

Freightliner Chassis Owners Club

"14 Years of Great Associations ... 1995 - 2009"



1st Quarter, 2009

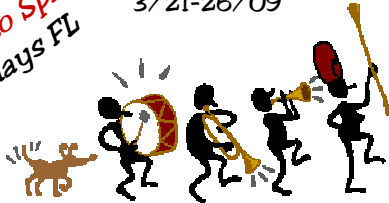
Freightliner Flyer

www.freightlinerchassisownersclub.org

PLAN FOR RALLIES 2009/10

March into Spring
@ Lazydays FL

3/21-26/09



**82nd FMCA Int'l
Convention
7/20-23/09**

"Back Home in Indiana"

**FCOC Nat'l Rally
7/24-29/09
Greenfield IN**

2010

83rd FMCA Int'l Convention

ALBUQUERQUE

March 22nd - March 25th, 2010

FCOC Nat'l Rally
Amarillo, TX.
March 27th - 31st, 2010
at OASIS RV Resort.



**In Memory
William (Bill)
Buck
1946-2009**



Check IT Out!
New FCOC ladder Plaque
See page #11



Freightliner Chassis Owners Club Officers

FCOC Phone Number 321-704-0695



Acting President

Ron Sliger
F297863
5261 Palomino Dr
Melbourne, FL
rsliger@cfl.rr.com
321-704-0695



Acting Senior Vice President

Steve Batorson
F373083
4505 N. Sanders Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85743
sjbators@us.ibm.com
520-444-6772



Acting Secretary

Barbara Knutson
F320163
224 Rainbow Dr.
#12440
Livingston, TX 77399
maxmandy0836@earthlink.net
561-703-5284



Treasurer

Tom James
F44681
6828 Donerail Dr.
Sacramento, CA
95842
tjames@adcomworldwide.com



Vice Pres. of Communications

Steve Batorson
F373083
4505 N. Sanders Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85743
sjbators@us.ibm.com
520-444-6772



Vice Pres. of Area Operations

Bob Smith
F353370
468 Starview Dr.
Rutherfordton, NC 28139
niceguy0250@att.net
828-829-6501



Vice-Pres. Member-ship

Chuck Belba
F235429
624 Royalview St.
Duarte, CA
91010
xmayors@earthlink.net



Vice-Pres. NL Editor

Robert Smellie
F189495
1508 Lost Lake Drive
Keller, TX 76248
kc5tue@infowest.com.
214-850-0841



Webmaster

Rick Kennedy
F 305461
158 Rainbow Dr. #5878
Livingston, TX
77399
rickkennedy100@hotmail.com
410-353-6224



National Director

Roy Hopper
F286929
5965 41st. St.
Vero Beach, FL
32967
rhopper517@aol.com
772-559-3322



Alt. National Director

Mary Costigan
F323758
2040 West Main St.
Ste. 210 PMB 1435
Rapid City, SD. 57702
mary.costigan@yahoo.com
951-452-2999



Historians

Ron & Arlene
Griffith F310401
9154 Wm Penn Hwy
Ste.3.
Huntingdon, PA
16652
whitail@penn.com



Spiritual Leader(s)

Ken & Dorothy Hawk
F266431
218 High Brook Dr.
Richardson, TX
75080
kenhawk@airmail.net
214-244-4307



Care Person

Carol Julian
F269081
318 Salt Creek Dr.
North Port, FL
34287
Fcoc-care-person@earthlink.net
941-276-3599



**FCOC Phone Number
321- 704- 0695**



**Note ! New Phone
Number**



~ President's Message ~

To all of our FCOC friends,



On 13 January 2009, an e-blast was distributed to our membership providing an update on the status of Bill Buck. Because not all of our members have access to e-mail and the situation has changed, a summary of the information contained in the e-blast and an update follows:

Some may have heard, but most of our members were not aware that Bill started experiencing some vision problems following the July FCOC rally at Sunset Lakes, Joslin, Illinois. In late September he had an operation at the Cincinnati Eye Institute to remove a cataract, but that did not correct the problem. Further testing revealed he had a tumor surrounding his optic nerve. On 2 December, Bill started treatment for the tumor at the Midwest Photon Beam Institute, Bloomington, Indiana. He was admitted to the University of Indiana Hospital Emergency Room on 19 December for swelling of feet and legs. An extensive battery of tests revealed that cancer had spread into other areas of his body, and was so invasive that treatment for the tumor on his optic nerve was terminated. Bill and Priscilla were advised they should return home to New Hampshire as soon as possible and arrange for Hospice care. Bill passed away in his sleep on 19 January 2009. He was 62 years of age. Services were held on Saturday, 24 January 2009 at the Pilgrim United Church of Christ, Brentwood, NH. Priscilla is working her way through this tragedy and we need to keep her in our prayers.

During his brief illness, I worked very closely with Bill and always envisioned him coming back and resuming his job as our President. He was a close and personal friend, and it just does not seem right that he is no longer with us. A friend recently told me that bad things happen to good people, and this is a prime example of that happening.

You can go to: <http://www.stockbridgefh.com/BuckWilliamB.html> and view the obituary, and sign the guest book.

In closing, I would like each and every member of our club to know that I recognize the challenges ahead of us, and will do my very best to continue on the course established by my predecessors.

President,

Ron Sliger





Driven By You

Dear FCOC Members,

As I write this letter, the economy continues to struggle and the motorhome industry continues to have its challenges. With the recent passage of the stimulus bill, we can only hope the financial situation in our country gets back on track, and in turn, so does the RV lifestyle and our business.

In the meantime, FCCC continues to lead the industry in its "green" efforts. We have adapted our traditional manufacturing processes to the modern challenges of today, proving we are a nimble, dynamic company that reacts quickly to changing market needs and implements innovative technologies into our products, ensuring we remain competitive and at the top of our game. We are a stable, viable and sustainable company, even engineering new, and increasingly "green", products during this economic downturn. We recently enjoyed a highly successful launch of ecoFRED, our hybrid-electric motorhome chassis, and we also continue to offer hybrid-electric and compressed natural gas chassis for the commercial bus and walk-in van markets.

In addition to our environmentally conscious products, the FCCC manufacturing facility is "going green" as well. Gaffney is the pilot plant for the Zero Waste to Landfill Project initiated by Daimler Trucks North America, FCCC's parent company. The purpose of the program is to become 100 percent landfill waste-free by 2010. As of Dec. 31, 2008, we have achieved 90 percent waste-free status, a gain of 62.3 percent for the year over 2007. As a result of this project, FCCC was accepted into South Carolina Environmental Excellence Program, EPA's WasteWise Program and most recently, the EPA Performance Track Program. FCCC was awarded by the Gaffney Vocational Rehabilitation Center, a service of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Program, for its environmental efforts. We are very proud of these awards and accomplishments and will continue to lead the way toward cleaner manufacturing.

On another internal FCCC note, there have been some changes in our marketing department as we recently said goodbye to a long-time employee who many of you know well. Larry Dorer retired at the end of January and handed over the rally reins to John Sereno. Please say "hi" to John at the next rally as he is now the main point of contact regarding our trailer and display. John has been with FCCC for almost 20 years and is very capable of filling Larry's shoes. We wish Larry the best and who knows, perhaps we'll all see him again at a future rally if he decides to go RVing as part of his retirement.

I'd also like to extend my condolences to the family and friends of Bill Buck. With his passing, FCCC also lost a great friend and company champion. He will be missed by all of us here.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next FCOC rally.

Sincerely,

Bob Harbin



From the acting Senior VP



Several things to cover. First: membership renewals are running behind. Our contact for many years at Freightliner has left the company. We are pleased to tell you that as of early February, Sharon (Sheri) Huesman Sharon.Huesman@daimler.com , phone 864-487-1700 is stepping into this position. We had however a backlog of all of January and part of February to work through. She is processing these applications and renewals as of this writing, and by the time you read it she should be caught up. This is a huge year for renewals for our club with almost half our members renewing at some time during this year. We are attempting to contact all that are renewing by either e-mail or snail mail for those who don't have e-mail access in two month blocks. You can still check when your membership expires by looking at the label on your printed newsletter or going to the Keep in Touch database and look at it there.

Second: FMCA announced in late January the spring FMCA rally would be in Albuquerque, NM. March 22nd - March 25th . Ours will follow and is scheduled as of now, to be in Amarillo, TX. March 27th - 31st at the OASIS RV Resort. The Summer FMCA rally is scheduled for Redmond, OR. August 11th - 14th, Again ours will follow at a place yet to be determined. If you know of a site in the Northwest that could accommodate our group with the meeting rooms, and services we need please let me know. We need Rally Masters for both of these rallies. Please contact me at sjbators@us.ibm.com if you are interested in doing this. The Rally Master manual is on our website to look at and use as a guide for this duty.

Third: The position of Executive VP is being renamed Senior VP to align us with FMCA (our parent club organization) Chapter Rules. It is only a name change, duties are the same. I was appointed to this position due to the passing of Bill Buck. Ron Sliger moved into the President position. These two positions will be voted on by our members at the first business meeting following the appointments as well as the Secretary position that Priscilla Buck resigned, and to which Barb Knutson was appointed.

Steve Batorson
Acting Senior VP

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICER CHANGES

On 19 January 2009, Bill Buck passed away and Ron Sliger became President. Priscilla Buck advised that she was unable to continue fulfilling the duties of FCOC Secretary, and has resigned.

To fill the foregoing vacancies, Ron has appointed Steve Batorson to fill the office of Senior Vice President, and Barbara Knutson to replace Priscilla as FCOC Secretary.

Notification of these officer changes have been submitted to the FMCA.



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.



FMCA's CORNER

As I write this we are one month from leaving for the 81st National Convention in Perry, GA where I am looking forward to seeing a lot of you.

FMCA has been looking at many ways to reduce our budget over the past months since the Governing Board meeting at St. Paul. At the November meeting of the FMCA Executive Board, a motion was passed to direct the Executive Director to reduce the 2009 budget by at least \$800,000.00. Ms. Connie Pool, FMCA National President, and Mr. Doug Key, FMCA Treasurer, informed us at the FMCA Southeast Area Rally that I attended last week that a large part of that reduction has been accomplished with cuts in the staff at Cincinnati, OH and the outside advertising staff. So now all our magazine advertising will be handled in-house.

A Candidates' Forum will be held at the Perry, GA Convention in Heritage Hall on Sunday, March 15, 2009 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. This is an excellent opportunity to get to know the candidates running for National Offices.

The dates for the FMCA International Conventions to be held in 2010 have been published. They are as follows:

FMCA's 83rd International Convention is in Albuquerque, NM from March 22-25, 2010 and the FMCA's 84th International Convention is in Redmond, OR from August 11-14, 2010.

The Executive Board has approved a change to the FMCA Round Bottom Road Campground. Members now have the opportunity to stay at the campground for seven nights. Previously, members were limited to a stay of two nights per month at no charge. However, there wasn't an opportunity for members to extend their stay. Now, members may extend their two free-night stay to a maximum of five additional nights per month for a fee of \$20.00 per night. The RV sites have full hookups and are available to FMCA members on a space-available basis. No reservations will be taken, but members should call ahead to inform the staff they will be staying overnight. Accommodations are on a first-come, first-serve basis.

On January 28, 2009 FMCA completely revamped its web site. The site has many features that it did not have before, such as simple navigation, Product Pavilion, a new search feature to help you find whatever you need, videos on new motorhomes and RV products, and much, much more. We are especially excited about the Community Area where you can share your travel experiences along with photos, participate in more than 45 forums, and even create your own blog. With your participation, the community can be a valuable forum for informal discussion and knowledge sharing among motorhome owners.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Happer

National Director





FMCA International Area

INTERESTED IN A RALLY AT QUARTZITE, AZ?

Sonny Gillespie, President of the FMCA International Area has proposed having a rally in Quartzsite, AZ in 2010. What do you think? He would like to have an old-fashioned rally where we would use our motorhome as they were intended. Sonny would secure entertainment, food, ice cream social, games, etc. Chapters would park together like we used to do.

If you are interested in attending a rally at Quartzsite, just send a note to our FMCA Mail Box at:

Freightliner Chassis Owners Club
4100 N Wickham Road
Unit 102, #147
Melbourne, FL 32935

To our friends with FCOC

First, we want to thank all of you that sent us cards, letters, or emails. What a wonderful feeling of the pouring out of love. It is a very warm feeling to get cards which we hung in the hospital room covering the entire wall; Thanks, also for proving that Prayer Power really works. How great you are. We have been blessed to have friends like you in this club. Dorothy and I have received good news from the doctors. **NO MORE CANCER.**

You see Prayer Power really does work.

Your President and Board of Directors have asked Dorothy and me to take over from Carolyn Morris as Spiritual Leader for the club. We are proud to be asked for this position and feel honored to try to fill Carolyn's shoes. She did a great job and I hope, with your help, we can bring our club closer together spiritually. You see, it will take the two of us to fill her shoes.

To start, I want to have you think about how we can do better with our God. I sometimes think that the outside pressures cause me to worry about things that are already in God's control. So, I just sit back and tune out all the outside noises and voices and then spend more time thinking about all that we have enjoyed. We have appreciated the many blessings we have received and how really thankful we are for all that has happened to us in our lives. I don't know about you, but when I tune out the questionable thoughts, I feel just that much closer to God and know that he really cares about me. I hope you also can tune out and sit back and relax in your relationship with our God. I know he cares about you also.

Please send us notes, emails, or calls for extra prayers and concerns of our members.

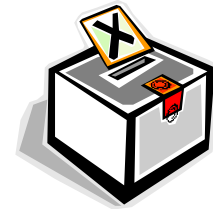
Thank You

Dorothy & Ken Hawk
214-244-4307



Voting Time!

Ballot 2009



February, 2009

The members of the nominating committee have communicated by email, and by phone, and are proposing a slate of officers to be elected at the July business meeting in Bowling Green, Ohio.

Ron Sliger after fulfilling the vacated term of the late Bill Buck, has agreed to serve another term as President, and Barbara Knutson agreed to do the same for the vacated Secretary position. Chuck Belba has decided not to let his name stand for another term as Vice President of Membership. Mary Costigan has agreed to replace him as Vice President of Membership, and Joe Costigan has agreed to put his name in nomination for Alt. National Director. We would like to thank Chuck and Ginny Belba for all they have done for the Club.

The Nominating Committee submits the Following slate of officers for the election coming up at the July 2009 business meeting.

President:	Ron Sliger
Vice- President Membership:	Mary Costigan
Alt. National Director:	Joe Costigan
Secretary:	Barbara Knutson

All nominees have been contacted regarding their responsibilities and have indicated a willingness to serve the Club.

As a reminder, if anyone wishes to nominate a candidate for any of the above offices, they may do so at the July Business Meeting. A motion from the floor, followed by a second and acceptance by the person nominated, will place that person on the ballot. Once the nominations are closed, the election will follow.

Each office will be voted on separately. If anyone is nominated for an open office and accepts the nomination, that person will be given a few minutes to address the membership regarding their qualifications and desire to serve the Club.

Since we meet only twice, each year and not all members of the committee are present at all meetings, it is difficult for us to communicate with all the members to the extent that we would like. We would invite anyone interested in serving the Club in any of the leadership positions, to please let members of the Nominating Committee know of your interest.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerry Dettter,

Chair, on behalf of the members of the Nominating Committee:





How to Survive a Heart Attack when Alone



You are really stressed and upset....

Suddenly you start experiencing **SEVERE PAIN** in your chest that starts to radiate out into your arm and up into your jaw.

You are only five miles from the hospital nearest your home.

Unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far.

What To Do???

You have been trained in CPR, but the guy that conducted the course did not tell you how to perform it on yourself!!!

Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack, without help, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing conscious

What to Do???

Answer

Do not panic, but start coughing repeatedly and very vigorously.

A deep breath should be taken before each cough, the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest.

A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let-up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.

Deep breaths get **oxygen** into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood **circulating**. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to a hospital

Article published on N.º 249 of Journal of General Hospital Rochester





Schedule 2009-10

Dates:	Event:	Location:
March 16-19, 2009	81st FMCA Int'l Convention	Perry, GA
March 21-26, 2009	Nat'l FCOC Rally	LazyDays, Seffner, FL
July 20-23, 2009	82nd FMCA Int'l Convention	Bowling Green, OH
July 24-29, 2009	Nat'l FCOC Rally	S & H Campground Greenfield, IN (note-only 125 spaces available)
March 22-25, 2010	83rd FMCA Int'l Convention	Albuquerque, NM
March 27-31, 2010	Nat'l FCOC Rally	Oasis RV Resort Amarillo, TX.
August 11-14 2010	84th FMCA Int'l Convention	Redmond, OR

Check the web site for the latest information on upcoming Rallies

<http://www.freightlinerchassisownersclub.org/>

Plan to Attend!

The FCOC Business Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 18 March 2009
from 5 to 6 pm in Seminar 2. (New South Arena)

New FCOC club logo "egg" ...



During the rally at Perry, and the rally at LazyDays, we will have Freightliner Chassis Owners Club "eggs" available for sale at \$20.00 each and KileyMold mounting brackets available at \$5.00/pair. We will also have information available for ordering Frame-Rite Ladder Mounts for \$17.50 plus \$5.00 shipping and handling. These plaques really look great and you will be proud to display one on your coach.

Don't forget !

Ladder mounting brackets are available at \$5.00/pair.



Bowling Green, Ohio

July 20 to 23, 2009

FMCA's 82nd International Convention

Bowling Green State University, Wood County Fairgrounds, and the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, will welcome members and guests to FMCA's 82nd International Convention.

This northwest Ohio town exemplifies the best of Americana, with a warm and friendly downtown business community and a vibrant, expansive university. The convention venue will give attendees close access to many events along the shores of Lake Erie. Some of the side trip possibilities:

- Motorhome manufacturing plants in Indiana
- Various attractions in Michigan
- Shopping in Ohio
- And everything in between

The focus will be on bringing the entire family to this mid-July event. There will be so much to offer Convention attendees at this location that you may need to spend the entire month in the Great Lakes region.



Historic Downtown Bowling Green, OH

note !

We need a new Caravan Leader

- By now everyone should know that Charlie Hoffstaffer retired following the FMCA's 80th International Convention at St. Paul MN.
- Do you enjoy going into the FMCA as a member of a caravan, parking together, sharing a few days with friends, and enjoying the social hours at the Freightliner Tent? Well, that may all be coming to an end if we don't have one or two Club members step forward and take over the invaluable job of Caravan Leader.
- Charlie has agreed to work with anyone who would like to replace him and he will provide the necessary information, points of contacts, methods, etc., to assist in the transfer of the responsibilities.

If you are interested, please contact Ron Sliger, President either by telephone at 321-704-0695 or by e-mail at rsligier@cfl.rr.com.

FCOC - Caravan into the Bowling Green, Ohio FMCA Convention

Caravan Organizers: Charlie and Ruth Hoffstatter
phone number: 888-218-0008
E-mail: folk oak@gmail.com

On Saturday, July 18th, 2009, *if we have a Caravan Leader*, we will be assembling at the Bowling Green High School grounds for our caravan into the FMCA Bowling Green Convention. We have use of the high school parking lot between the hours of 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM. There is to be **NO OVERNIGHT PARKING** allowed at the school. Our entry time slot into the FMCA Convention is 1:00 PM. Arrive at the High School at least by 11:00 AM so we can hand out the necessary materials. If you need to pick up FMCA entry credentials from the FMCA Will Call area come early so you can get your FMCA package and be back by 11:45 AM. At 12:15 PM we will have a short meeting to go over entry and caravan details. We will be leaving the High School grounds around 12:40 PM for our journey into the Convention.

- We will monitor CB channel 7 during our caravan travels.
- The high school address is 530 W. Poe Rd., Bowling Green, Ohio., 43402
- The directions to the high school are as follows:

Coming from the east or west on Hwy 6 go to Interstate 75 and head north to Exit 181. If coming from the south or north on Interstate 75 go to exit 181. From exit 181 go west 1.7 miles on East Wooster St (Hwy 64). At Main St. (Hwy 25) turn right and go north for 3/4 of a mile. Turn left onto W. Poe Rd. and continue 0.3 miles west on W. Poe Rd. The high school will be on your right. We will have signs near the high school to direct you to the parking area.

We will need a volunteer to be tail gunner with a cell phone. If you would like to do that please contact Charlie Hoffstatter on or before we meet on the 18th. Also some help will be needed at the high school in order to get everyone parked in preparation for the caravan.

CONTACT US IF YOU WILL BE GOING @ 512-567-1499 OR TOLL FREE 1-888-218-0008 OR AT OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS folk oak@gmail.com

Many thanks to Wendy Stram at the Bowling Green Convention and Visitors Center and the Bowling Green High School for allowing us to use their parking lot.

We will be looking for you there !!!

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.

The City of Bowling Green is going all out to welcome all FMCA members. There will be a mixer in the downtown area of Bowling Green on Sunday.

BG's Summer Bash – FMCA Welcome Event - Community Mixer Sunday, July 19th from 12 - 5 PM Downtown, Bowling Green.

BG invites you to their historic downtown, dine on picnic fare or in one of our restaurants, shop the sidewalk sales and retail stores. Visit vendor booths, and go on a historic walking tour or listen to live entertainment. You will be greeted by the Bowling Green Convention & Visitors Bureau and the friendly community of BG. For more information call the CVB at 800-866-0046 or visit our website at www.visitbgohio.org.





Back Home in Indiana

Registration Form

Mail Registration Deadline July 1st, 2009 or at FMCA Bowling Green Convention

FCOC Rally — July 24th to July 29th, 2009

S & H Campground

2573 W. 100 N.

Greenfield, Indiana. 46140



*There will be fun and games with great food and entertainment,
and a few interesting surprises.*

**FMCA # _____ (Have you updated the FCOC Database within the last three (3) months?
If not, please do so now.)**

Pilot: _____
Last Name First Name Nickname for Badge

Co-Pilot: _____
Last Name First Name Nickname for Badge

Will you have a guest(s) attending the rally? If so, name(s) and age: _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip Code _____

Primary Phone # _____ Other Phone # _____

E-mail Address: _____

(Registration Confirmation will be sent to the e-mail address above, otherwise it will be mailed.)

In order to recognize any special events in your life occurring during the month of July 2009, e.g.,
birthdays or anniversary, please indicate the event and the date:

Please specify any special meal requirements: _____

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

Ladies Tea: (Hats & Gloves acceptable) Yes ___ No ___ Can you help during the Rally? Yes ___ No ___

Mfg of Coach _____ Model _____ Length _____

Would you be interested in being a Rally Master or Assistant Rally Master for future Rallies? Yes ___ No ___

Please make your check payable to FCOC for **\$295.00**, add \$50.00 for each guest over the age of 14, and
mail to:

Rick Kennedy

Telephone: 410-353-6224

158 Rainbow Dr. #5878

Email: rickkennedy100@hotmail.com

Livingston, TX 77399

Date Received: _____ Confirmation Sent: _____

If you are arriving early or want to stay beyond the rally dates, you must contact S & H Campground (317)326-3208
The rate for early arrivals up to five (5) days and those who stay beyond the rally dates for up to five (5) days will be
\$30.00 per day.

For additional information call:

Ken Hawk 214-244-4307

Ed Laugher 513-373-2529

Ed Schinkle 513-708-5424



BACK HOME IN INDIANA

July 24th to July 29th 2009

On your mark,
get ready,
get set,

go to Greenfield Indiana, to S & H Campground !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



This is a rustic campground with down home atmosphere, built in the midst of cornfields. We will be having the usual seminars planned, plus a few surprises, (you don't want to miss this).

The Rally will have 4 full days of exciting things to do with something for everyone and tours galore. We will have breakfast, lunches, and dinners in no particular order, with dinner usually the last meal.

Greenfield is an old town with old time shops and attractions. Much time and money can be spent in Greenfield.

The campground offers, swimming, putt-putt golf for a fun contest, and even canoes or rowboats for races in the lake. For the fisherpersons, you can get a prize for the largest fish caught. No license required.

Entertainment every night with many unexpected venues, with much anticipated hilarity. There will be opportunities to win valuable?? prizes.

Now down to business. ~ From Bowling Green Oh. (FMCA) rally is 212 miles away, along some of the most beautiful country highways in the nation.

If you want to know more about the campground and what they have to offer as extras, log on to shCampground.com.

Your Rally Planners are: Ken & Dorothy Hawk, Ed & Jackie Laughner and Ed & Lois Shinkle. We can use all the help we can get. Please join us and have some fun. Watch for more details in the next Newsletter.

The registration fee is \$295.00. See the registration form on page 14 of this newsletter and on the web-site .

*Rick Kennedy Registrar,
158 Rainbow Dr #5878
Livingston, Texas 77399*



BACK HOME IN INDIANA



Rally Agenda (Tentative)

Friday July 24, 2009.....From 1:00... Welcome! Register

6:00 PMMeet & Greet

Hot Appetizers / Bring dish to share/ Beverage Provided

7:30 PMOpening Ceremonies

8:30 PMEntertainment

Saturday July 25, 2009 Technical Day

8:00 AMContinental Breakfast at the FCOC Tent.

9:00 AM(TBA).....Seminars

Freightliner, Michelin, Brake Switch, Window repair,

Dometic, Precision Electronics, Cummins, Cat,

State Police Presentation, Air Balance System

9:30 AMCrafts

12:00 PM..... Pictures / Officer Hot Dog Cook Out

2:30 PM.....Mfg's Round Table Discussions

2:15 PMLadies only Tea (Hats /Gloves acceptable)

5:00 to 6:00 PMMeet & Greet

Officers' receiving line at entrance of dining room

6:15 PMDinner

7:30 PMEntertainment

Sunday July 27, 2009

8:00 AMConversation & Coffee

9:00 AMFCOC Church Service

11:30 AMBrunch

1:00 PMTrip to Greenfield, In.

Free Time to investigate / on your own

5:00 PMMeet & Greet

6:00 PMDinner

7:00 PMEntertainment

8:00 PM Door Prizes

Monday July 28, 2009

8:00 AMConversation & Coffee

9:30 AMWhite Elephant Sale

12:00 PMLunch Provided



Monday July 28, 2009 (con't)

1:00 PMSpecial Tour
5:30 PMMore Meet & Greet
6:30 PMDinner
Entertainment to follow
8:30 PMPrizes

Tuesday July 29, 2009

8:00 AMFull Breakfast
9:30 AM Board Busses for Allison Corp Tour/ Indianapolis
Return to Campground for Dinner
8:30 PMPrizes

Wednesday July 30, 2009

Arrangements currently being made with Allison Corp for the tour

*** Beverages Provided at all social gatherings in S & H Park
*** Freightliner will have a tech team for working on coaches

Back Home in Indiana

For those of you that live in Indiana you are going back home. For those of us that are just visiting this fine state, well, we are going back home with the ones that live there. One way or another we are going to Indiana. Welcome home. July 24th to 29th leave on July 30th AM

The fourth quarter newsletter indicated that the distance from the FMCA convention in Bowling Green was 195 miles. Well, something moved, it now reads 212 miles away. That is OK because we have an extra day for travel to visit Indianapolis or just drive slower.

The rally is coming together and now we have too many things to do. We are going to have some fun and entertainment. There will also be time to entertain ourselves, that should be fun eh?? There are going to be some choices that you will have as options. For example, going to Indianapolis for a day and visiting the speedway, and many museums. Most of the other things we will do together.

The mail-in deadline for registration is July 1st, 2009. Registration will be open at the FMCA International Convention during the FCOC business meeting. At the FMCA International Convention we don't have to consider the time lag for Uncle Sam.

The area is beautiful, the park is great and we should have a lot of fun at this rally. All I can say, is drive safe and take care of each other.

See You There, Back Home in Indiana

Ken Hawk



Air Brakes and Maintenance

Owners should adhere to an overall maintenance schedule to keep their vehicle in top shape. The air brake system is a very important aspect of this schedule and should be tended to regularly.

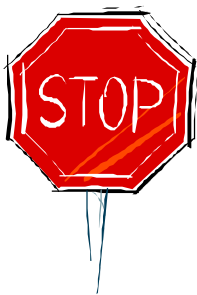
A common scenario: your air dryer was just serviced and a new filter and desiccant cartridge were installed and the owner's manual states you don't need this serviced for two more years. You feel like you're covered and don't need to think about those parts for a couple of years, right? Well, we are talking about mechanical devices here and yes, these handy contraptions don't always do what they were intended to do. See Murphy's Law.

The air dryer is intended to collect and remove air system contaminants before they enter the brake system. If your vehicle is equipped with "automatic drain valves", you might feel like you don't have to do anything because they're automatic and should do this collecting and ejecting for you. See Murphy's Law again.

You can manually drain your vehicle's air tanks to ensure everything is working properly by pulling on the lanyard cords. Now, we don't mean you should just walk over to them and pull them open until all of the air is depleted. You should inspect the valve area while lanyards are pulled, holding the drain valves open for 10-15 seconds, paying attention to what is coming out. Moisture is an indication that the dryer is not functioning properly. Signs of oil may indicate a compressor problem. You should not see any puddles or wet marks on the ground when done. If you do, have your vehicle inspected at an authorized Freightliner dealer. *(Please note the **very first time** you do this test there will be some moisture in the tank due to condensation, which is normal.)*

How often you should manually inspect the air tanks is debatable. At an absolute minimum, the air drain lanyards should be pulled every six months, but FCCC recommends doing it during every pre- or post-trip inspection. There is a slightly greater benefit in performing this test as part of the post-trip inspection, meaning after you first pull in to start your stay. Doing this upon your arrival will allow for time to schedule repairs if needed and plan your departure date, when you know your vehicle's air brake system is functioning properly. However, we urge you to perform this in your pre-trip inspection if your vehicle was parked for long a period of time. Then, inspect again at your next arrival.

Our goal is for maximized on-the-road safety and zero downtime. Maintaining your vehicle correctly is essential to keeping you running smoothly and safely.



Have You Oiled Your Batteries Lately?

For those of us that still have the wet cell batteries. Sealed and AGM this will not apply to.

This is an interesting subject I have been following in the web for a couple of years. The theory is that when charging your battery, hydrogen and oxygen gases working their way to the surface are slowed by the oil. When the bubble pop, less acid mist is given off. With less mist and fumes, the tops of the batteries stay dry and the causes of corrosion are far less than when all the gas and fumes get vented.

I tried this two years ago and this is what I have experienced to date. I added 4 ounces of mineral oil from my local drug store to each cell on all four of the coach batteries. I live in the desert Southwest and I was using about 2 gallons per year of distilled water to keep up with the evaporation due to charging and the low humidity. Since I added the oil this has dropped by over half, and the tops of the batteries stay clean and dry with the exception of road dust that does still accumulate. I do coat the battery posts, but even doing that in the past I would see some corrosion, but not anymore.

I still monitor the water level and top them off as before, keeping the water level about 1/8th inch below the stem sticking down in the cell. The water goes right through the oil with no problems.

As I stated, I used mineral oil from the drugstore. There are some commercial additives (oils) that are available out there for you to purchase. I have seen these at battery distributors in the last 6 months. One of the sites that offers this is <http://www.thermoilbatteries.com/>

So if anyone asks if you oiled your batteries lately you can say "not yet, but I'm thinking about it".

Steve Batorson

Do you know how to set your Clock On your Freightliner Computer display?

There are two different displays that you can have depending on when your chassis was built. One is MMDC and the other is LBCU.



If your display looks like this.

- 1 Turn On your ignition
- 2 If the words trip center are not on the screen hit the H button
- 3 When "Trip Center" is on the screen and highlighted press the T button
- 4 "Setup" should be on the screen now
- 5 Hit the T button until "Alarm and Time/Date" show up
- 6 Use down arrow to highlight the "Time/Date line".
- 7 Push and hold the E button until the "AM & PM" flash.
- 8 Use the up and down arrows to make your selections and then hit E to move to the next field until all are correct and at the end E will exit this mode and save the settings.

This procedure and the one below now on our website with pictures.

[http://www.freightlinerchassisownersclub.org/what%27s_new_copy\(1\).htm](http://www.freightlinerchassisownersclub.org/what%27s_new_copy(1).htm)

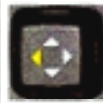
The second display on model starting in 2006 has the checklist that you can go through and a favorite list that shows the detailed steps. The setting procedures are on the next two pages and are also out

ite
on



YOU MUST GET ACCESS TO THE SET UP MENU, TO SET THE CLOCK. HERE IS HOW YOU GET TO THE SET UP MENU

From the "Favorite Display" and once the "Park Brake" is set:



Hold
3 sec

Highlight the set up line if not already highlighted.

SETUP
MAINTENANCE
DIAGNOSTICS



Press

Highlight the set time and date if not already highlighted

SET TIME AND DATE
CONFIGURE CHECKLIST
SELECT METRIC/ENGLISH



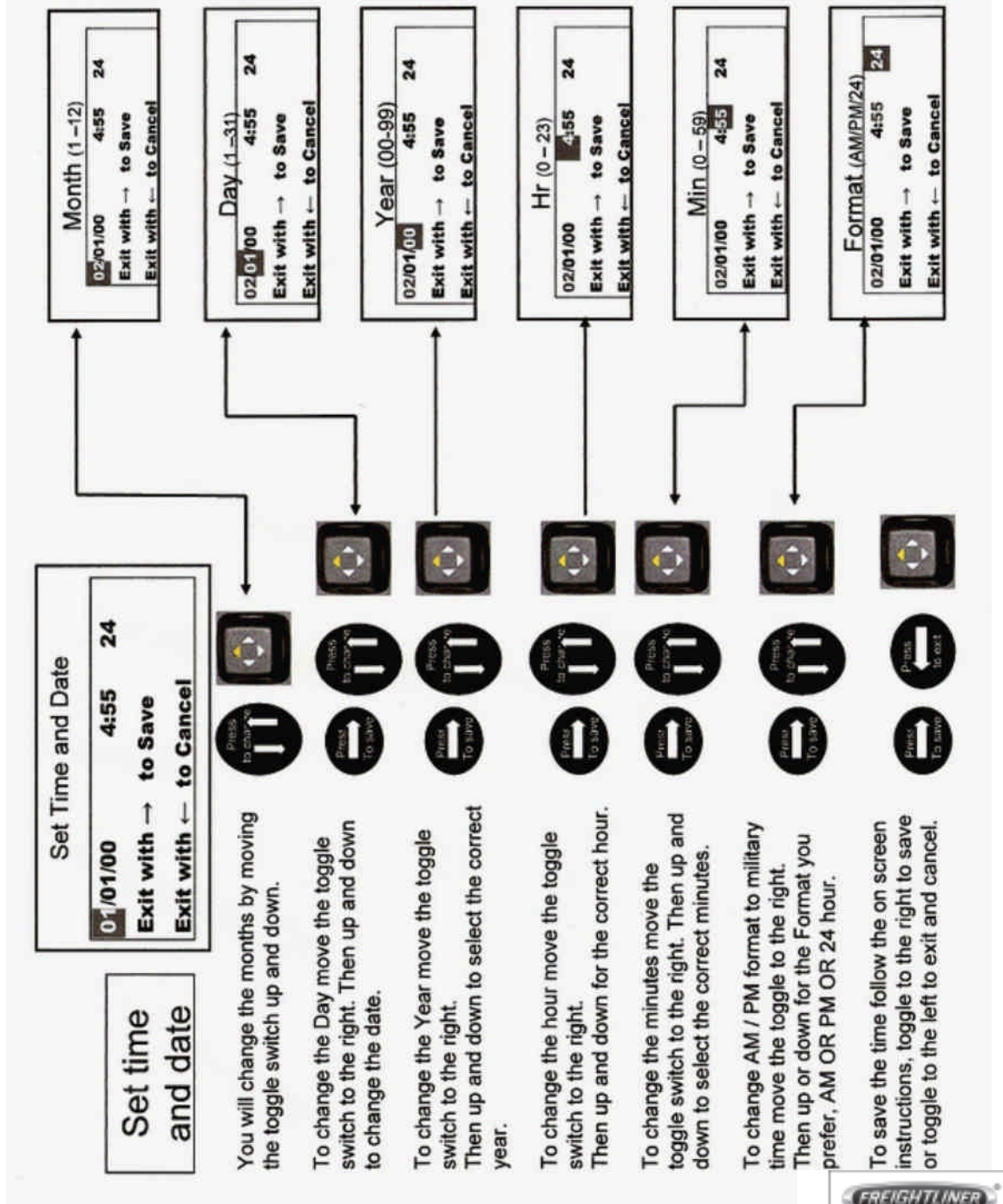
Use

to return to previous step

Now that you have this in the info screen. Use the toggle switch, press the toggle switch to the right and let go. Now the screen should show :

SET TIME AND DATE
CONFIGURE CHECK LIST
SELECT METRIC / ENGLISH

Use the Toggle switch press the toggle to the right and let go, this will take you to the set clock selections.





Needed!

- **Eastern Area** - EA- Coordinators:
Unassigned
- **Great Lakes** - GL- Coordinators:
Unassigned -
- **Midwest Area** - MW - Coordinators:
Paul & Shelly Roby
E-mail phaes5@hotmail.com
- **Northeast Area** - NE - Coordinators:
Bob & Dottie Horrigan
Phone # (774) 278-0584
E-mail bobdot.horrigan@verizon.net
- **Northwest Area** - NW - Coordinators:
Unassigned -
- **Rocky Mtn. Area** - RM - Coordinators:
Unassigned -
- **South Central Area** - SC - Coordinators:
Unassigned -
- **Southeastern Area** - SE - Coordinators:
Bob Smith
Phone # 828-829-6501
E-mail niceguy0250@att.net
- **Western Area** - WA - Coordinators:
Unassigned -

Area Coordinators for the Unassigned areas where you live. Contact: Bob Smith, email; niceguy0250@att.net
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**A Better Way To
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Exhaust Brake Management System

The Brake Switch is said to automate exhaust brakes in diesel-powered motor homes to a full-time "on" position. Since some exhaust brake systems do not work when the cruise control is activated, the increased stopping ability provided by the exhaust brake is not available when an emergency stopping situation occurs.

According to product literature, the Brake Switch works only when needed, allowing you to coast when you want to coast and to activate the exhaust brake when you desire. This provides the protection of the exhaust brake 100 percent of the time. Once installed, all that's required to activate the exhaust brake is a tap on the brake pedal. To deactivate the exhaust brake, simply push on the throttle and return to normal driving. The Brake Switch is available for \$79.95 plus shipping and handling. Be sure and identify yourself as an FMCA/FCOC member and receive a **25%** discount! For more information contact:

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

FCCC wants to hear from its Owners Club!

FCCC would like to hear from its Owners Club regarding positive experiences with their chassis. Do you have any unique travel stories that happened while riding on an FCCC chassis? Did you encounter any issues on the road that were handled well by FCCC customer support? Do you like the reliability, ride and handling, or durability of FCCC chassis? How did you become part of the FCOC? Testimonials can be emailed to Jennifer Edwards at jennifer.edwards@daimler.com. Please include your name and contact information. Testimonials will be posted on the FCCC Web site (<http://www.freightlinerchassis.com/mhMain.asp?page=testimonials>) and will potentially be distributed to RV media outlets. Additionally, any high-resolution photos from your travels or from FCOC rallies and events are welcome. FCCC would like to use these photos for promotional materials and FCOC literature.

And in Response ...

We are Ernest & Jane Clashman,
F214429 of Family Motor Coach Assoc. and the FCOC.

We left Indiana Jan. 3rd. heading for Florida. The first day Ernie noticed that the air pressure was not staying up as it should. When he went out to check and see if he could tell where there might be air leaking he noticed the left front tire had a wheel bearing seal leak.

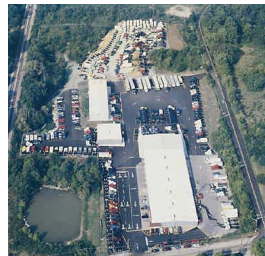
He called the Freightliner of Knoxville, TN and talked with Cheri Martin Service Advisor, Sunday morning. Ernie was told that she doubted that they would be able to work on our coach Sunday, but we should come on in and she would get a work order ready for Monday morning. We did go in Sunday afternoon. Cheri was professional and friendly. Gave us our number and told us to be in the work lot by 7 am Monday morning. We could stay in their lot overnight. She was sorry they do not have any hook ups for RVs, but there was security all night long. We did stay in the lot and were in the work lot before 7 am.

Ernie took the keys in and again Cheri was very pleasant. We did not wait long until Jerry came out and took our RV into the shop. His stall was very clean and neat. I also noticed his tool box was very neat and clean. Ernie explained our problem, Jerry asked questions and then took us to the office where Cheri took us to the RV family lounge. Jerry came to ask Ernie about some concerns he had about the repairs. Jerry was professional and courteous. He explained what he had done, made suggestions and listened to what Ernie had to say. Ernie ask to have the bad parts given to him and Jerry did bring them to us.

We felt the service was excellent and done in a reasonable amount of time. We thought the cost of the repairs were reasonable. We recommend Freightliner of Knoxville, Inc. to anyone needing service.

Sincerely,

Jane and Ernest Clashman
Middletown, IN
jeec40@hotmail.com



Freightliner of Knoxville TN Inc.

VP Membership
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Duarte, CA 91010

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If you are part of our **Freightliner Custom Chassis'** and want to see your company advertised on this full color back page of the *FCOC Freightliner Flyer*, contact *FCOC* at **321-704-0695**

**Give'um a
Call !**