. Rick explained the intent of the messages to Hotmail and they agreed to re-activate the account. However, if another complaint is received, they will permanently turn off this account.

Next Bill described a proposed change to the FCOC's bylaws. Currently membership is based on a January first to December thirty-first membership year. This means that all renewals (with the exception of members in the first through fourth years of a five year membership) must be processed in a short period of time. The proposed change will replace the membership year renewals with anniversary based renewals. This means that if a new member joins FCOC during the month of July, that member's renewal will be due on July thirty-first in subsequent years. The proposed bylaw changes will be posted on the web site and will be voted upon at the business meeting in Redmond, Oregon.

Bill announced that the Board of Directors has authorized the creation of areas. FCOC will have areas identical to FMCA's areas. Areas will provide many more activities which will be closer to member's homes. The creation of areas *does not* mean that FCOC is being divided into different chapters. FCOC will remain a single chapter. Each area will have an Area Coordinator whose primary job is to assure that area events are held. Each Coordinator will also function as that area's member representative to the Board of Directors.

Bill also announced that FCOC is investigating the opportunities to work with a children's camp. The intent is to provide support by having members "work" at the camp - not by sending donations. The plan is to adopt a camp in an area of the country which will allow members to participate throughout the entire year. There will be adequate facilities at the camp to allow FCOC members to be comfortable. The hope is that there will be full hook-up sites available.

This concluded the business to be conducted and Bill turned the meeting over to Roy Hopper for the presentation of a number of door prizes.

After the door prizes were awarded, Bill asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and seconded. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm and was immediately followed by the FCOC pizza party.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Buck

From the Desk of Larry Dorer

SUBJECT: COOLANT

Freightliner Custom Chassis Corp fills the cooling system during chassis production not Caterpillar, Cummins, or Mercedes-Benz. Alliance Brand Coolant ALAWS3 50/50 is factory fill. However it is not the only coolant that can be used in our cooling systems.

Our factory fill coolant is ethylene glycol with supplemental coolant additives (SCA). Our coolant is compatible with distilled or deionized water, low silicate green ethylene glycol for diesel engines, Fleetguard (Cummins) coolant with diesel coolant additive (DCA) same as SCA, Caterpillar coolant with SCA, and even extended life coolants. The key to adding any of these above coolants is that Freeze point and SCA levels must be checked and maintained at the proper levels. This should be done even if you use ALAWS3 to top off the cooling system

Extended life coolants are not recommended to mix with our coolant because the chemical make up is different and too much Extended Life coolant added to our coolant will deplete SCA's to the point the cooling system will need to be drained and refilled. Note: There is no chemical reaction that will eat cooling system parts.

Adding water reduces ethylene glycol and SCA levels, and requires the coolant be tested and has the proper amount of ethylene glycol and SCA added as required.

Adding Green ethylene glycol reduces SCA levels and requires the coolant be tested and has the proper amount of SCA added.

Adding Cummins Fleetguard coolant with DCA and Caterpillar coolant with SCA requires the coolant be tested to insure proper levels of ethylene glycol and SCA's.

Detroit Diesel Powercool 1 Gallon jug Part number 23528203 is the same coolant formulation as ALAWS3 and many of the Detroit Diesel Distributors carry it.

Testing freeze point and SCA levels can be done by using a coolant test strip. Coolant test strips are available from Detroit Diesel, Caterpillar, and Cummins any of these can be used with our coolant. Note: you must use the color chart that came with the test strip.

Caution: Test strips have a shelf life of one year.



By Jerry Bisbee – ATC Tech Trainer

Determining the Correct Refill or Replacement Coolant

For several years heavy-duty and medium-duty vehicle manufacturers have been building vehicles with a number of different coolant options. Each engine manufacturer has its own brand of coolant. Some of these coolants are "extended life." This means that the effective life of the coolant before replacement is longer than standard coolant. Some of these coolants contain a pre-charge of Supplemental Coolant Additives also known as SCAs. Extended life coolants may contain either Organic Acid Technology (OAT) compounds or Nitrited Organic Acid Technology (NOAT) compounds to reduce damage to engine components from corrosion or cavitation. Coolant manufacturers have started color coding their coolants with dyes to be able



Figure 1

to separate their own coolants. The problem is, at this point at least, there is no industry wide standard for these color codes. Figure 1 shows several of the coolants currently available in Freightliner, Sterling, and Western Star vehicles. As you can see, it is difficult for technicians to determine which of these coolants are in the vehicle by visual inspection. Many customers specify extended life coolants so they can expect long mileage intervals before replacing the coolant. However, if a technician adds the incorrect coolant to these extended life coolants, the extended life capabilities of the coolant are destroyed. The mixed coolant will still work as engine coolant, but its long term corrosion and cavitation fighting ability will be no better than standard coolant. If a vehicle operator does not know that the coolant has been mixed they may think that the coolant in their engine is still safe for the engine for long mileage intervals.

Until there is a standard industry-wide system in place to identify coolant, there are only two ways to find out what coolant should be in a Freightliner, Western Star, or Sterling vehicle. First, look in Module 103 of the bill of materials in PartsPro to find out what coolant was originally installed at the factory. Second, contact the vehicle owner or operator to determine if the original coolant was replaced with a different coolant. Vehicle owners and operators that specify any coolant other than the standard fill coolant should make sure that repair shops know what coolant to add back to the cooling system when repairs are made.

Technicians performing maintenance on diesel truck engines should follow the engine manufacturer's requirements for periodically testing the engine coolant using the test kit recommended by the coolant manufacturer. Failure to do so will

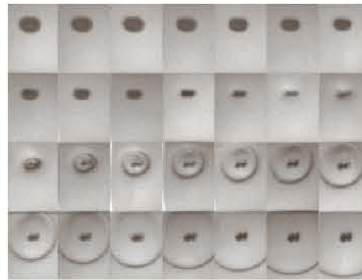


Figure 2

result in catastrophic engine failures. Cavitation erosion is a condition that occurs on the outside of cylinder liners in wet sleeve engines. As the cylinder goes through its power cycle, the outside surface of the liner vibrates because of pressure changes inside the liner. Coolant vapor bubbles form on the liner surface as the coolant goes through pressure fluctuations caused by the vibration. These bubbles implode causing a hydraulic shockwave that removes microscopic particles of the liner metal. Figure 2 shows a sequence of pictures taken of a bubble on a metal surface imploding. The black dot in the pictures is the bubble as it is collapsing. The halo around the collapsing bubble is the shockwave passing through the liquid. Figure 3 is an example of a cylinder liner that was damaged by cavitation. These eroded areas are the result of damage caused by the bubbles imploding. Coolant additives form a coating on the outside of the liner that keeps the bubbles from sticking to the liner.

Truck engine manufacturers publish coolant manuals both in printed version and electronic version. These publications provide vehicle owners with coolant requirements and recommendations for these engines. Vehicle owners, operators, and technicians should refer to these manuals to determine what the engine's coolant requirements are. For example, Detroit Diesel publishes a manual titled Coolant Selections (pub. no. 7SE298) that covers the cooling requirements for Series 60, MBE 900 and MBE 4000 engines. It is available for download at www.detroitdiesel.com. Click on "Support", then "On-Highway", then "Manuals."




Figure 3

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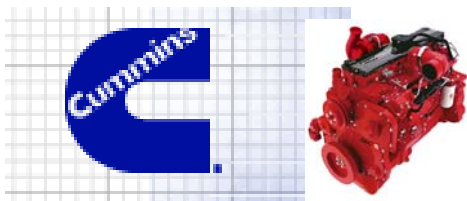
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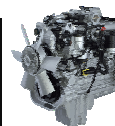


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