

# Freightliner Chassis Owners Club

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



3rd Quarter, 2009

# Freightliner Flyer

[www.freightlinerchassisownersclub.org](http://www.freightlinerchassisownersclub.org)



Arial View FMCA  
82nd International  
Convention @ Bowl-  
ing Green OH



Happy Halloween !



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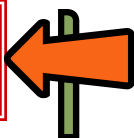
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**Note ! New Phone  
Number**



## ~ President's Message ~



To all of our FCOC friends,

This year, we have experienced some significant changes in our club and to our membership. We have a couple of programs in the works to benefit the membership, but the important event is the loss of three of our most valued members to business ventures that have required more and more of their time. The departure of these individuals, who are also friends, is difficult especially when they have made significant contributions over the years to the growth of our club and their departure deprives us of their continued experience in dealing with the details and problems associated with managing a club as large as FCOC.

I speak first of Ginny and Chuck Belba. Chuck and Ginny have been members of the club since the club was formed. Ginny was the Club Secretary until December 2004, and Chair of our Nominating Committee. Chuck was nominated to be our first Vice President, Membership at the April 2001 Business Meeting and confirmed at the October 2001 meeting in Hutchinson, KS. He filled that job continuously until he decided not to run for office again and submitted his resignation in August following the Greenfield Business Meeting. The other noteworthy individual is Tom James. Tom replaced Pete Palasota on 1 January 2006 and served as our Club Treasurer until his resignation in August. Managing the finances of our club is almost more than a full time job. Tom was the single source within FCOC for receipt, distribution and accounting of funds from multiple sources, paying all bills, being audited on an annual basis, and then submitting accurate tax returns to a state and the IRS. Tom quietly did his job with exceptional care and always made sure that our funds were handled in a proper manner.

The two programs I **briefly** mentioned **above** are "PayPal" which will enable our membership to renew their membership electronically, and to purchase certain items available only to club members. We are working on implementing PayPal and will provide more information as it becomes available. The other program is one that we, and specifically Tom James, have been working on for a number of years. Jonathan Randall announced at the Greenfield Business Meeting a new program launched on Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, the Oasis Discount Dealer Program, where our members will receive a discount on parts and service. Right now, we have 13 Oasis Dealers and hope to have more soon. You will find the list of the participating 13 Oasis Dealers elsewhere in this newsletter, together with some other sponsors on pages 6 and 23 that are actively supporting our club. Please remember them all, as they deserve our business.

There were some items raised during the Executive Board Meeting following the FCOC National Rally at the S&H Campground, that will require changes to both our Bylaws and Standing Rules, and are located elsewhere in this newsletter. There was also much discussion during this meeting regarding the decision to relocate the semi-annual business meeting from the FMCA International Convention to the FCOC National Rally following the FMCA. The initial decision was made based upon comments submitted by the membership in response to the FCOC Membership Rally Questionnaire contained in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2008 Freightliner Flyer. The Executive Board determined that we should continue having the Business Meeting during the FCOC National Rallies for the year 2010 (Amarillo and River Bend). After that, the program will be reviewed to determine if the Business Meeting should be returned to the location of the FMCA International Convention.

Last but certainly not least, I would like to thank all of you for having faith in my plans for the future of our club, and electing me as President at the FCOC National Rally, S&H Campground, Greenfield, IN.

President,

*Ron Sliger*





## Driven By You

*Dear FCOC Members,*

I hope you enjoyed your summer travels. It seemed this year was better than the last for many of us, after a significantly difficult period for the RV industry began this time a year ago. Gas prices were at an all-time high and the bottom fell out of the economy, creating hardships and challenges for all of us in the motorhome industry.

While we've since had our challenges and had to make difficult decisions as a company, FCCC is still going strong and continues to lead the industry with the widest breadth of product, highest-quality chassis, and most complete dealer network to support our many customers on the road.

We also enjoyed a strong turnout at the Bowling Green rally in Ohio, where FCCC won an award from the FMCA for Best Overall Display. And even though I was not able to be at the Greenfield FCOC rally, I understand it was a well-attended, highly successful event. Our service technicians and parts sales people continue to support you and other FCCC motorhome owners at these rallies and FCOC events.

Another huge success this summer was having our hybrid-electric ecoFRED chassis featured during the annual RV tour by the Herzog family, spokespeople for RVIA. They received national attention while driving around the country for two months on a Winnebago Adventurer Hybrid, powered by ecoFRED. We received nothing but great feedback from this tour and know more RVers now understand the benefits of alternative-fuel technology for their motorhomes.

As I mentioned last time, for those of you in the market for a new motorhome on a Freightliner chassis we recently launched a financing program with Daimler Truck Financial, another subsidiary of Daimler Trucks North America. Although the economy may be showing signs of life, RV financing is still somewhat difficult to secure and we hope this program will help first-time and returning buyers realize their dreams of owning a new coach.

As we begin the fall months, I hope to continue to see recovery in the economy, increased stability for the motorhome industry and better times ahead for all of us.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

*Bob Harbin*

President, Freightliner Custom Chassis



Driven By You

## From the Senior VP



Hello to all, I hope you had a enjoyable summer. Just a couple of subjects I would like to bring up. First our spring rally is set for March 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> at the Oasis RV Resort in Amarillo TX. following the FMCA National rally in Albuquerque, NM.

This is a very nicely furnished resort with all our sights being long level cement pull thrus with cement patios and blacktop roads through-out. All hook-ups will be 50 amp service with water and sewer.

We haven't picked a theme prior to this newsletter publishing, however have some good ideas coming together and I will have everything in the last quarter of 2009 newsletter and on the website for all to view. Barb and Lee Knutson have signed on as the assistant rally masters and we are looking into some interesting things to do while attending the rally for all of us to experience and enjoy.

Second as some of you are traveling around the country and your addresses change, please update your Keeping in Touch address so we don't get "not deliverable" returns of the newsletter. This can be done as often as you move so that your newsletter can come to your current address.

**Note!**

### RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP USING **PayPal**

Freightliner Chassis Owners Club is proud to announce that members can now renew their membership using PayPal.

If you go to our website, <http://www.freightlinerchassisownersclub.org>, and highlight the membership button, it will direct you to "FCOC Dues" where you can either pay by check, or highlight the PayPal button and pay with PayPal account. If you don't have a PayPal account, it is very easy to sign up for one by using one of your major credit cards. By doing so, you can fill in the Membership Application, which can be filled in on your computer, give us the Subscription number that you receive when paying by PayPal and email to Mary Costigan, Acting VP Membership at [mary.costigan@yahoo.com](mailto:mary.costigan@yahoo.com). Your membership will be processed quicker, and you will receive our new FCOC Membership Card, which you can use at participating Oasis Dealers for parts and labor discounts. Your card will also be good for receiving employee discounts at all Daimler/Chrysler dealers for a new vehicle. Why wait, if your membership is coming up in the next couple of months, receive your new membership cards, and start using it for major discounts. One visit to your Oasis dealer will more than pay for your membership.



#### **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.

## Freightliner Oasis Dealer Discount Program

At the Greenfield, IN Business Meeting, Jonathan Randall, Director of Sales & Marketing, FCCC, told us about the new program that launched on July 27, the Oasis Discount Dealer program. This program will provide FCOC members a discount on parts being required during a service visit and the labor for the service as well. The following Oasis Dealers have signed up for the program:



Baltimore Freightliner, Baltimore, Maryland  
Dallas Freightliner & Western Star, Dallas Texas \*\*  
Delta Truck Center, French Camp, California  
Ft. Worth Freightliner, Sterling & Western Star, Ft. Worth, Texas \*\*  
Fyda Freightliner Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
Ocala Freightliner, Ocala, Florida  
Orlando Freightliner, Apopka, Florida  
Oklahoma City Freightliner & Western Star, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma \*\*  
River States Truck & Trailer, LaCrosse, Wisconsin  
Truck Centers, Inc., Troy, Illinois \*\*  
Truck Country of Wisconsin, Kaukauna, Wisconsin \*\*  
Truck Country Quad Cities, Davenport, Iowa \*\*  
Tulsa Freightliner, Sterling & Western Star \*\*

We encourage you to patronize these Freightliner Dealers. The (\*\*) indicates the dealership also who advertises in our newsletter.



# Check it Out!

Building on the strength of our proven track record of innovation, FCCC is once again breaking new ground in the RV industry. The ecoFRED hybrid-electric chassis is the very first of its kind in the motorhome market.

Check out the chassis parameters by going to [www.freightlinchassis.com](http://www.freightlinchassis.com), click on motorhome and review the ecoFRED chassis flyer.





## Schedule 2010

<i>Dates:</i>	<i>Event:</i>	<i>Location:</i>
January 20-24, 2010	<i>INTO</i> Area Rally	Quartzsite, AZ
March 22-25, 2010	83rd FMCA Int'l Convention	Albuquerque, NM
March 27-31, 2010	Nat'l <i>FCOC</i> Rally	Oasis RV Resort Amarillo, TX.
August 11-14, 2010	84th FMCA Int'l Convention	Redmond, OR
August 15-19, 2010	Nat'l <i>FCOC</i> Rally	River Bend Resort Harrisburg, OR

**Plan to Attend!**

Check the web site for the latest information on upcoming Rallies  
<http://www.freightlinerchassisownersclub.org/>



**TAKE NOTE! You Choose ...**

### **DO WE WANT TO CHANGE OUR WEB PAGE NAME?**

Lately we have received a number of comments indicating that our website name ([www.Freightlinerchassisownersclub.org](http://www.Freightlinerchassisownersclub.org)) is just too long and can easily be mistyped. Some of the suggested changes were: [www.fcocrv.org](http://www.fcocrv.org), and [www.fcocrvclub.org](http://www.fcocrvclub.org). What are your thoughts on the matter? Send you comments/recommendations/etc by Monday, 16 November 2009 to [President@freightlinerchassisownersclub.org](mailto:President@freightlinerchassisownersclub.org). The results will be tabulated and published in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Freightliner Flyer.

1. [www.fcocrv.org](http://www.fcocrv.org)

or

2. [www.fcocrvclub.org](http://www.fcocrvclub.org)

or

3. Or \_\_\_\_\_ make a suggestion and email to:  
[President@freightlinerchassisownersclub.org](mailto:President@freightlinerchassisownersclub.org)

# FMCA CORNER

Governing Board Meeting, Bowling Green, Ohio  
July 20, 2009



The meeting opened at 9 a.m., and the attendance was taken. Four hundred sixteen out of 501 National Directors, Alternate National Directors and temporary delegates were seated. FMCA President Connie Pool gave the official coach count for the Bowling Green Bash which was 2,725 coaches. That figure included 2,426 family member coaches and 299 commercial coaches. Throughout the long day, some eleven and one-half hours, many items were discussed. I will try to highlight them for you.

The budget was the biggest item. Treasurer Doug Key reported that FMCA investments had gained \$768,000 in the second quarter but our year-to-date net loss after investments is \$907,000. The year-to-date net loss from operations is \$497,000 based on absence of revenue. Doug estimates the loss for 2009 will be \$1,600,000. Doug indicated that after labor costs and magazine printing/distribution, MEDEX is the most expensive program FMCA has representing an annual expense of \$519,000 for 2008 and 2009. He presented the proposed 2010 budget which had been previously approved by the FMCA Executive Board, eliminating the MEDEX program. After much discussion the Governing Board passed an amendment that FMCA fund the MEDEX program for 2010 per the two-year contract out of cash reserves.

The mail forwarding service will increase from \$5 to \$10 per month per user. The International Convention family coach registration fee will be increased by \$15. There will be an increase for registration through the national office for Area Rallies from \$1 to \$3 per family coach. The road atlas for new members will be discontinued for 2010. Educational programs—CPR/AED, Safe Driving, and coach weighing will be discontinued at Area Rallies. All magazine advertising sales have been brought in-house. The travel budget was reduced to the IRS auto rate for the Executive Board and staff. Travel and living expenses were reduced for the President and national officers by 50% for 2009 and 2010. The staff in Cincinnati was decreased, salaries reduced by 10% and the 401K company match was discontinued 3-1-2009. With all of these actions, the approved 2010 budget will result in a nearly \$800,000 deficit budget.

A motion was passed that "in each fiscal year, a Chapter shall hold at least one business meeting at which a quorum is present. Said meeting shall be duly announced in advance to the membership."

A Life Membership was given to Max and Joanne Durbin for their many years of service to FMCA. Joanne is our present FMCA National Secretary.

Our newly elected FMCA national officers are: President-Charlie Schrenkel, Sr. Vice President-Judy Czarsty, Secretary-Joanne Durbin, and Treasurer-Wilburn Young.

Respectfully submitted, Roy Hopper, National Director



# Minutes of

## Freightliner Chassis Owners Club Business Meeting Greenfield, Indiana – July 26, 2009

President Ron Sliger called the meeting to order at 4:10p.m. There were approximately 105 members in attendance. President Sliger asked Ken Hawk to give the invocation. Ken also asked for a moment of silence for member Ted Ford, who passed away unexpectedly at the FMCA at Bowling Green. President Sliger led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

All First time attendees, Veterans, Rally Master, Assistant Rally Masters and Volunteers were asked to stand and be recognized.

President Sliger introduced the Officers present, Senior Vice President - Steve Batorson, Secretary - Barbara Knutson, Treasurer - Tom James/Rick Kennedy, Vice President Webmaster - Rick Kennedy, Vice President Area Operations West - Katherine Henley, National Director - Roy Hopper and Alternate National Director - Mary Costigan. He also, introduced our new Parliamentarian- Joe Costigan.

Jonathan Randall, Director of Sales & Marketing, FCCC., talked about how the Company is doing. Things have slowed down, in the RV business, but the School Bus work is keeping them going. They are still in the black. He also talked about the new Electric Chassis that President Obama's people will be trying out.

He also told us about the new program to launch on Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, the Oasis Discount Dealer program where we will get a discount on parts and service. Right now we have 13 Oasis Dealers and hope to have more soon. The Freightliner people that were at the rally were, Jonathan Randall, Scott Lucas, Joe Patterson, Tommy and Pat Smith, Bob and Becky Mango, Rommy Campbell and Dean Brazo.

President Sliger, introduced Sonny Gillespie, FMCA Vice President of the International Area and his wife Carol. Sonny talked about the International Rally that will be held January 20-24, 2010 at Quartzsite, Arizona. He talked about the new Officers for FMCA. President Sliger, introduced Col. Mark Hughes,

Wing Commander, Indiana Civil Air Patrol. Col. Hughes will be available for questions after the meeting. President Sliger then made a Motion that Roberts Rules be suspended for the rest of the meeting. The motion was seconded. Discussion followed and the motion was voted down, so the meeting was run with Roberts Rules. To make the meeting run smoother President Sliger asked the members to please wait to be recognized before speaking and please state your name when making a motion.

Minutes of the Perry, Georgia meeting was published in the Second Quarter Newsletter. President Sliger asked that the reading of the minutes be waived. A motion was made and seconded, there being no further discussion and no corrections that the minutes are accepted as published.

Tom James the outgoing Treasurer read the report on the Lazy Days Rally. The report will be included with the minutes. The report was accepted as written. We did have a Net Gain of \$1,076.62. We had 140 coaches in attendance. Ron thanked Tom for all his hard work, during his tenure as treasurer. A Motion was made by Ed Shinkle and seconded by Dave Barr to accept the Lazy Days Report from the Treasurer.

Steve Batorson gave his report on Article V - Chapter Officer Travel Expenses. Some members had concerns as to whether the meeting we had in August of 2006 was a legal meeting. Steve, talked with many members and got conflicting answers, so he went outside of the club to get an answer. He contacted two Congresswomen, one currently serving and one retired and both expert and experienced parliamentarians to review the issues concerning the Business Meeting held in August 2006 and the following of Roberts Rules. As Chairperson of the Review Committee, with the information from the experts reviewing the documentation, Senior Vice President Steve Batorson recommended that the membership accept Article V as written and include Article V in the approved Standing Rules of the club. A motion from Steve Batorson was made to accept Article V of the Standing Rules - Reimbursement of Club Officers. This was a committee recommendation and no need for a second. Discussion followed and the motion was accepted.



Continued



Vice President Area Operations-West, Katherine Henley, said she is hoping to hold a Rally before the FMCA Rally for the Rocky Mountain Area. Information will be published on the web and E-blast will be going out. Looking for people to be Rally Master in the West Area. Tom James, is trying to put a Rally together for California. Katherine will work with anyone who is willing to do a Rally. She explained that the Rally Master does not pay for the Rally.

Rick Kennedy, Vice President Webmaster said that about 700 e-mails were returned, from a recent mailing to all FCOC members, indicating we need to update our e-mail addresses. Anyone who wishes to give Rick a new/current e-mail address can contact him at

[rickkennedy100@hotmail.com](mailto:rickkennedy100@hotmail.com). He also, said that your spam filter can keep e-mail out and you should put [admin@fcocnews.com](mailto:admin@fcocnews.com) in your address book.

Roy Hopper, National Director gave the official coach count at Bowling Green Bash as 2,426 family coaches and 299 commercial coaches. Treasurer Doug Key, indicated that FMCA suffered a major loss of over \$3.1 million dollars in 2008 and for 2009 we are facing a projected loss of \$1.6 million. This is due to a loss of 21% of membership since 2004, and rally attendance being down etc. New FMCA National Officers were elected at Bowling Green, Ohio - President -Charlie Schrenkel, Senior Vice President - Judy Czarsty, Secretary -Joanne Durbin and Treasurer - William Young. Area vice Presidents are Midwest Area - Al Talbott, Northeast Area - Paul DuBois, -Rocky Mountain Area - Allen Rein,- South Central Area - Fred Kennedy and Southeast Area - Tom Eller. A motion was passed in FMCA that in each fiscal year a Chapter shall hold at least one business meeting at which a quorum is present. Meeting shall be duly announced in advance. FMCA did not want to renew the contract for MEDEX, but it was voted down.

Vice President Communication Steve Batorson talked about newsletters coming back and how much it cost us. You can go on to the website and get your newsletter downloaded. It will save us money and you get it earlier. We will be having a post rally after the Albuquerque FMCA rally in Amarillo, Texas at the Oasis Rv Resort. All sights have concrete pads and 50amp service. There are no trees, but we will water down twice a day to keep the dust down. We can hold 95 coaches, so get your reservation in early. Steve and Kim Batorson are Rally Masters and Barb and Lee Knutson are Assistant Rally Masters. In August we will be going to the River Bend Resort in Harrisburg, Or. Steve gave the results of the survey and they are published in the second Quarter. The Nominating Chairperson Gerry DeHeer was not able to attend the Rally so Barbara Knutson, member of the committee read the report. The report was also in the Second Quarter newsletter. The Nominating Committee submitted the following slate of officers. President - Ron Sliger, Vice President Membership - Mary Costigan, Vice President. Webmaster - Rick Kennedy, Vice President Area Operations - West - Katherine Henley, Alternate National Director - Joe Costigan and Secretary - Barbara Knutson. There were no nominations for any of the positions from the floor. Motion was made by Dave Barr and seconded by Lois Knuth to accept the slate of officers as presented. The motion passed.

We need three members to do our audit. Please see Rick Kennedy after the meeting if you wish to help with the Audit.

Mary Costigan talked about the shirts that we are selling and after they are gone, we will not order anymore. Please see her after the meeting if you wish to buy a shirt.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bill Campbell and Seconded by Dave Barr. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20p.m. The next business meeting will be held at the Oasis RV Resort in Amarillo, TX.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Barbara A. Knutson*

## AT the "Bowling Green Bash"



& Under the FCOC Tent !



## More from Bowling Green, Under the FCOC Tent !



Look, we just got a FCOC Logo for our coach.



After the 82nd FMCA International Convention it's ON to S&H Campground For "Back Home in Indiana" With FCOC...



Rally Master & Ass't Rally Master , Ken & Dorothy Hawk and ED & Lois Shinkle



Tour to Allison

Tour to Indy Speedway



Allison Transmission Test Drive Fleet



Entrance to Indianapolis Speedway

## Tour @ Allison Transmission and Test driving



I can drive...

FCCC Service Truck

Ken's

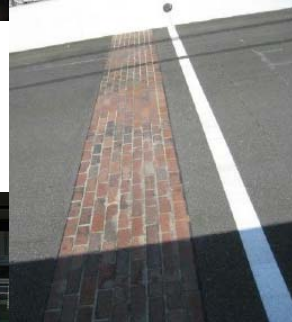
Dinner together @ the Rally !



Good Company !



Touring the "BrickYard" !



Entertainment & Straight Jacket ?



# Tea for TWO and More!



# Answers from RVIA: Split Model Years

The Recreation Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA) has recently published a document entitled "Q & A's on Split Model Years for Motorhomes." As the title infers, it relates to questions that can arise regarding the chassis manufacturer's model year and the model year assigned to the completed motor home by the final stage motor home manufacturer. Below is the original memo from the RVIA for your reference and information.



## Q & A's on Split Model Years for Motorhomes

### ***How is the manufacturing of motorhomes different from cars?***

Motorhomes are "multi-stage vehicles." This means that, unlike cars, they generally are built in two separate stages by two different manufacturers.

### ***How is motorhome manufacturing divided into different stages?***

The first-stage manufacturer, also called the "incomplete vehicle manufacturer," assembles the motorhome chassis. This typically includes such components as the chassis frame, engine, fuel system, transmission, drive train, suspension, wheels, brakes and vehicular electrical system. These "incomplete vehicles" are then sold by the chassis manufacturer to final stage motorhome manufacturers, also called "completed vehicle manufacturers." The motorhome manufacturers take the chassis and build the coach body, all of the "household" systems, install the appliances, cabinets, furnishings, plumbing, lighting fixtures and a multitude of various amenities, resulting in a completed vehicle.

### ***How do first stage manufacturers identify their vehicles?***

According to federal law, at 49 CFR 565. 13(a), a vehicle manufactured in more than one stage must have a Vehicle Identification Number ("VIN") assigned to it by the incomplete vehicle manufacturer. One character position in the VIN sequence identifies the model year of the incomplete vehicle. Once it is assigned, this VIN stays with the incomplete vehicle when it is sold to the motorhome manufacturer. The incomplete vehicle manufacturer may also ship the chassis with a "Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin ("MCO"). This MCO document provides information about each particular chassis.

### ***How do final stage manufactures identify their vehicles?***

Final stage motorhome manufacturers continue to use the VIN assigned by the incomplete vehicle manufacturer. Motorhome manufacturers also provide MCO documents with their motorhomes when they are shipped to dealers. The model year of the completed motorhome, which is determined by the motorhome manufacturer, appears on this MCO document.

### ***Why do some chassis have a different model year than the completed motorhome?***

An incomplete vehicle chassis is manufactured before a completed motorhome is built on it. Motorhome manufacturers may buy hundreds, even thousands, of chassis each year. Because of variations in advance purchases of incomplete vehicle chassis, the flow of new product orders, market conditions and new model roll-outs, the model year of the incomplete vehicle chassis is frequently different from the model year of the completed motorhome.





## ***Q & A's on Split Model Years for Motorhomes (continued)***

### ***What are some examples of model year difference?***

A group of fifty chassis could be built at the end of a calendar year and assigned that year's model year by the incomplete vehicle manufacturer. A few weeks later, those chassis could be sold to a motorhome manufacturer. The motorhome manufacturer may use half of them to finish production of one motorhome make, assigning those motorhomes the motorhome manufacturer's current model year on their final MCO's. These completed motorhomes would have a model year one year greater than the model year of the chassis. The motorhome manufacturer may later use the other half of the chassis in manufacturing a new motorhome design, assigning those motorhomes the next model year. As a result, their final MCO's would have a model year designation that is two years greater than the chassis model year. In another example, a chassis manufacturer may decide to skip a model year entirely and designate its chassis one year ahead of the then current calendar year. This could result in motorhomes having a model year one year less than the chassis model year.

### ***Who decides what the "official" model year of the vehicle is?***

The final stage motorhome manufacturer has authority to designate on the completed vehicle MCO the model year of the completed motorhome. See Federal Trade Commission Staff Opinion (March 5, 2001).

### ***Is it permissible to have different model years for the chassis and completed motorhome?***

Yes, it is permissible. The United States Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") has directly addressed this very issue and determined in a formal staff opinion that it is NOT an unfair or deceptive trade practice for the completed motorhome and its chassis to have different model years. In recognition of the fact that the final stage motorhome manufacturer has the authority to designate the model year for motorhomes, the FTC has stated that the incomplete vehicle chassis manufacturer may use the phrase, "Model Year - Not Applicable" on the MCO's for the incomplete vehicles it sends to final stage motorhome manufacturers, if it so chooses. See Federal Trade Commission Staff Opinion (March 5, 2001).

### ***Is the motorhome manufacturer required to disclose the difference between the model year of the incomplete vehicle and the model year of the incomplete chassis?***

No. However, four states (California, Maryland, Michigan and Wisconsin) require dealers to inform purchasers of multi-stage vehicles of the difference between the model year of the incomplete vehicle chassis and the model year of the final stage motorhome.

### ***What information is used by state DMV offices to register motorhomes?***

When a consumer has a new motorhome registered for the first time, the state DMV will use both the VIN assigned by the incomplete vehicle manufacturer and the model year and make assigned by the final stage motorhome manufacturer for the vehicle registration. All states should title motorhomes using the model year assigned by the final stage motorhome manufacturer.

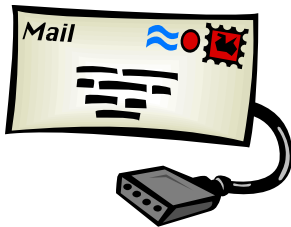
***What should I do if a state DMV registers a new motorhome with the chassis model year?*** If a DMV employee insists on using the incomplete chassis model year, please call the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association at 703-620-6003 for assistance. Ask for the Government Affairs Department.



# Order Form

(see top of page 23)

FCOC Logo Shirts and Eggs				
SHIP TO:	Item	Qty	Price Each	Total
FMCA #	Logo Shirt (SM)		\$ 15.00	
Name	Logo Shirt (M)		\$ 15.00	
Address	Logo Shirt (L)		\$ 15.00	
City ST Zip	Logo Shirt (XL)		\$ 15.00	
Check #	Logo Shirt (XXL)		\$ 17.00	
Checks payable to: <b>"FCOC"</b> and send check to: FCOC, c/o Mary Costigan, Logo Merchandise 1905 Victoria Farms Road, #340 Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404 Cell: (951) 452-2999 E-Mail: mary.costigan@yahoo.com	FCOC Logo Egg		\$ 20.00	
	Ladder Bracket		\$ 5.00	
	3X Not Available			
	Total # of Items			
			Sub-Total	
			Shipping	
			Order Total	
Shipping Charges	1 Item \$5.00 USD			
	2 - 6 Items \$11.00 USD			
	6 + Items \$14.00 USD			
<b>TOTALS IN US DOLLARS</b> <b>Thank you for your order!</b>				



## ARE YOU GETTING YOUR MAIL



Approximately a year ago we started a program that allows us to send emails to all FCOC members. We have tried to limit the number of messages sent out so that they do not become annoying or viewed as spam.

We have limited the emails to items such as information about upcoming rallies, reminding members about expiring memberships, and requesting volunteers during the FMCA Conventions, etc. Most, recently we sent notices out to members announcing the Oasis Dealer Discount program that is mentioned on page XX of this newsletter.

While the emails are reaching a number of our members, we think that a number of members may not be getting these notices.

If you did not receive the Oasis Dealer Discount notice that went out at the end of July 2009, there are a couple of things that you can do to hopefully make sure you receive future emails.

First, if you have changed your email address since you last renewed your membership, go to the Keeping in Touch section of the Freightliner Chassis Owners Club website, <http://my.freightlinerchassisownersclub.org>, to make sure we have your current email address.

If your email address is correct, there is the possibility that for some reason your email server or your computer security program is blocking the incoming email. One possible step would be to update your email address book. Since all of our messages are sent from the same email address, [admin@fcocnews.com](mailto:admin@fcocnews.com), adding this address to your address book may correct the problem. Also, if your email program gives you the option to identify an address as a "trusted" sender doing that will increase the likelihood of receiving email from FCOC.

If you have any comments on the above, or the FCOC website please let me know at [webmaster@freightlinerchassisownersclub.org](mailto:webmaster@freightlinerchassisownersclub.org).

## Hub Tool

For those with Aluminum Wheels

Tired of scratching up your hub and the "spinner" when you try to remove the hub to wash and wax your rims? Here is a cool tool to make the job easier.



The Hub Tool is only sold at the Gaffney Service Center for \$10.00 plus shipping, or at rallies for \$10.00. There is no part number for the Hub Tool.

Items of interest from

## RV D@ily Report

### Sunny skies bring consumers to Pennsylvania RV Show

(Sept. 18, 2009) -- Philadelphia radio station KYW 1060 reported that dealers were seeing a rebound in sales, especially of lightweight models and pop-up campers. Camping World's Jodi Arsic told WHTM-TV, "We did real well yesterday. We had a great first day -- the best we've had since 1993."



### Full-time RVers opt for cheap and friendly

(Sept. 18, 2009) -- With housing now costing hundreds of thousands of dollars, people are turning to RV life as an affordable option. RVs can be bought second-hand for less than \$10,000 and pad rental is typically less than \$500 a month, including electricity, sewer and water services. The lifestyle also offers the freedom to pick up and go whenever and wherever a person wants.

## Tech Note!

### *Storage of Service Parts*

FCCC believes it's a good idea for RV owners to carry essential spare parts with them during their travels. Carrying spare parts ensures you will have the correct filters or belts when getting your coach serviced, and also assists during emergency situations such as water in the fuel, a belt breakage, etc. Vacation time is precious and having a spare part could possibly help salvage an otherwise doomed trip.

Here is a list of spare parts that FCCC suggests carrying with you in your RV:

1. Fuel filter
2. Fuel water separator
3. Serpentine belt
4. V-belt (Caterpillar engines) for the water pump belt
5. V-belt (Cummins pre-EGR engines) for the air conditioner belt

Knowing which parts to carry is important, but knowing how to store them is essential. All parts have a shelf life and protecting them from contaminants will extend the life of the part for months, or even years. One way to do this is by using vacuum-sealing machines. These range in price from \$50 to \$100 and are available at most retail outlets. Vacuum sealing your new parts in plastic will pull the air out, keeping them free of moisture and dirt.

If you do not have a vacuum sealing machine, they sell a Ziploc® system and space saver bags you can put items in and use your vacuum cleaner hose to seal. This does not pull as strong as vacuum-sealing machines and sometimes the seal is tricky to complete, but it still pulls most of the air out of the bag.

As most filters have a metal screen inside, vacuum sealing will prevent the metal from rusting. Belts can also be preserved in this manner. Sealing the belt in a vacuum bag can extend the life of the belt for up to 10 years. The sealed bag will keep air, moisture and ozone out, significantly reducing the possibility of deterioration. Another way to increase the life of your spare parts is to protect them from exposure to heat, extreme cold or open flame.

One helpful hint is to cut the plastic sealing bag a little longer than you need the first time around so you can keep resealing the same bag every time you replace the part.

Storage space could be an issue you may face when carrying spare parts in your RV. Here are a few suggestions of potential storage areas:

1. Under the fold-away table cabinets
2. In the back of a closet, or even hanging from a hanger by clips
3. Under the kitchen sink
4. The bottom of a drawer and lay clothes or blankets on top

If you are still concerned about the parts going bad, simply rotate them out at every service. This will ensure that if you do need them in an emergency, they are just as reliable as if you just purchased them from a dealer.

**WHEN ORDERING PARTS FROM THE FREIGHTLINER TRAILER OR A FREIGHTLINER DEALER, ALWAYS HAVE YOUR VIN NUMBER AVAILABLE TO ENSURE THAT YOU RECEIVE THE CORRECT PART(S) FOR YOUR RV.**

## *Spiritual Leaders Comments*



Good Afternoon fellow Fcoc'ers

This note is from Ken & Dorothy Hawk the Spiritual Leaders for FCOC.

We had many blessings offered to us at this rally and the preparation of the food was an answer to our prayers. If you missed the Indiana Rally, you missed a good one. The food was catered for us by the chief chef of the Conrad Hilton Hotel Restaurant in Indianapolis, and was outstanding. Beside the excellent mix of Chicken, Fish, and Prime Rib, we also had a special treat that he serves at the Hotel restaurant. This may surprise you but it was absolutely the best we could ask for.. Macaroni and cheese and large chunks of Lobster, mixed in.

Yes, Lobster and it was a special treat that only he (Troy) serves at his restaurant.

The Sunday Church service was planned to have a visiting pastor of the campground. He was to be there at 9:00 AM. And we were all gathered in the meeting room and guess what?? He did not show up. I felt sorry for him and hoped that he did not have a wreck or something. It was decided that I would give the service of the day. It was a mountaintop experience for me as I have never done this before. It seemed like everyone enjoyed the message and I was proud to be in that service.

The subject of my message was "Hope" and "Be Prepared." The Hope was to be prepared for the next thing that comes with going home to our Lord. Maybe some might remember the story of "Keep the Fork" in a Flyer a few years ago. It goes like this. Dorothy's grandmother always said she wanted to keep her fork after dinner because she knew there was something better to come. Usually a great sweet desert. I told that story and related it to the hope we should have and also that we should be prepared to meet our Savior. And that will be the better things to come. Before Grandma passed she always asked that she wanted her fork in her casket because she there was better things to come. I ended the message with a prayer for all of us and to remember to always "Keep your Fork."

After the church service, we had some gospel music played by our entertainers, Tex & Mary Schultz and the first song they played was a song called "Keep your fork." Everybody had goose bumps and so did I to have a complete service for our members. I hope all that attended enjoyed themselves.

Over the last Month or so I have visited with the folks listed in the last newsletter that needed special prayers. I am happy to report that the 2 ladies that lost their mate are doing reasonably well. No matter what, it is difficult to adjust but, all we can say is to keep the faith and use the power of prayer to help you understand. If you need anything from either Dorothy or me, give us the opportunity to talk to you.

Also over the last month I have received reports that Donna Samuels is recovering well and of course trying to do too much. Julia Robertson had surgery and found that her tumor was benign and we all are thankful for that. Ed and Jackie's Son is also recovering well. He is progressing a lot faster than the doctors expected, so again we have the entire family in our prayers.

### **Special Prayer requests..**

We had two or our members pass away since the last letter.

#1 Teddy Ford, passed away at the Bowling Green FMCA Rally. Ted was the Past President of the gulf-streamers motor home club. Wife: Helene Ford 161 Rainbow Dr. #6172 Livingston, TX 77399 (303-916-8270

#2 G.A. Schaefer, passed away Sept 14<sup>th</sup> and also will be missed by a lot of us. Please pray for the wives of those men that they may receive special strength from our Lord. Wife: Mary Sue Schaefer P.O.Box #313 Chrystal City, MO.63019 636-937-9025

Brenda Sliger went into the hospital for hip replacement the week of Sept 14<sup>th</sup>.

Bob Tomme is going into the hospital on November 18 for two knee replacements. Again include them in your prayers for a speedy recovery.

**May God bless all of you in your travels**

Dorothy & I thank for your support,  
*Dorothy & Ken Hawk*



# FMCA International Area INTO

## *ARE YOU 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.



**The Rally is scheduled for January 20-24, 2010!**

*Plan to be there!*

### **FCOC Asked Again to Provide Security at INTO Rally**

Sonny Gillespie, our FMCA International Vice President, asked FCOC once again to provide Security at the "Back to Basics" INTO Rally in Quartzite, AZ, January 20-24, 2010.

He was so impressed with our Security handling at the last INTO Rally in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, that he asked Joe and Mary Costigan to again be in charge. After registering for the INTO Rally, those who are interested in volunteering should contact the Costigans at [mary.costigan@yahoo.com](mailto:mary.costigan@yahoo.com).



## Needed!

Area Coordinators for the unassigned areas  
where you live.

Contact:

**Area Coordinator  
East**

Contact: unassigned

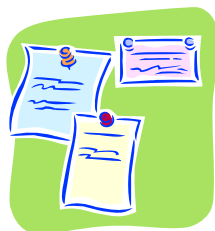
email;VP.Area.Ops.E@freightlinerchassisownersclub.org

**Area Coordinator  
West**

Contact: Katherine Henley,

email;VP.Area.Ops.W@freightlinerchassisownersclub.org  
626-358-2226

- **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 - Coordina-  
tors:  
Unassigned -
- **South Central Area** - SC - Coordina-  
tors:  
Unassigned -
- **Southeastern Area** - SE - Coordina-  
tors:  
Unassigned -
- **Western Area** - WA - Coordinators:  
Unassigned -



## FCOC FIRST WESTERN AREA RALLY

**Great!**

October 30, 31 and November 1, 2009

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Jackson, CA

[www.jacksoncasino.com](http://www.jacksoncasino.com)

For more information about the rally or to request a rally registration form contact Tom James at [tjames@adcomworldwide.com](mailto:tjames@adcomworldwide.com) or by cell phone at 916-870-9322.

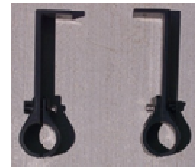


## FCOC Logo Shirts and Eggs Now Available



We have FCOC Club Shirts, Logo Eggs and Brackets available while supplies last. The shirts are made of a pre-shrunk 7-ounce 100% cotton pique.

The shirts are running true to men's size. The color of the shirts are white with the collar and cuffs in a red and black stripe, which matches our FCOC logo colors, and are very striking. As mentioned in the last newsletter, we have a limited supply of these shirts because they are discontinued, so we



have been able to buy these shirts at a reduced price and are passing the savings on to you, so once they are gone, we will not be able to get anymore. We sold many at the rallies in Florida and Indiana, where some sizes ran out, but I was able to get a supply of the more popular sizes, Small, Mediums and Large, to fill our fast dwindling supply of shirts. If you are interested in buying these shirts, please fill out the order form (see top part of page 17) and mail to me, as soon as possible. First come, first served. We also have our club logo Egg for sale. Eggs are \$20 and the ladder holder is \$5.00. All items are pictured above. If you have any questions, please contact me, Mary Costigan, at (951) 452-2999 or email me at [mary.costigan@yahoo.com](mailto:mary.costigan@yahoo.com).

### Truck Country Oasis Locations



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800.553.3642

#### Cedar Rapids

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Cedar Rapids, IA 52404-3417  
800.332.6158

#### Davenport

2350 W. 76th St.  
Davenport, IA 52806  
800.397.3399

#### Shullsburg

Highway 11  
Shullsburg, WI 53586  
800.362.1313

#### Appleton

2401 Progress Way  
Kaukauna, WI 54130-9559  
800.236.5271

#### Madison

4195 Anderson Road  
DeForest, WI 53532-2906  
800.837.7367



#### Milwaukee

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Oak Creek, WI 53154-4319

800-236-6061

#### Wausau

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- Fuel Filter Change



Ron Sliger  
5261 Palomino Dr.  
Melbourne, FL 32934

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Home of the *X One XRV*

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Call !**