



A publication of the
Freightliner Chassis Owners Club

SPRING 2025



Soul

**SPRING
IS IN THE AIR.**

**MEET YOUR
FCOC OFFICERS**

DETAILS ON PAGE 4.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ALLEGAN, MI; COEUR D'ALENE, ID

DETAILS ON PAGE 14.

**BRING THE NATURE
INSIDE YOUR RV**

PAGE 26.



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RV Road Trippers (@DriveFCCC)



RV Road Trippers (rv_roadtrippers)



Freightliner Custom Chassis Corp. (@FreightlinerCustomChassis)

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SPRING 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS*

2025

| | |
|----------|-------------------|
| 6/23-27 | ALLEGAN, MI |
| 9/22-26 | COEUR D'ALENE, ID |
| 11/11-15 | MYRTLE BEACH, SC |

* Subject to change

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OASIS DEALERS

MEET YOUR FCOC OFFICERS



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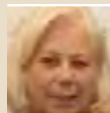
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SEE THE GUIDE



MESSAGE FROM



FCOC members,

On behalf of the entire FCCC team, I hope that this latest issue of *RV Soul* finds you happy and healthy — and enjoying a wonderful spring season wherever your RV adventures are taking you.

It's been just over a year since I joined the FCCC team, and one of the most rewarding parts of this role has been getting to meet and spend time with so many of you at rallies and other events. It's always inspiring to hear what the RV lifestyle means to you — and it's always an important reminder to our team to make sure we're providing you the best ownership experience in the industry.

We're gearing up for a busy spring and summer on the road, and I'm incredibly excited to experience first-hand a number of amazing new FCCC-powered products hitting the market this year. That includes new Phaeton, Allegro Bus and Zephyr models from Tiffin powered by our PowerGlide XC and PowerGlide SL chassis, as well as the S2RV-powered Grand Star from Newmar. That also includes the gorgeous Anthem and Aspire from Entegra and the new Fleetwood Palisade. While each of these models offers a unique approach to the luxury RV experience, all of them start with a foundation from FCCC. If you have a chance during your travels, stop by a dealer to experience any of these incredible products yourself.

As always, we have an amazing issue of *RV Soul* ready for you. We share the story of FCOC members Debbie and Daniel Shidler and how they're enjoying the RV lifestyle with their "furry travel buddy." And, with spring very much in the air, we gladly share our list of 10 incredible destinations across the United States to consider for your next trip, as well as our list of the best plants for RV living. After all, if you can't get to the great outdoors for any reason, bring the great outdoors to you. Or better yet, do both!

We also have a couple of delicious Roadside Recipes for you to try and enjoy while on the road, and a wealth of important updates and information to make sure you're getting the most out of your membership.

As you can see, it's an exciting time for FCCC — and we hope it's an enjoyable and memorable one for you as well. We look forward to seeing many of you out on the road in the coming months.

Happy RVing,

Akbar Ghous

Vice President of Sales and Marketing, FCCC

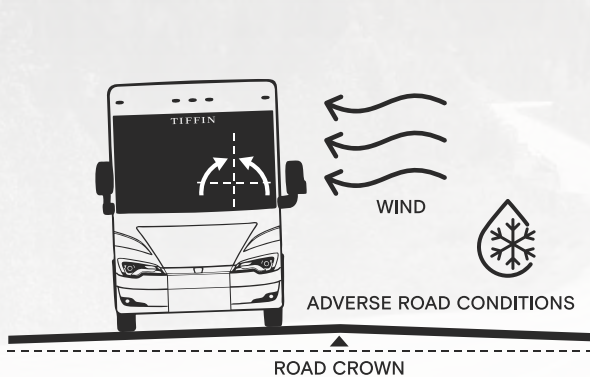
INTRODUCING



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MOTORHOMES



CLUB UPDATES



Whoops, we made a mistake!

There was an error in our Winter Edition of *RV Soul* regarding member dues.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

For clarification, the current dues are **\$25 per year or \$115 for five years.**

2024 Election of Club Officers for the 2025-2027 Term

The following are the open board positions to be elected for the 2025-2027 term at the FCOC annual business meeting in June 2025 at the Summer Event in Allegan, MI. Board members serve a two-year term, elections are yearly at the Annual Business meeting.

- **President**
- **Secretary**
- **Webmaster**
- **VP Membership**
- **VP Area Operations – West**

The following members have indicated they will run for those offices:

President: Steve Bertling

Secretary: Pattee Perez

VP Membership: Earl Benzenhafer

VP Area Operations – West: Steve Batorson

Webmaster: Rita Smith

The following members are continuing officers for the 2024-2026 term:

Senior Vice President: Steve Jeanneret

Treasurer: Tom Bernardi

VP Area Operations – East: Abe Shalley

VP Administration: Kim Batorson

Publication Editor: Cindy Feindel

VP Business Development: Currently open. If you are interested in serving in this position we welcome you to contact the nominating committee.

The Nominating Committee Members are:

Chris Perez: perezcpn@att.net

Laura McCormick-Clark: l.mccormick.clark@gmail.com

Ed Hessemer: ejhessemer@hotmail.com

When emailing, please put 2025 Election of Officers in the subject line. You can find the duties of each office on **FCOCRV.ORG**. Click on the Dashboard section, then Club Documents and choose Standing Rules.

Pattee Perez

Nominating Committee Chair

949-697-8892 | em2pattee@gmail.com

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

113 total new members for Spring 2025.

Joseph & Carol Adams
Box Elder, SD

John & Diane Alexander
Crossville, TN

Mark & Karen Alexander
Lucas, TX

Joseph & Lupita Arteritano
San Antonio, TX

Joseph & Peggy Assereto
Genoa, NV

Larry & Allison Bauers
Box Elder, SD

Mark & Dora Bell
Locust Grove, VA

Dennis & Bernice Breeland
Blythewood, SC

Kevin & Patricia Brogdon
Pinetop, AZ

David & Anna Brymer
Pflugerville, TX

Irving Budlong &
Jorge Clemente
Newport Beach, CA

Brandt & Lyn Burghall
Napa, CA

Glenn & Jenn Burton
Lubbock, TX

Janet Canania-Shirk
& William Steve Lane
Festus, MO

Bill & Janice Carson
Longport, NJ

Robert & Kelly Cifelli
Yarmouth Port, MA

Mark & Lisa Clare
Myrtle Beach, SC

Kevin Clover & Suzanne
Olsson-Clover
Lake Forest, CA

Giovanni & Amanda
Colafrancesco
Hyde Park, MA

Jeffrey & Cynthia Colimon
Franklinton, NC

Ronald & Constance Corey
St. Augustine, FL

Curtis Coyle & Deana Dobbs
Grand Prairie, TX

Justin Crider
Fairfield, PA

Terry Daines
Sandy, UT

Thomas & Deborah Dassler
Halifax, VA

Cheryl DeFosche
Cox & Keith Schroeder
Clinton, CT

Rex & Dolores Dixon
Conroe, TX

Lawrence & Michelle Dobbe
Stoddard, WI

Roy & Donna Douglas
Buford, GA

James & Amy Drescher
Fort Worth, TX

Glenn Duff
Winter Garden, FL

Charlie & Lauri Eckman
Port St. Lucie, FL

Christopher Edwards
Lebanon, TN

Steven & Sheila Elliott
Pembroke, VA

Jeff Fine & Alana Coyle
Sarasota, FL

Michael & Judy Finnen
Philadelphia, PA

Mike & Debbie Fitzpatrick
Arlington, TX

Dirk & Anna Mary Fontaine
Goodlettsville, TN

Brent Fortney
Tucson, AZ

Brian & Jen Funkhouser
Centerville, MD

Sam & Susan Garber
Lakeland, FL

Burley Gayer & Barbara Almond
Rogers, AR

Mike & Linda Geremina
Raleigh, NC

Mike & Cindy Golden
Wake Forest, NC

Larry & Kathy Gray
Gilbert, SC

Doug Hair
Orangeburg, SC

Michael & Linda Hawkins
Oakland, IL

Kim Hayes & Miltin Kidd III
Morgan City, LA

Michael & Melodee Hinkley
Cedar Hill, TX

Richard & Lucia Hood
Fort Myers, FL

John & Maggie Howland
Orange Beach, AL

Dana Hurlbut
Lake Placid, FL

Matthew Ianniello, Jr.
Dallas, TX

Paul Janczak
Nekoosa, WI

Michael & Cindy Janssen
Jacksonville, FL

Mark & Kimberly Janulis
Arlington Heights, IL

Billy & Nina Jinks
Prairie Grove, AR

Arthur & Bronna Johnsen
Fort Myers Beach, FL

Dennis & Nancy Kadau
Blairsville, GA

Gary & Cheri Kammeyer
Cross Roads, TX

Greg Kleen
El Paso, IL

Rodney Kosfeld & Sherry
Williams Kosfeld
Louisville, KY

Greg & Anjannette Leisinger
Ravenna, OH

Andrew Luke
Alexander, MB

Steve & Sue Lukovics
Livingston, TX

Daniel Martin & Mike Teehan
Newark, CA

Michael Mayfield & Susan Reed
Austin, TX

Jesse & Carol McCoy
Bartlesville, OK

Steven & Julie McKee
Elkhorn, NE

Jim McMillan
Jefferson City, MO

Alan & Joy McMillion
Hopkins, SC

Rod & Gwen McRae
Polson, MT

Mark & Lisa Miller
Niceville, FL

Patricia & Gary Miller
Lakeside, CA

Kevin & Christina Milton
Midway, GA

Donald & Lorre Mitchell
Satsuma, AL

Tomeeko & Renee Mitchell
Lubbock, TX

David Ochoa
Apple Valley, CA

Delmar & Karen Palmer
Shakopee, MN

Clifford & Marilyn Peacock
Moyock, NC

Joseph Peto
Tucson, AZ

Bruce & Nancy Plumb
Galena, MO

Walt Polcyn
Lake Worth, FL

Duane & Donna Priddy
Midland, MI

Steve & Vivian Rupp
Tavernier, FL

David Schiltz
West Chester, PA

Michael Schneider
Lillian, AL

Curtis & Melissa Schultz
Cadillac, MI

Michael Schwarz
Chelsea, MI

Rodney Sekich & Kim Hoff
Platteville, CO

Robert & Stephanie Sheir
Miami, FL

Robert & Leslie Singleton
Carlsbad, CA

Robert & Jennifer Slencak
Rockwall, TX

Sara Spiegelberg & Kurt Breseman
Fulton, MI

Michael & Denise St John
Livingston, TX

Jill & Sara Standish
Austin, TX

Wendell Stephens
Floral City, FL

Mike & Jolene Strating
Grand Haven, MI

Darrell & Debbie Thaw
Saint Simons Island, GA

Ken & Gina Thompson
Huntington Beach, CA

Richard & Suzanne Thorpe
Schertz, TX

J.D. Van Noy
Frankville, ON

Eugene & Brenda Vance
Dothan, AL

Shawn Waggoner
Columbia, SC

Kelly & Melody Wathor
Cabot, AR

Dana & Gail Watts
Catlettsburg, KY

Rene & Joan Weder
Bradenton, FL

Larry & Linda West
Grants Pass, OR

William West
Seneca, SC

Anne Wheeler & J Sheets
Truth or Consequences, NM

Richard & Jody Williams
The Villages, FL

Kenny & Sue Wilson
Yucaipa, CA

Mark & Lynne Ziolkowski
Spring Hill, TN



CAMPFIRE NEWS

VOLUME 1

In Today's News

Sunny 75°

Last month, two MASA members were traveling in their RV when suddenly one of them needed medical attention. 911 was called, & they were taken by ground ambulance to a local hospital. Soon, it was known he needed airlift to Big Town General for emergency surgery. After a 3 week stay they were transported back home to recuperate at their local hospital. Since that time, their RV was shipped back to their driveway.

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FCOC PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome to Spring!

It's time to get the rig out of storage, check the tire pressures, load up, and go. We have lots to look forward to this season. We started the year with events in Lakeland, FL, and Vidalia, LA.

Next up is our summer event in Allegan, MI., in June. This event is being held at the county fairgrounds. We have lots of room for a bunch of coaches. This will also be our Annual Business Meeting. Please make plans to join us and participate in the governance of our club. Elections for president, secretary, membership, webmaster, and operations-west will be voted on.

I have appointed Earl Benzenhafer F705612, VP of Membership. Earl attended the Vidalia, LA, event and responded to my call for assistance. Earl has been an FCOC member since 2022 and drives a Thor Venetian B42. Earl will be up for election at our June event in Michigan. Thank you, Earl!

We are still looking to fill the open position of VP of Business Development. This board position is described in our Standing Rules on our website. If you want to be more active in the club and help all our members, serving on the board is a great way. Some of our current board members continue to serve double duty to cover the currently unstaffed position. If you are interested, contact me or our nominating committee. For your service, you will get fuel and event fees paid for your travel to and from the annual business meeting each year, and your membership fees will be complimentary for each year of service.

As interest in Super C motorhomes has increased, we are happy to report increasing membership from those owning coaches on the S2RV chassis. We have more than 200 S2RV members now, and more are signing up all the time. At the Vidalia Event, we held two separate Camp Freightliner classes for our XC and S2RV chassis owners. Separate courses are necessary because of the differences between diesel pushers and pullers. I plan to offer both at future events where possible and when sufficient interest and participation warrant.

The Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation (FCCC) training team tells me they can include M2 Super C chassis owners in the S2RV Camp Freightliner. While owners of the M2 chassis are not eligible to be club members, they are welcome to attend our events and participate in the activities and training classes. So, pass the word to your friends who own M2's.

Plan to attend one of our events in September or November in Coeur d'Alene, ID, or Myrtle Beach. They are sure to be memorable. There are so many things to see and do in each area, so consider staying a few extra days to explore.

I wish you many memorable miles this season and beyond. I look forward to meeting each of you at one (or more) of our events this year.

Safe travels,

Steve Bertling
FCOC President

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1. Get your Company Code, which can be obtained from the FCOC President. Just send an email to president@fcocrv.org and include your FMCA number in the subject line or call (321) 704-0695.
2. Visit chrysleraffiliates.com or call (888) 444-4321 to learn more about the program and to obtain a Control Number.
3. Take your Control Number, with proof of eligibility (FCOC membership card), to any participating U.S. Chrysler, Jeep®, Dodge or Ram dealership or FIAT Studio. If you don't have a membership card, contact us at vp.membership@fcocrv.org.
4. Ask for a copy of the vehicle invoice and you'll see the Preferred Price (PP) clearly listed.

Affiliate Rewards



*The Preferred Price is the maximum amount you will be charged by a participating U.S. dealer for an eligible vehicle. See dealer for details. A \$75 administration fee applies. Offer valid for up to 2 (two) Chrysler Group LLC vehicles per calendar year. The Dodge Viper and Jeep Grand Cherokee SRT are not currently eligible for this program.

†Not all incentives may be available, as they vary by region and residency of buyer. See dealer for complete details.

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EVENT UPDATES

SAVE THE DATE*:

ALLEGAN, MI
June 23-27, 2025

MYRTLE BEACH, SC
November 11-15, 2025

COEUR D'ALENE, ID
September 22-26, 2025



* Event dates subject to change

CANCELLATION POLICY

1. An administration fee of \$25 will be charged for all registrations received.
2. Members who register and then:
 - a) Cancel a minimum of 31 days prior to the start of the event will receive a full refund minus the administration fee.
 - b) Cancel 30 or less days prior to the start of the event will result in no portion of the event fees being refunded.
3. Members that register and pay for an event and do not attend will not receive any refund.
4. All refunds will be made at the conclusion of the event.

DIETARY REQUESTS

Please note that FCCC events can no longer accommodate special dietary requests due to the wide variety of caterers and high cost for special menus. We apologize for any inconvenience.

EVENT FEE

The stated event fee includes your campsite fee from the campground, however other campground separate charges, including shower tokens, pet fees, guest fees and other similar charges are the responsibility of the participant.

NEW EVENT REGISTRATION PROCESS

We are no longer printing event registration forms. All registrations can be done online at FCOCRv.org.

ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN

June 23-27, 2025



KALAMAZOO RIVER



SAUGATUCK DINES STATE PARK

A PERFECT MIDWEST GETAWAY

Nestled along the tranquil Kalamazoo River, Allegan, Michigan, offers the perfect combination of nature, small-town charm, and outdoor adventure. This four-day rally promises not only insightful seminars and hands-on workshops but also an opportunity to connect with fellow RV enthusiasts while soaking in the stunning natural beauty of the area. Whether you're a first-time attendee or a seasoned traveler, Allegan is the perfect place to unwind and learn.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Attend industry-leading **seminars and workshops** covering everything from RV maintenance to travel tips and safety.

Enjoy the serene **Allegan State Game Area**, perfect for hiking and wildlife viewing, or take a peaceful paddle on the Kalamazoo River.

Explore the **town of Allegan**, with its charming antique markets, cozy dining spots, and scenic riverwalks.

MUST-SEE ATTRACTIONS AND SAMPLE ITINERARY

Morning:

Start your day with a hike in the Allegan State Game Area, where you'll be immersed in the beauty of Michigan's wilderness. Watch for local wildlife such as deer, turkeys, and waterfowl. Or, for a more relaxing start, join a group paddle along the Kalamazoo River, taking in the peaceful river views.

Lunch:

Treat yourself to a farm-to-table lunch in one of Allegan's charming restaurants. Indulge in Michigan-grown produce, artisanal cheeses, and local meats, all served in a cozy, welcoming atmosphere.

Afternoon:

Take a short drive to Lake Michigan's stunning beaches. Spend some time lounging by the water, visiting the iconic lighthouses, or walking the scenic trails of Saugatuck Dunes State Park, a hidden gem of natural beauty.

Evening:

For a fun afternoon, visit the Allegan Antique Market, where you can hunt for unique treasures. In the evening, enjoy a relaxing dinner at one of Allegan's quaint bistros and end the day with a peaceful walk along the Kalamazoo Riverwalk, watching the sunset reflect on the water.



MCEUEN PARK



WATERFRONT MARINA

A SCENIC LAKESIDE RETREAT AT BLACKWELL ISLAND RV RESORT

Join us for a truly unforgettable rally in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, at Blackwell Island RV Resort, nestled right on the shores of the stunning Lake Coeur d'Alene. This intimate event blends outdoor adventure, lakeside relaxation, and friendly camaraderie. Known for its breathtaking scenery, Coeur d'Alene offers a wealth of opportunities to explore both on land and water. Whether you're an outdoor enthusiast or seeking a peaceful retreat, this rally has something for everyone.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Breathtaking Views & Activities: Start each day with a peaceful walk along the lake or a scenic boat ride. The natural beauty surrounding you will take your breath away.

Outdoor Adventure: Hike the nearby mountains, take a guided nature tour, or rent a bike to explore the town's picturesque lakeside trails. For those seeking water activities, the lake is perfect for kayaking, paddleboarding, or simply relaxing by the shore.

Local Attractions: Discover downtown Coeur d'Alene's charm with its boutique shops, delicious restaurants, and local art galleries. For a touch of excitement, visit the luxurious Coeur d'Alene Resort and its iconic floating green golf course.

Exciting Seminars & Social Hours: Engage with industry experts during educational seminars, and connect with fellow RVers during lively social hours.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT HERE

Unmatched Natural Beauty: Surrounded by lush forests, crystal-clear lakes, and towering mountains, Coeur d'Alene is a nature lover's paradise.

Endless Outdoor Activities: From hiking and biking to water sports and fishing, there's no shortage of ways to enjoy the great outdoors.

A Charming Small Town: Coeur d'Alene offers the perfect blend of outdoor adventure and small-town charm. With amazing local food, unique shops, and a relaxing atmosphere, it's an ideal getaway.

Lakefront Relaxation: Spend your downtime soaking in the stunning lake views, enjoying a peaceful boat ride, or simply unwinding by the water.

MYRTLE BEACH, SC

November 11-15, 2025



ATLANTIC COAST



SKYWHEEL



MYRTLE BEACH STATE PARK



CELEBRATE FALL AT OCEAN LAKES RV RESORT

Join us for the perfect fall getaway at Ocean Lakes RV Resort in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, from November 11-15, 2025. This event promises the ideal mix of fun, education, and relaxation, with something for everyone! Enjoy Camp Freightliner, expert seminars, entertainment, and activities—all while surrounded by the stunning Myrtle Beach area, which will be beautifully decked out for the Christmas season. With countless local attractions and Ocean Lakes' vast amenities, you'll have plenty of free time to explore, shop, and relax!

WHAT TO EXPECT

Seminars and Workshops: Learn from top industry experts, including specialized Camp Freightliner sessions to enhance your RV knowledge and skills.

Live Entertainment & Social Hours: Enjoy lively evenings with fellow RVers, share stories, and make new memories.

Beachside Relaxation & Local Exploration: Ocean Lakes offers a stunning beach, local activities, and plenty of time to discover the charm of Myrtle Beach, which will embrace the holiday spirit during your visit.

MUST-SEE ATTRACTIONS & SAMPLE ITINERARY

Day 1 (Nov 11): Arrive at Ocean Lakes and check-in. Enjoy a casual welcome dinner with a beautiful beachside view and meet fellow attendees.

Day 2 (Nov 12): Morning seminars, followed by a visit to the Myrtle Beach SkyWheel for panoramic views of the coastline. Spend the afternoon shopping at Broadway at the Beach, where you can enjoy seasonal decorations and unique local boutiques.

Day 3 (Nov 13): More informative seminars and Camp Freightliner sessions in the morning. In the afternoon, unwind on the Myrtle Beach Boardwalk or explore the local shops and cafés.

Day 4 (Nov 14): Spend the day at social hours, followed by evening entertainment featuring live music from local artists, creating a perfect setting for mingling and relaxing by the beach.

Day 5 (Nov 15): Enjoy a farewell breakfast with fellow RVers, reflecting on new knowledge and lasting memories, before departing.



LET KOLWE





T'S venture





FEATURED MEMBERS

A FURRY TRAVEL BUDDY: DEBBIE AND DANIEL SHIDLER'S FAMILY TAKES OFF IN THEIR NEWMAR DUTCH STAR

Debbie and Daniel Shidler's RV journey began with a simple goal: traveling with their beloved dog. What started as a practical decision quickly became a lifestyle of freedom, adventure, and unexpected discoveries. Since 2022, they've been exploring the country in their 2016 Newmar Dutch Star, embracing the joy of the open road.

A PRACTICAL DECISION TURNED INTO A PASSION

The Shidlers' introduction to RV life was born from necessity. They wanted to travel without the hassle of hotels and the uncertainty of cleanliness during the pandemic. "We liked the idea of controlling our own environment," Debbie shares. Initially, they purchased a brand-new RV, but when mechanical issues arose, they transitioned to their beloved Dutch Star—a decision that changed everything.

FINDING COMFORT AND ADVENTURE ON THE ROAD

For Debbie, adjusting to RV life meant letting go of control on the road. "I don't drive, so I had to learn to sit back and trust Daniel," she admits. However, what she truly loves is the spontaneity. "Sometimes we have a destination in mind, sometimes we just take off."

With everything they need onboard—from medications to an extensive wardrobe—packing is a thing of the past. They relish in the ability to travel comfortably, with the added joy of their dog experiencing new places alongside them.

EMBRACING THE UNEXPECTED

One of the couple's favorite aspects of RVing is the flexibility to embrace detours. On their way to a rally, they saw a sign for a scenic stop they hadn't planned on visiting. "We weren't planning on stopping, but we pulled over and experienced something totally new," Daniel recalls.

For Debbie, this included seeing the Ozarks for the first time. "We had just been out west, but the Ozarks were different. Every trip brings something unique." Their RV lifestyle allows for these spontaneous experiences, whether boondocking in a quiet spot or discovering small-town gems like Lake Sara, Illinois. "We backed in, looked out over the water, and just enjoyed the moment," she shares. "You can't plan experiences like that."

"I love the freedom. At night, we relax like we do at home, but in a new place every time."

– Debbie



CREATING A HOME ON WHEELS

To make their Dutch Star feel like home, the Shidlers have carefully customized their space. “Two bathrooms were a must,” Debbie laughs. “And a king-sized bed—after struggling with a queen in our last RV, we weren’t making that mistake again!” They also updated the furniture and redesigned the window coverings themselves.

Although Daniel insists on keeping a traditional home, he acknowledges their RV gets most of their time. “I like knowing we have a house, but I don’t need to be there,” he says. “We’ll likely be ‘most-timers’—traveling the majority of the year while keeping a home base.”

A NEW WAY TO SEE THE WORLD

Their RV has transformed not just their travels but their perspective. “I’ve traveled more than Debbie,” Daniel says, “but RVing lets us see America differently.” They enjoy exploring small bakeries, family-run restaurants, and unique local businesses—experiences that wouldn’t happen by flying from city to city.

A recent trip to Indiana was a perfect example. “We hadn’t planned on going, but we ended up spending ten days reconnecting with friends and family,” Debbie says. “There was no rush, no pressure—just time well spent.”

THE ROAD AHEAD

Looking forward, the Shidlers have no plans to slow down. “Our kids love that we’re doing this,” Debbie says. “They tell us to enjoy life and keep going.”

For them, RVing is more than a mode of travel—it’s a way of life. From waking up to a lakeside sunrise to discovering a hidden gem of a town, every mile offers something new.

Their story is a testament to the freedom of the road and the beauty of embracing the unknown. As they continue their travels, one thing is certain: the journey is just beginning.

“There’s nothing like pulling out of the driveway, ready for another adventure.”

– Daniel



SERVICE UPDATE



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THAT MAKES YOU
RICHER

SEASONAL ARTICLE

BRING THE NATURE INSIDE YOUR RV THIS SPRING WITH PLANTS

Who says life on the road can't be full of houseplants? Bringing plants into your RV isn't just about aesthetics—it's about creating a rolling oasis, improving air quality, boosting your mood, and giving you a stress-free hobby on the go. Who doesn't want a mini jungle, fresh herbs, or even vegetables that travel wherever they do? Here's how you can keep your RV full of greenery, with thriving plants, no matter where the road takes you.

BEST PLANTS FOR RV LIVING

Air Plants (Tillandsia) – Zero dirt, mess-free.

These little guys don't even need soil! Just give them a mist or a soak every so often, and they'll be living their best life. Secure them in decorative holders and shells, or even glue them to driftwood for an artsy touch.

Succulents – The chilliest plants on the planet.

If you can't water them for weeks, that'll be perfectly fine. Think jade, echeveria, or haworthia. Keep them in sturdy, shallow pots, and tuck them into a safe nook to avoid sudden falls on bumpy roads.

Small Potted Plants – A little green goes a long way.

Pothos, snake plants, and ZZ plants are very very hard to kill and thrive on very little water. Use non-slip mats or command hooks with plant holders so they stay still even on the steepest drives.

Windowsill Herb Garden – Fresh herbs on the road.

Fresh basil, mint, or rosemary? Yes, please! Perfect for spicing up your RV kitchen. Use a self-watering planter to keep them happy with minimal effort.



Fresh Flowers from Local Markets – Instant mood booster + supporting local.

A bouquet of fresh flowers from a local farmer's market adds instant charm and color to your RV. Use a spill-proof vase or mason jar with rubber bands to keep them from taking an unexpected tumble.



KEEPING YOUR PLANTS HAPPY ON THE ROAD

Lock 'Em Down.

Plants don't have seat belts, so make sure they're snug in their spot, strapped with Velcro, or in secured floor pots.

Don't Drown Them.

Most RV-friendly plants don't need constant watering, so hold back the urge to overwater!

Find the Sweet Spot.

Not too sunny, not too dark. Rotate plants around until you find their happy place. Remember if you are traveling somewhere cold, some plants will want to move away from cold windows.

Think Easy.

Plastic, resin, or lightweight pots are the way to go.



GREENERY FOR EVERY ADVENTURE

Your RV is more than just a vehicle—it's home! And home should feel fresh, inviting, and full of life. Whether you're chilling by the beach, parked in a scenic forest, or just boondocking in the desert, a little greenery goes a long way in making your space feel special. So, grab some plants and bring the beauty of nature inside the ride too.

ROADSIDE RECIPES



ROASTED CARROT SALAD

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 pounds carrots peeled and sliced diagonally
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds
- 2 cloves garlic minced
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 2 teaspoons honey
- 1 package (4 ounces) Danish blue cheese, crumbled
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 3 cups arugula

DIRECTIONS:

1. Begin by preheating your oven to 400 degrees F.
2. Mix the carrots, almonds, and garlic on a baking sheet. Drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Toss to coat and spread out in an even layer.
3. Roast the carrots for about 30 minutes until they are soft and the edges start to turn brown. Stir them twice while roasting.
4. Remove from the oven and cool to room temperature.
5. Transfer the carrots to a large bowl.
6. Drizzle with vinegar and honey. Toss to coat.
7. Add the blue cheese, cranberries, and arugula. Mix gently to combine.

Recipe from Inspired By Charm (inspiredbycharm.com).

Did you enjoy this recipe? We'd love to see how it turned out! Have a recipe of your own? We'd love that even more! Post your pictures on Facebook and don't forget to tag us – it could be featured on our RV Road Trippers Facebook page or in the next issue of RV Soul.



TUSCAN ARTICHOKE SALAD

SALAD INGREDIENTS:

- 10 ounces cherry tomatoes cut in half
- 1/2 medium red onion thinly sliced
- 1 12-ounce jar of marinated artichoke hearts, strained from water/marinade
- 1 15-ounce can of cooked chickpeas, strained, rinsed, and dried (about 1 1/2 cups cooked chickpeas)
- 2 tablespoons fresh basil, cut into thin strips
- 2 tablespoons fresh chives, finely diced
- 1 tablespoon capers

TUSCAN VINAIGRETTE:

- 1 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley
- 1/4-1/2 teaspoon salt, add more or less to taste
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder or 1 garlic clove, finely minced
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper

DIRECTIONS:

1. First, prep the veggies, herbs, and chickpeas. Cut the cherry tomatoes in half, thinly slice the red onion, finely chop the chives, and cut the basil into long thin strips. Strain the artichoke hearts from the liquid they are sitting in and set aside. Lastly, strain and rinse the canned chickpeas and then pat them dry before adding to the salad.
2. Next, make the Tuscan vinaigrette. Add the olive oil, red wine vinegar, dried parsley, salt, garlic powder, and black pepper to a bowl and whisk together.
3. To finish, put everything together. Add the chopped tomatoes, red onion, chives, basil, marinated artichoke hearts, chickpeas, capers, and vinaigrette to a bowl.
4. Mix until all the veggies are coated.
5. Serve immediately or chill for 1-2 hours for an even better flavor. Enjoy!

Recipe from Short Girl Tall Order (shortgirtallorder.com).



TURNPIKE BRAINTEASERS

SUDOKU

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SEE PAGE 34 FOR THE KEYS.

WORDSEARCH



APRIL
BLOSSOM
BREEZE
BUD
BULBS
BUNNY

BUTTERFLY
CHICK
DAFFODIL
EASTER
EGGS
GRASS

GREEN
HATCH
JUNE
MARCH
MAY
NEST

PUDDLE
RAINBOW
ROBIN
SEASON
SHOWERS

SUNSHINE
THAW
TULIP
UMBRELLA

ONLINE MEMBERSHIP UPDATE OR RENEWAL

Anyone can access our website without logging in by going to FCOCRV.org. When a Member wants to update their member profile or pay their dues, they will need to log in with two pieces of information: a membership number and a password. When a Member has difficulty signing in, it is usually either because they forgot to include the letter "F" at the front of their membership number, or because they forgot their password. If a new Member joins via our website, they will provide their own password at that time. New Members who apply by mail will receive their password by email when their registration information has been entered. Members can change their password at any time by logging in and updating their profile.

TO JOIN FCOC:

1. Select "Join FCOC" on the home page or in the top right corner of any page on the site.
2. Select the number of years you'd like to commit to and pay for.
3. Fill out all relevant fields. Those with an asterisk (*) must be completed.
4. Make note of the number in the "Username - Member ID" field. This is your FCOC ID number, which you'll need to log in to the site.
5. When you're finished, select your payment method and click "Sign Up" at the bottom. If you navigate away from this screen before clicking "Sign Up," your input will not be recorded and you will be required to start over.
6. Complete your payment information and follow instructions to submit.

TO PAY DUES:

1. Sign in using the "Membership Log In" fields on the home page or the "Sign In" link in the top right corner of any page on the site.
2. Once you've signed in, select "Renew / Pay Dues" in the upper right corner of your screen.
3. Select the number of years you'd like to commit to and pay for.
4. Double-check that the information that populates in the form fields is correct. If it is not, change anything you need to, and the updated information will be stored in the database.
5. Select your payment method and click "Sign Up" at the bottom. If you navigate away from this screen before clicking "Sign Up," your input will not be recorded, and you will be required to start over.
6. Complete your payment information and follow instructions to submit.

If you have any problems, please contact the VP of Membership on page 4.





MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Freightliner Chassis Owners Club, go to fcocrv.org.

We have multiple National Events a year. The National events normally include 4 nights of camping, 4 breakfasts, and 4 dinners, plus service seminars from Freightliner, Cummins/Onan, Allison, Michelin and others.

We also hold small regional events. These are usually smaller events at local places of interest.

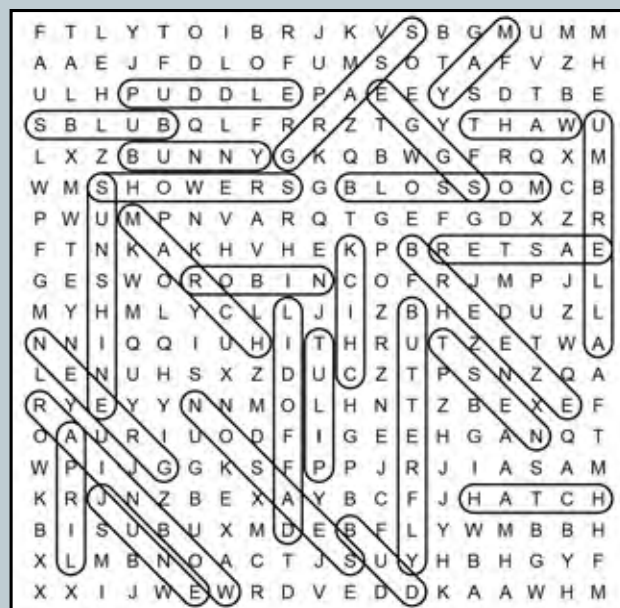
Come enjoy discounts at several of our sponsors, such as participating Freightliner Oasis service centers, O'Reilly Auto Parts, Chrysler Affiliate Rewards, MASA and others.



SUDOKU

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| 5 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 7 |

WORD SEARCH



DON'T LET *YOUR* MEMBERSHIP EXPIRE!

Please look at your label on the back of this newsletter to see if your membership is about to expire. We send out reminders at least two months in advance of your expiration, both by email and by mail, to provide adequate time to renew your membership. Dues are \$25.00/year or \$115.00 for five years. See Membership information on page 32.

To access by Internet, visit the website at FCOCRV.org.

After logging in, you have the ability to conveniently renew your membership using PayPal. Simply click "Renew/Pay Dues" in the top right corner of your screen.

You may also update your membership and personal information by selecting "View/Update Your Profile."

PLEASE NOTE: If you are logging into the new site for the first time, your password is the same as it was for the old site. If you've forgotten your password, click "Forgot Password" under the login fields.

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You may request to have our newsletter delivered by email, especially if you travel frequently or if your mail is forwarded more than once a year. You will receive the newsletter earlier than those mailed, and they won't pile up in your motorhome. You will receive an email when the newsletter is ready to be viewed. Recent as well as previous issues of *RV Soul* are available for viewing and printing on the website.

For those who do not have email, please make sure we have your correct mailing address – especially those of you who have a seasonal address. We are experiencing a large number of newsletters returned. Time, money and postage rates are affected when they are undeliverable.

Thank you for helping us do a better job of getting important FCOC news and current updates to you!
We want you to be in the know!



ROAM FAR AND WANDER WIDE

FREIGHTLINER Custom Classics

OFFERS FROM OASIS AND PARTICIPATING DEALERS

Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation (FCCC) and select Freightliner Oasis dealerships around the country have initiated a program offering members of the Freightliner Chassis Owners Club (FCOC) special pricing on service labor and service parts.

The program offers current FCOC members the following discounts:
10% OFF POSTED LABOR RATES & 10% OFF PARTS.

It is important that you do the following; if you don't, you may not get the discount and it will be your own fault!

You MUST tell them you are an FCOC member up front, request the discount and identify yourself by showing your current membership card. Ask to get a copy of your billing with the discount on it once your work is done.

In developing the Oasis Dealer Discount Program, all Oasis Dealers were contacted and invited to participate. But, participation in the Oasis Dealer Discount Program is a business decision made by each individual Oasis Dealer.

If the Oasis Dealer you wish to use is not on the list of participating dealers, we would encourage you to let them know of your desire to have them participate in the program. Dealers wishing for more information about the program should contact Don Klingstein: phone (317) 324-8550, email VP.BUSDEV@FCOCRV.ORG. Also, if you have any problem with any Oasis Dealer on the list, let Steven Bertling know, and he will try to help.

As a reminder, it's up to you to **ask first** for the discount, not after.

PLEASE REMEMBER: THESE OASIS DEALERS ARE SUPPORTING FCOC, SO PLEASE GO TO THESE DEALERS ONLY.

PARTICIPATING OASIS NETWORK DISCOUNT PROGRAM CENTERS:

| OASIS DEALER NAME | STREET ADDRESS | CITY | STATE | ZIP | TELEPHONE |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Empire Truck Sales, LLC (Mobile) | 2485 West I-65 Service Road North | Mobile | AL | 36612 | (251) 330-0088 |
| Four Star Freightliner of Dothan | 1507 Reeves Street | Dothan | AL | 36303 | (334) 793-4455 |
| Doggett Freightliner of Arkansas | 11700 Valentine Road | North Little Rock | AR | 72117 | (501) 955-3200 |
| Doggett Freightliner of Arkansas | 2675 West Sunset Ave. | Springdale | AR | 72762 | (479) 751-4551 |
| Doggett Freightliner of Arkansas | 129 Access Road | Van Buren | AR | 72956 | (479) 474-9900 |
| Velocity Truck Centers | 1230 S. Akimel Lane | Chandler | AZ | 85226 | (480) 282-4000 |
| Velocity Truck Centers | 9899 W. Roosevelt Street | Tolleson | AZ | 85353 | (623) 907-9900 |
| Velocity Truck Centers | 5650 E. Travel Plaza Way | Tucson | AZ | 85756 | (520) 514-5700 |
| Bakersfield Truck Center | 8140 Golden State Highway | Bakersfield | CA | 93308 | (661) 393-6950 |
| Central Coast Truck Center | 4554 Broad Street, Suite 140 | San Luis Obispo | CA | 93401 | (805) 541-2049 |
| Central Coast Truck Center | 1400 W. Stowell Road | Santa Maria | CA | 93458 | (805) 925-3900 |
| Delta Truck Center | 10182 South Harlan Road | French Camp | CA | 95231 | (209) 983-2400 |
| Fresno Truck Center | 2727 E. Central Avenue | Fresno | CA | 93725 | (559) 486-4310 |
| Keyes Truck Center | 4845 N. Golden State Blvd. | Keyes | CA | 95328 | (209) 526-3126 |
| Sacramento Truck Center | 100 Opportunity Street | Sacramento | CA | 95838 | (916) 286-2000 |
| Transwest Truck Center | 10150 Cherry Avenue | Fontana | CA | 92335 | (909) 770-5170 |
| Velocity Truck Center Ventura County | 2501 Camino Del Sol | Oxnard | CA | 93030 | (805) 751-1800 |
| Velocity Truck Centers | 13800 Valley Blvd. | Fontana | CA | 92335 | (909) 510-4000 |
| Velocity Truck Centers | 6066 Miramar Road | San Diego | CA | 92121 | (619) 564-3700 |
| Velocity Truck Centers | 2429 Peck Road | Whittier | CA | 90601 | (562) 447-1200 |
| Transwest Truck Trailer RV | 7550 East I-25 Frontage Road | Frederick | CO | 80516 | (303) 684-3400 |

| OASIS DEALER NAME | STREET ADDRESS | CITY | STATE | ZIP | TELEPHONE |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Transwest Truck Trailer RV | 6220 Champlin Drive | Fountain | CO | 80817 | (719) 533-1005 |
| Freightliner of Hartford, Inc. | 45 Brainard Road | Hartford | CT | 6114 | (860) 290-8061 |
| Bayshore Truck Center | 4003 N. Dupont Hwy | New Castle | DE | 19720 | (302) 656-3160 |
| Empire Truck Sales, LLC (Mossy Head) | 15 Sand Mine Road | De Funiak Springs | FL | 32435 | (850) 951-2100 |
| Empire Truck Sales, LLC (Pensacola) | 2255 West Detroit Blvd. | Pensacola | FL | 32534 | (850) 316-9000 |
| Four Star Freightliner of Florida | 270 Four Star Way | Midway | FL | 32343 | (850) 701-0163 |
| Ocala Freightliner | 3950 West Highway 326 | Ocala | FL | 34482 | (352) 840-0070 |
| Orlando Freightliner | 2455 S. Orange Blossom Trail | Apopka | FL | 32703 | (407) 295-3846 |
| Polk Freightliner | 35399 Hwy 27 | Haines City | FL | 33844 | (863) 547-9000 |
| Southport Truck Group | 16110 Lee Road | Ft. Myers | FL | 33912 | (239) 210-9480 |
| Southport Truck Group | 7528 US Hwy 301 North | Tampa | FL | 33637 | (813) 262-0890 |
| Tom Nehl Lake City | 383 SW Arrowhead Terrace | Lake City | FL | 32024 | (386) 755-9527 |
| Four Star Freightliner of Valdosta | 3550 White Water Road | Valdosta | GA | 31601 | (229) 316-4948 |
| Middle Georgia Freightliner | 1045 Frank Amerson Pkwy. | Macon | GA | 31216 | (478) 788-4601 |
| Premier Truck Group of Chattanooga | 137 Gateway Drive | Ringgold | GA | 30736 | (706) 937-3700 |
| Truck Country of Cedar Rapids | 8415 6th St. SW | Cedar Rapids | IA | 52404 | (319) 365-0531 |
| Truck Country of Iowa, Inc. | 3201 Hwy 61/151 | Dubuque | IA | 52003 | (563) 556-3773 |
| Truck Country Quad Cities | 2350 W. 76th Street | Davenport | IA | 52806 | (563) 445-5870 |
| Premier Truck Group of Twin Falls | 541 Arlen Drive | Jerome | ID | 83338 | (208) 644-6000 |
| Truck Centers, Inc. | 1700 Gillenwater Avenue | Effingham | IL | 62401 | (217) 342-3300 |
| Truck Centers, Inc. | 300 E. Ashland Street | Morton | IL | 61550 | (309) 263-4240 |
| Truck Centers, Inc. | 621 S. 45th Street | Mt. Vernon | IL | 62864 | (618) 244-2545 |
| Truck Centers, Inc. | 2981 Singer Ave | Springfield | IL | 62703 | (217) 525-1280 |
| Truck Centers, Inc. | 2280 Formosa Road | Troy | IL | 62294 | (618) 667-3454 |
| Truck Country of Illinois, Inc. | 205 Metrix Drive | Hampshire | IL | 60140 | (847) 453-5100 |
| Stoops Freightliner | 12247 Declaration Drive | New Haven | IN | 46774 | (260) 749-8587 |
| Truck Centers, Inc. | 2000 Cassopolis Street | Elkhart | IN | 46514 | (574) 262-3441 |
| Truck Centers, Inc. | 325 Rusher Creek Road | Evansville | IN | 47725 | (812) 868-2700 |
| Truck Centers, Inc. | 4145 Ameritech Drive | South Bend | IN | 46628 | (574) 289-4065 |
| Tag Truck Center | 215 Campbell Drive | Calvert City | KY | 42029 | (270) 906-0345 |
| Empire Truck Sales, LLC | 210 Frontage Road | Slidell | LA | 70458 | (985) 641-4000 |
| Freightliner of Kalamazoo, Inc. | 53449 Main Street | Mattawan | MI | 49071 | (269) 585-3400 |
| Momentum Truck Group | 25200 Augusta Drive | St. Cloud | MN | 56301 | (320) 251-0931 |
| Premier Truck Group of Kansas City | 8001 NE Parvin Road | Kansas City | MO | 64161 | (816) 453-4400 |
| Truck Centers, Inc. | 720 N. Service Road | Foristell | MO | 63348 | (636) 978-3870 |
| Truck Centers, Inc. | 747 E. Taylor Avenue | St. Louis | MO | 63147 | (314) 381-3800 |

| OASIS DEALER NAME | STREET ADDRESS | CITY | STATE | ZIP | TELEPHONE |
|--|--|-----------------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Empire Truck Sales, LLC (Biloxi) | 8480 West Oaklawn Road | Biloxi | MS | 39532 | (228) 365-0000 |
| Empire Truck Sales, LLC (Hattiesburg) | 300 Sullivan-Kilrain Road | Hattiesburg | MS | 39402 | (601) 544-3000 |
| Empire Truck Sales, LLC (Richland) | 373 Highway 49 South | Richland | MS | 39218 | (601) 939-5000 |
| Tag Truck Center | 4600 Mccullough Blvd. | Tupelo | MS | 38804 | (662) 844-3262 |
| Velocity Truck Centers | 3701 Freightliner Drive | North Las Vegas | NV | 89081 | (702) 643-0313 |
| Fleet Maintenance, Inc. | 67 Ransier Drive | West Seneca | NY | 14224 | (716) 675-9220 |
| Fyda Freightliner Columbus, Inc. | 2700 NE Plain City – Georgesville Road | West Jefferson | OH | 43162 | (614) 851-0002 |
| Fyda Freightliner Western Star Zanesville | 5005 East Pike | Zanesville | OH | 43701 | (740) 487-1730 |
| Premier Truck Group of Ardmore | 3601 12th Avenue NW | Ardmore | OK | 73401 | (580) 223-2233 |
| Premier Truck Group of Tulsa | 5104 W. 60th Street | Tulsa | OK | 74107 | (918) 445-5300 |
| Premier Truck Group of Oklahoma City | 5301 I-40 West | Oklahoma City | OK | 73128 | (405) 942-8827 |
| Premier Truck Group of Portland | 9622 NE Vancouver Way | Portland | OR | 97211 | (503) 283-0345 |
| Premier Truck Group of Salem | 4060 Interstate Place NE | Salem | OR | 97303 | (503) 463-6303 |
| Freightliner Custom Chassis Service Center | 103 Campus Drive | Gaffney | SC | 29341 | (855) 253-0421 |
| Velocity Truck Centers | 1601 White Horse Road | Greenville | SC | 29605 | (864) 269-2131 |
| Premier Truck Group of Knoxville | 1413 Everett Road | Knoxville | TN | 37932 | (865) 824-2400 |
| Tag Truck Center | 3655 Ridgecrest Road Extended | Jackson | TN | 38305 | (731) 423-3782 |
| Tag Truck Center | 4450 American Way | Memphis | TN | 38118 | (901) 345-5633 |
| Beaumont Freightliner & Western Star | 7390 Interstate 10 South | Beaumont | TX | 77705 | (409) 951-8300 |
| Corpus Christi Freightliner & Western Star | 8001 IH 37 | Corpus Christi | TX | 78409 | (361) 694-8400 |
| Doggett Freightliner of South Texas, LLC | 8700 IH 10 East | Converse | TX | 78109 | (210) 666-6665 |
| Doggett Freightliner of South Texas, LLC | 1367 Horizon Blvd. | El Paso | TX | 79928 | (915) 852-4922 |
| Houston Freightliner & Western Star | 12802 Crosby Freeway | Houston | TX | 77049 | (713) 672-4115 |
| Premier Truck Group of Dallas | 4200 Port Boulevard | Dallas | TX | 75241 | (972) 225-4300 |
| Premier Truck Group of Fort Worth | 1804 NE Loop 820 | Fort Worth | TX | 76106 | (817) 626-7090 |
| Premier Truck Group of Odessa | 1100 South Grandview Ave. | Odessa | TX | 79761 | (432) 580-8400 |
| Premier Truck Group of Salina | 1288 South State Street | Salina | UT | 84654 | (435) 670-1000 |
| Premier Truck Group of Salt Lake City | 2240 South 5370 West | Salt Lake City | UT | 84120 | (801) 978-8000 |
| Premier Truck Group of St. George | 229 North 5500 West | Hurricane | UT | 84737 | (435) 414-2400 |
| Freightliner Northwest | 524 Jack's Lane | Mount Vernon | WA | 98273 | (360) 848-0472 |
| Freightliner Northwest | 13232 Case Road SW | Olympia | WA | 98512 | (360) 754-2006 |

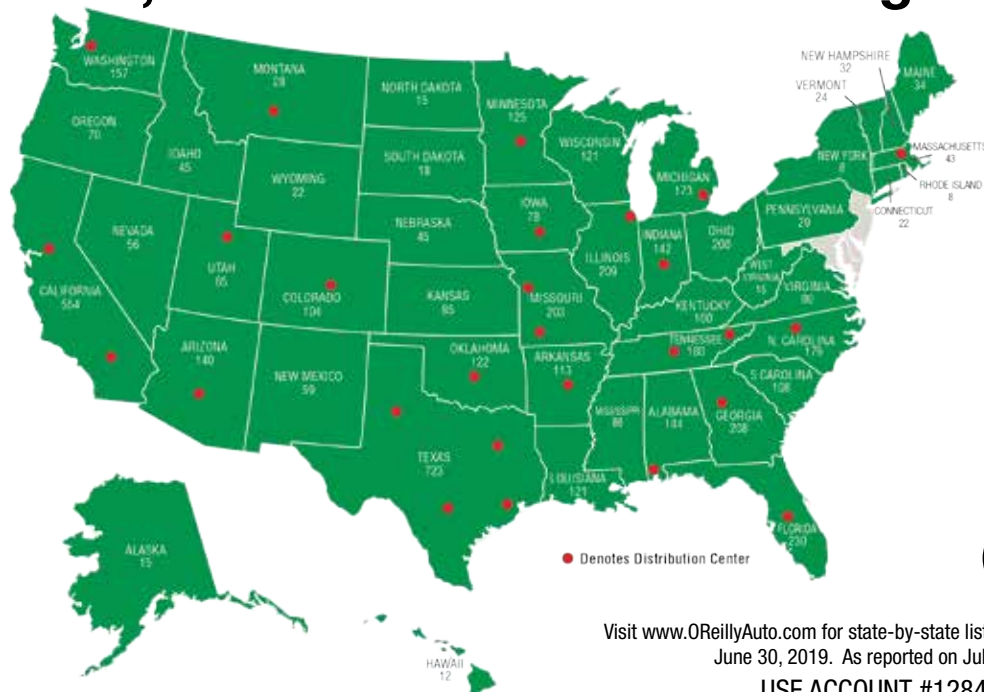
**Hookups included.*

If you are a dealer and have any of these items and would like to be put on this list, send an email to vp.busdev@fcocrv.org.

| OASIS DEALER NAME | STREET ADDRESS | CITY | STATE | ZIP | TELEPHONE |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Premier Truck Group of Eau Claire | 6124 Chuck Lane | Eau Claire | WI | 54703 | (715) 874-4700 |
| Premier Truck Group of La Crosse | 3959 North Kinney Coulee Road | La Crosse | WI | 54601 | (608) 784-1149 |
| Premier Truck Group of Roberts | 690 Starr Lane | Roberts | WI | 54023 | (715) 749-3100 |
| Truck Country of Iowa, Inc. | 119 Highway 11 | Shullsburg | WI | 53586 | (608) 975-7660 |
| Truck Country of Wausau | 2435 Trailwood Lane | Rothschild | WI | 54474 | (715) 359-9989 |
| Truck Country of Wisconsin, Inc. | 5000 Cake Parkway | Deforest | WI | 53532 | (608) 249-1090 |
| Truck Country of Wisconsin, Inc. | 2401 Progress Way | Kaukauna | WI | 54130 | (920) 766-5222 |
| Truck Country of Wisconsin, Inc. | 2222 West Ryan Road | Oak Creek | WI | 53154 | (414) 761-3384 |



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