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Find inspiration for your journey and keep up with all things FCCC through our active social media channels.

- RV Road Trippers (@DriveFCCC)
- RV Road Trippers (rv\_roadtrippers)
  - Freightliner Custom Chassis Corp. (@FreightlinerCustomChassis)

# 

SUMMER 2025

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS\***

#### 2025

COEUR D'ALENE, ID 9/22-26 MYRTLE BEACH, SC 11/11-15

#### \* Subject to change

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**OASIS DEALERS** 

## MEETYOUR Custom Chassile OWNERS CLUB 1M YEL 1M YEL

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SEE THE GUIDE



## FREIGHTLINER® Custom Chassis—

Greetings, fellow RVers! I hope this latest issue of RV Soul finds you well and enjoying an amazing summer on the road.

Our summer got off to a great start with a couple of exciting events for our team. First up was the second annual Music City Motorhome Expo in Nashville from our partners at National Indoor RV Centers in early June. At this year's Expo, we provided a true Nashville experience—five days of Broadway nights, bright lights, unforgettable sights, and the music that built that city. Throughout the Expo, we showed drivers a true VIP experience viewing and driving the luxury motorhome of their dreams.

On June 7, we held a celebration in Gaffney so our entire team could celebrate our 30th anniversary in style. Reaching that milestone would not be possible without the dedication and commitment of our team, and we enjoyed the chance to celebrate with all of them.

Speaking of our team, I'm thrilled to introduce Michael Brown as our new Customer Excellence Manager. Michael brings a wealth of experience—and a true passion for—the RV industry to his new role. His leadership will help ensure our team continues providing you the best ownership experience in the industry.

And speaking of ownership experience, we're excited to share the newest features to our My 24/7 Direct owners app in the near future—a subscription option giving you access to a series of in-depth instructional videos covering a range of maintenance and operational topics. Available via either a monthly or annual subscription, these videos will bring our full expertise to life in an informative and easy-to-follow format. We'll be rolling them out shortly—in the meantime, make sure you have the My 24/7 Direct app on your mobile device. You can download the app through your mobile device's app store or at My247Direct.com.

Lastly, Freightliner Custom Chassis Corp. (FCCC) is accepting orders for Internal Combustion Engines (ICE) RV chassis in all 50 states for 2025. This includes orders for ICE RV chassis for sale in California. Please note that product availability, including RV chassis availability, is subject to change at any time. We are fully committed to supporting our customers in any way we can. We encourage RV buyers to connect with their local dealers, including in California, to explore the full range of options available. FCCC remains focused on delivering innovative chassis solutions to meet the diverse needs of the RV market. For more information, visit **fcccrv.com**.

From everyone at FCCC, we hope your summer continues to be full of adventure and exploration. Until next time, safe travels and happy trails!

Bryan Henke

Manager of Product Marketing, FCCC

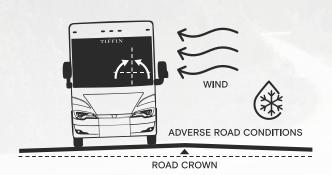
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Custom Chassis

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS 116 total new members for Summer 2025.

Ismael & Mary Jean Alsina Wanaque, NJ

Charles & Karen Ammann Hockessin, DE

David Ashley Cincinnati, OH

Stanley & Carol Ball Cary, NC

John & Nancy Barry Fort Myers, FL

Michael & Marika Beaven Livingston, TX

David & Kimberly Beets Fremont, MI

Robert Beitz & Jaye McKinney Powell, TN

Brian & Karla Benge Ketchum, OK

Roger Block & Judith Adams Milton, GA

Robert Bollinger Maryland Heights, MO

James & Karen Boothe Sun City West, AZ

Mark & Joanne Boyer Pryor, OK

Daniel & Traci Bray Crestview, FL

Glenn & Betsy Brown Wimauma, FL

Kenneth & Carline Cain San Diego, CA

Gregory & Jackie Cambre Saint Amant, LA

Dorothy Carroll & William Dunn Newport, WA

Donald Cleveland & Leslie Zak Las Vegas, NV

Michael & Linda Copestick Spring Hope, NC

Alan & Jo Crew Hilton Head Island, SC

Kevin & Cecilia Daley Virginia Beach, VA John M. & Nancy Damas Lemont, IL

Kent & Nancy David Lebanon, TN

Armando De Tomas & Lia Velazquez Miami, FL

Thomas De Winter Coal Valley, IL

James Dean II Charleston, SC

Todd Dittmer Peoria IL,

Peter & Annette Dotson South Lyon, MI

Tim Doyle Mount Pleasant, SC

Mike Dreisbach & Janis Russell Grantsville, MD

William Duncan & Heather Edinborough Winnipeg, MB

Lynn Eberhardt Meridian, ID

Kenneth & Frances Ellsworth Hannibal, NY

Elzar Engel Baltimore, MD

Jimmy & Debby Eubanks Tulsa, OK

Gregory & Janis Exner Niles, MI

Donald & Laurie Finger La Place, LA

Robert & Michelle Foster Ave Maria, FL

Gerald & Suzy Freeny Georgetown, TX

Jordan Frye Margate, FL

Sandra Louise Galeski Tucson, AZ

Brian & Sara Garrett Morrisville, NC

Richard & Darla Geary Lake City, MN Michael & Vanessa Grable Broad Run, VA

Sandor & Wei Greenbaum Spearfish, SD

Robert & Concetta Grunmeier Line Lexington, PA

Larry & Barbara Guarino Doylestown, PA

Kraig & Nancy Harper Anna Maria, FL

Terrence & Cindy Hawk Batavia, OH

Amber Hempell Oregon City, OR

Danny & Allyson Hickey Brunswick, GA

Len & Amie Hickey Winchester, VA

Michael & Lynn Hightower Sapphire, NC

Jon & Tamara Hinckley White Rock, NM

George & Nina Hodges Savannah, TN

Charles & Debra Hoffner Bellefonte, PA

Norman & Jacquine Holcomb Parkersburg, WV

Richard Jessup Loveland, OH

Jeremy Jordan East Baldwin, ME

Donald & Peggy Karnes Box Elder, SD

Dwight Kitchens Polk City, FL

Neil & Kathy Kruse Mechanicsburg, PA

Maria & Juan Lara Anthony, NM

Robert & Debbie Lassiter Lewisville, TX

Michael & Joanne Leckliter Murrieta, CA Karen & Tom Lee Green Cove Springs, FL

Gary & Althea Loney Summerville, SC

Jeff Lowry & Margaret Carter-Lowry Marysville, OH

Kerrie Maloney Laytin & Eric Dodson Chicago, IL

Dean & Ann Martin Cabot, AR

David & Patricia Mathis Fairfield, OH

Robert & Jerri McClory Lake Havasu City, AZ

George McMann Tyler, TX

David & Beverly Meck Emmaus, PA

Jason Medaris Tuolumne, CA

Kerry & Carla Miller Racine, WI

Danny & Ronnie Monroe Homosassa, FL

Gary & Lorraine Moore Denton, NC

Brenda & Rocky Morabito Huntington, WV

Charles & Catherine Morse San Antonio, TX

Jeremy & Mary Mullins Charlotte, NC

Ron Nickens Shelbyville, TN

John & Lauren Noll Wellington, FL

Scott & Mary Nordi Tacoma, WA

Jeffrey & Debbie Ott Spring Lake, MI

Bob & Sandy Peter Leesburg, FL

David & Linda Pineau Westport, MA Michael & Heather Pitts Moore Haven, FL

DeWayne & Vickie Reed Elizabethtown, KY

**Dennis Ritchie** South Barrington, IL

Cathy Robertson Cordova, TN

Bill Ryan Fredericksburg, TX

Stephen Ryan Naples, FL

Nicholas A. & Donna Salemme Stockton, CA

Michael Schaal & Shawn Stephens Severn, MD

Mark & LuAnne Schendel Maitland, FL

Guido & Madeleine Smeets Livingston, TX

Jonathan & Cynthia Smith Gorham, ME

Timothy & Vivian Smith Rowlett, TX

Glenn & Marianne Solum Richmond, IL

Tom & Karen St John Hertford, NC

Scott & Moncia Tappan Valrico, FL

William & Alice Thurman Columbia, MO

Kenny & Carol Trussell Davisboro, GA

Keith & Brenda Veltman Sunshine, LA

Marie & Lanny Vines Crossville, N

Wesley & Shelli Vinson Tulare, CA

Lewis & Michelle Voight Wall, NJ

John & Catherine Webb Middleburg, FL

Alan & Lea Wecht Blue Bell, PA

Mike & Lisa Wilde Villa Hills, KY

Alberta Williams Chester, VA

William Wilson Holland, OH

Michael & Tanya Woodford Clarksville, OH

James & Margaret York Fredericksburg, VA





VOLUME 1

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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## FCOCPRESIDENT'S MINISTER MINISTER



Dear Fellow FCOC Members,

Summer is upon us, and now is the time to see all the wonderful things there are to see from the comfort of our motorhome. The North is calling, and there is a plethora of places from which to choose. There is still time to sign up for our event in Coeur d'Alene, ID. This is a small event focused on entertainment. The weather should be perfect, and the scenery is absolutely awe-inspiring. The Pacific Northwest enjoys generally mild weather in the summer months, and anywhere along the coast is about as perfect as the temperatures can be! Wherever you choose, make plans to get out and see our wonderful country during these summer months.

We are making plans for Myrtle Beach, SC, for our November event at the Ocean Lakes Campground. If you choose to run south for the winter, Lakeland, FL, will host a January event coinciding with the Tampa Supershow. Event fees will include tickets for the show. In April 2026, we will be in Crystal Beach, TX, at the Margaritaville RV Resort. So, check out the website or the FCOC Events Facebook page for all the details and start making your plans.

Our annual meeting took place at the Allegan, MI, event in June. If you were not there, there was a vote for our club officers who will serve for the next two years. We also honored Roy Hopper with a lifetime membership by unanimous vote. Roy has served our club for many years in nearly every position on the board. Roy and his wife, Kathy, traveled from their current home in Vero Beach, FL, to be with us. Get to know them better on page 16.

On a more serious note, I want to take this opportunity to again address an issue that is becoming more significant every day. Right now, there is a lot of confusion about the Freightliner brand and whether a specific coach is eligible for membership. People only see the Freightliner label on the RV. They don't understand the differences between the chassis and the companies that make them. They just see Freightliner.

There are other organizations actively feeding this confusion to benefit personally, to the detriment of their members. I believe the best way to combat this is to invite them to our functions and speak with them directly. This will hopefully spread throughout the RV community and stop a lot of the bad information, allow those other owners a place to learn to enjoy their coach more fully, and possibly develop into future FCCC owners.

Our events offer training relevant to other chassis, such as M2s from DTNA (Freightliner Trucks). Education for common components like Michelin tires, Cummins engines, Onan generators, and Allison transmissions is covered and applies to most coaches. Information on coach systems—inverters, batteries, air conditioning, refrigerators, and more—is broadly applicable across the industry.

Our events provide a place for camaraderie, entertainment, and fun, centered in an atmosphere of FCCC support. Owners will hear about the 24/7 support line and the lifetime information support FCCC provides to any owner of a 4UZ chassis. That can only be a good thing for all of us.

Currently, owners of the M2 chassis are not eligible for membership in our club. Changing this policy would require further discussion and an amendment to the bylaws. However, these owners may attend events and learn more about the club, its activities, their coaches, and the S2 and XC chassis products of FCCC. Members are encouraged to invite owners of any RV featuring a Freightliner nameplate to attend our club functions. Together, we will become a stronger organization providing camaraderie, education, and fun to all Freightliner RV owners.

Safe travels,

Steve Bertling FCOC President

Steve Bertling

## **CHRYSLER** AFFILIATE REWARDS

Did you know that as a member of the Freightliner Chassis Owners Club, you can get unbeatable pricing on Chrysler vehicles through Affiliate Rewards?



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Participating in the program is easy. Here's how:

- 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.

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

MYRTLE BEACH, SC November 11-15, 2025

\* Event dates subject to change

#### **CANCELLATION POLICY**

- An administration fee of \$25 will be charged for all registrations received.
- 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.
- Members that register and pay for a event and do not attend will not receive any refund.
- 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.

#### COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO September 22-26, 2025







#### 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





#### 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.

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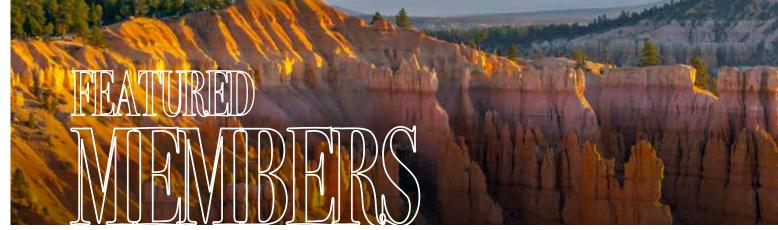
Know your engine's status at every moment by utilizing the Acumen® device to register your vehicle for Connected Solutions®. This free tool provides remote diagnostics to help you make the best operational decisions. It also offers over-the-air programming to optimize your vehicle's performance and efficiency without having to visit a Cummins service location.

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FOR A WORLD THAT'S ALWAYS ON"



## MILES OF MEMORIES: ROY AND KATHY HOPPER'S 25 YEARS ON THE ROAD

#### A LIFE OF ADVENTURE TAKES A NEW ROUTE

For Roy and Kathy Hopper of Vero Beach, Florida, the RV lifestyle didn't just happen—it evolved from a lifetime of movement. As a former pilot, Roy was no stranger to life on the go. But in 2000, after a heart attack forced them to reconsider how they'd spend retirement, the couple swapped wings for wheels and never looked back.

"We realized it was time to start traveling while we still could," Roy recalls. What began with a plan to purchase a fifth wheel soon transformed into a full-blown motorhome journey...one that's taken us across every U.S. state (except Alaska) and led to more stories than we can count."

#### A COACH WITH CHARACTER

The Hoppers currently travel in a 2007 Tiffin Phaeton, a motorhome with its own unique backstory. Originally built on one of only 78 Freightliner chassis briefly fitted with Mercedes engines, their coach spent its early years in the hands of Freightliner executives before Roy scooped it up.

"It had been driven to shows and used for vacations. It was basic at first, but I upgraded a lot," he says. And for someone who does 90% of the maintenance himself, that kind of hands-on approach comes naturally.

#### FINDING FAMILY IN FCOC

A chance encounter at a gas station on their very first return trip from Florida changed everything. Roy met Ken Hawk, president of the Freightliner Chassis Owners Club (FCOC), who handed him an application on the spot. That spark ignited a decades-long involvement, eventually leading Roy to serve in multiple officer roles, including 20 years on the board.

"FCOC is extremely educational. Freightliner has always supported the club in big ways," Roy says. "But more than that, we've met the most wonderful people through this community." THROUGHOUT EVERY MILE AND EVERY YEAR, THIS ADVENTUROUS COUPLE HAS SEEN AMERICA TOGETHER, ALL IN THEIR TIFFIN PHAETON.

Kathy agrees. "The people are what bring us back to rallies. We've been attending for years and have made so many lasting friendships," she shares.





#### **SEEING AMERICA, ONE PARK AT A TIME**

From the Canadian Maritimes to the red rocks of Utah, Roy and Kathy have experienced the breadth of America in a way few ever do. Southern Utah holds a special place in their hearts, especially Bryce Canyon and its iconic hoodoos.

"People talk about traveling to Europe," Kathy says, "but we have the most stunning country right here. Utah's probably my favorite state."

They've driven the coasts, explored national parks, and taken in the majesty of Lake Louise. For them, RVing isn't just about the destination—it's about discovering places they never imagined visiting. "IF YOU WAIT TOO LONG, IT **GETS HARDER. WE'VE BEEN SO BLESSED TO LIVE THIS LIFE, BUT** WE KNOW OUR TIME ON THE **ROAD WON'T LAST FOREVER."** 

- Roy Hopper

#### **LESSONS FROM THE ROAD**

With over two decades of travel under their belts, Roy and Kathy's advice is simple: don't wait.

"Start as soon as you can," Roy says. "If you wait too long, it gets harder. We've been so blessed to live this life, but we know our time on the road won't last forever."

Still, their love for RVing hasn't faded. And thanks to their Freightliner support system—including a 24/7 helpline that's rescued them more than once—they've traveled with peace of mind.

#### A JOURNEY WELL TRAVELED

Today, the Hoppers reflect on their motorhome years with gratitude and joy. Though their coach may be older, and the road may one day call them less frequently, their sense of wonder hasn't dimmed.

"It's been a good life," Kathy says. "A beautiful life. And we're not done yet."

As they continue logging miles and memories, Roy and Kathy serve as a reminder of what's possible when you say yes to the road—and to each other.

## SRWICE TIPOATE



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Our two-day training sessions are hosted at our Freightliner Custom Chassis Factory Service Center located in Gaffney, SC, and also broadcast online with virtual attendance through Zoom.

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Attend Camp Freightliner from the comfort and convenience of wherever you are in the world. Using Zoom meeting software, our course instructor will deliver the entire class curriculum through live interactive training sessions.

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In-person classes provide a more personal experience including hands-on access to chassis components and more engagement with your classmates. And for Factory classes, VIP tours of the production facility are available.

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## HOW TO VISIT BIG CITIES IN YOUR RV SMART STRATEGIES FOR NAVIGATING URBAN ADVENTURES ON WHEELS

RVers are no strangers to national parks, scenic byways, and quiet campgrounds—but you may be wanting to mix it up and not miss out on popular cities either! Whether it's the museums of Washington, D.C., the music of Nashville, or the cuisine of San Diego, America's cities offer a different kind of thrill for road travelers. And while they may seem incompatible with the RV lifestyle, urban areas are absolutely accessible—if you approach them with the right plan.

Here's how to confidently bring your rig into the city and make the most of an urban RV experience.

#### **TIP #1: RETHINK THE BASECAMP**

Most cities lack traditional campgrounds, especially in their core, but that doesn't mean you have to forgo convenience. Instead of attempting to park downtown, set your sights on the suburbs. Look for RV parks, fairgrounds, or even private lots with access to commuter rail, park-and-ride lots, or reliable public transit.

A few well-known options include:

**Cherry Hill Park** near Washington, D.C., with direct bus access to the Metro system.

Liberty Harbor RV Park in Jersey City offers views of the Manhattan skyline and ferry service into the city.

Campgrounds in Indiana Dunes for travelers visiting Chicago, with commuter rail service into the city.

#### **TIP #2: BE SMART ABOUT PARKING**

Urban streets and parking garages are not designed for motorhomes or trailers. Before driving into a city center, research your options using tools like SpotHero, Parkopedia, or satellite view on Google Maps. In some cities, marinas and ports offer overnight RV parking at affordable rates.

If you're only in town for a few hours, it may be worth renting a compact car or using rideshare services to avoid the hassle altogether. For those towing a vehicle, leaving the RV at camp and using your towed car is often the most efficient and stress-free approach.



#### TIP #3: ROUTE PLANNING IS NON-NEGOTIABLE

Driving through urban environments means facing narrow streets, low bridges, and strict road restrictions. Always plan your route using a GPS app designed for RVs or commercial trucks, which will help you avoid low clearances and weight-restricted roads. Avoid rush hour altogether-target early mornings, mid-afternoon, or late evenings when city traffic is at its lightest.

#### **TIP #4: RESTOCK, RECHARGE, AND MAINTAIN**

One of the benefits of big cities is access to supplies, services, and amenities. Plan to:

- Refill propane or fuel at large truck stops or service centers on the city's edge.
- Restock groceries or specialty items not found in rural areas.
- Schedule maintenance, tire replacement, or mechanical checks at urban RV dealerships or service centers.

Being proactive while in the city can save you from surprises on the next leg of your trip.

#### **TIP #5: BOOK EXPERIENCES AHEAD**

Urban attractions are often in high demand. Museums, concerts, tours, and restaurants frequently require reservations. Booking online not only saves time but can also secure discounted rates or flexible entry times. Some cultural sites offer dedicated RV parking or discounts for travelers.

#### TIP #6: LEARN FROM OTHERS

Wondering what urban RV travel actually looks like? Watch a realworld example of how fellow RVers navigated the challenges and triumphs of visiting a city in their motorhome. The video, produced by two fellow FCCC owners, captures the practical decisions, highlights, and lessons learned from one such journey.

Watch the story here:



#### TIP #7: PICK THE RIGHT CITY

Certain cities stand out as RV-friendly due to their infrastructure and welcoming approach to travelers.

San Diego, CA - Campgrounds within reach of the trolley system and beachfront parking.

Chicago, IL - Accessible via the South Shore Line from Indiana campgrounds.

Nashville, TN - Offers ample parking options and a vibrant downtown that's easy for walkers.

Philadelphia, PA - Multiple RV parks on the outskirts with shuttle services into the historic district.

**Boston, MA** - Best approached via commuter rail from campgrounds in southern New Hampshire or western Massachusetts.

Big cities don't need to be off-limits to RV travelers. With careful planning, creative logistics, and a flexible mindset, visiting urban centers can become an enriching part of the RV lifestyle. Whether you're looking to catch a Broadway show, explore a historic district, or simply enjoy a world-class meal, America's cities are waiting-and they're more accessible than you think.



#### CHARBROILED SALMON

Prep Time: 5 min. | Cook Time: 10 min. | Servings: 4

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 cup soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons red wine
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 2 pounds of salmon steaks
- 4 sprigs fresh parsley, for garnish
- 4 slices of lemon, for garnish

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

- 1. Combine soy sauce, red wine, ginger, and black pepper in a large, resealable plastic bag. Seal and shake vigorously to mix ingredients. Add salmon steaks, squeeze out excess air, and seal. Refrigerate, turning frequently to keep all sides in contact with the liquid, for at least 2 hours.
- **2.** Preheat an outdoor grill to medium-high heat.
- **3.** Cook on a hot grill for about 5 minutes per side, basting freely with extra marinade.
- **4.** Serve with parsley garnish and lemon slices.

Recipe and photo from Allrecipes (allrecipes.com).



#### **PANZANELLA**

Prep Time: 15 min. | Cook Time: 10 min. | Servings: 6

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

- 1/2 pound ciabatta or sourdough bread, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced red onion
- 1 1/2 pounds tomatoes, sliced into wedges or halved
- 1/2 English cucumber, sliced into half moons
- 6 ounces fresh mozzarella, torn (optional)
- 1 cup fresh basil leaves, torn, plus more for garnish
- Sea salt

#### **DRESSING:**

- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 tablespoons sherry vinegar or red wine vinegar
- 3 garlic cloves, grated
- 1/2 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- Heaping 1/2 teaspoon sea salt

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

- 1. Preheat the oven to 350°F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Place the bread on the baking sheet, drizzle with the olive oil, and sprinkle with salt. Toss to coat and spread evenly on the sheet. Bake for 7 to 10 minutes, or until crisp around the edges.
- 2. Make the dressing: In a large bowl, whisk together the olive oil, vinegar, garlic, mustard, salt, and several grinds of pepper.
- 3. Add the onion, tomatoes, cucumber, and bread to the bowl with the dressing and toss to coat. Add the cheese, if using, and the basil, and gently toss. Season to taste and serve with more fresh basil on top.

Recipe and photo from Love & Lemons (loveandlemons.com).



**SEE PAGES** 30-31 FOR THE KEYS.

### SUDOKU 1

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## SUDOKU2

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#### (CROSSWO)RID

#### DOWN:

- 1. Room design
- Wed secretly 2.
- Small planet 3.
- 4. Frying \_
- Pacific and Atlantic
- 6. Salon treatment
- Highly skilled 7.
- 8. Was ahead
- Not abundant
- 10. Not fine
- 11. Farm measure
- 12. Cows' calls
- 13. Breathe rapidly
- 18. Part of NATO
- 22. Confederate
- 24. Drop heavily
- 26. Snoozing
- 28. African desert
- 30. Songstress \_\_\_\_ Turner
- 31. Love god
- 32. Inferior grades
- 33. Nest eggs (abbr.)
- 34. Pub missile
- 35. "\_\_\_\_ dead people!" (2 words)
- 37. Implore
- 41. Lurch
- 42. So be it!
- 44. Religious order
- 47. Idolized
- 48. Untidy conditions
- 50. \_\_\_\_ down (inverted)
- 52. and fauna
- 54. Barbecue site
- 55. Broker
- 56. Skier's cabin
- 57. Actor Baldwin
- 58. VIP's car
- 59. Nutmeglike spice
- 61. Overlook
- 64. River blocker
- 65. Picasso's creation

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
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23		+	24		$\vdash$		25	26		+				
			27			28		29				30	31	32
33	34	35		+		36	37					38		+
39		T	$\dagger$			40				41	42			+
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56						67	$\dagger$				68			
59			+	+		70	+	+			71		+	+

#### **ACROSS:**

- 1. Actor Johnny
- 5. October's stone
- 9. Rascal
- 14. Jazz singer \_\_\_ **Fitzgerald**
- 15. Surrender
- 16. Hot chocolate
- 17. Offered in response
- 19. Slugger Hank
- 20. Make a choice
- 21. Sloping walkway
- 22. Apprehend
- 23. Unlock again

- 25. Bath powders
- 27. Young woman
- 29. Rained ice
- 33. Dolt
- 36. With competence
- 38. Intense rage
- 39. Hoarse
- 40. Laughter syllable
- 41. Narrow boat
- 43. Live
- 44. Cooking herb
- 45. Stockpile
- 46. Cooking container
- 49. Uncontaminated

- 51. Coffee type, for short
- 53. Mail friend (2 words)
- 57. Nearly
- 60. Suffer defeat
- 62. Time past
- 63. Untruthful ones
- 64. Controlled
- 66. Host
- 67. Desertlike
- 68. Wedding band
- 69. Female students
- 70. Chess term
- 71. Lug

#### 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 1

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#### SUDOKU2

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## 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 29.

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.

Disclaimer: FCOC is not responsible for personal statements, opinions or representation advanced in papers, newsletters, web site, in discussions at any meetings or its Internet site and Discussion Forums, or the validity of statements contained in any advertisements.



#### GET **RV SOUL** BY EMAIL!

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!

## CROSSSWORD

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## 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 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	СІТУ	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.	Summerdale	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	СО	80516	(303) 684-3400

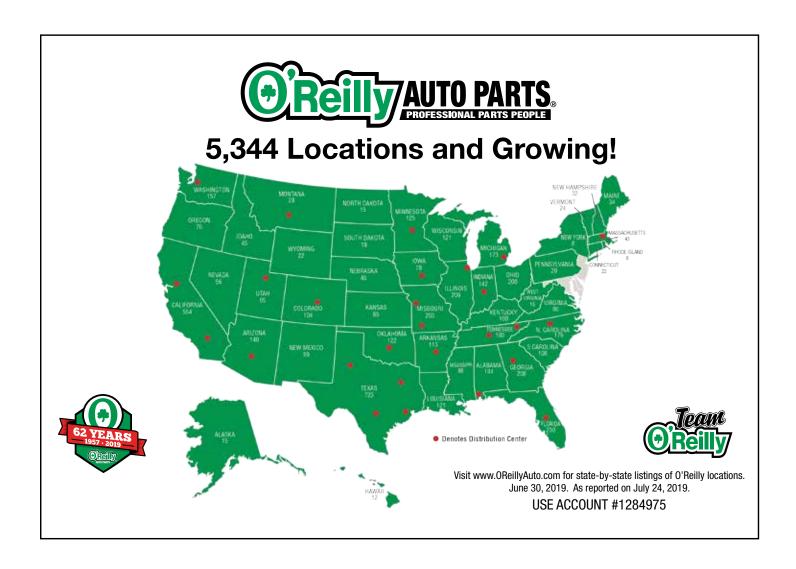
OASIS DEALER NAME	STREET ADDRESS	СІТУ	STATE	ZIP	TELEPHONE
Transwest Truck Trailer RV	6220 Champlin Drive	Fountain	CO	80817	(719) 533-1005
Freightliner of Hartford, Inc.	45 Brainard Road	Hartford	СТ	6114	(860) 290-8061
Bayshore Truck Center	4003 N. Dupont Hwy	New Castle	DE	19720	(302) 656-3160
Empire Truck Sales, LLC (Mossy Head)	15 Sand Mine Road	De Funiak Summers	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	Summerfield	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	МО	64161	(816) 453-4400
Truck Centers, Inc.	720 N. Service Road	Foristell	МО	63348	(636) 978-3870
Truck Centers, Inc.	747 E. Taylor Avenue	St. Louis	МО	63147	(314) 381-3800

OASIS DEALER NAME	STREET ADDRESS	СІТУ	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	ОН	43162	(614) 851-0002
Fyda Freightliner Western Star Zanesville	5005 East Pike	Zanesville	ОН	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

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.

<sup>\*</sup>Hookups included.

OASIS DEALER NAME	STREET ADDRESS	СІТУ	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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