



A publication of the
Freightliner Chassis Owners Club

WINTER 2026



SOUTH

A NEW YEAR OF
POSSIBILITIES.

MEET YOUR FCOC OFFICERS

DETAILS ON PAGE 4.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CRYSTAL BEACH, TX; AMANA, IA

DETAILS ON PAGE 14.

WHY RVERS HEAD SOUTH EVERY WINTER

PAGE 24.



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Marty Lown
RV owner, RV Dealer, SkyMed Member

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FUEL YOUR RV SOUL

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)

CONTENTS

RV SOUL

WINTER 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS*

2026

- 4/15-19 CRYSTAL BEACH, TX
- 6/19-23 AMANA, IA

* Subject to change

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

04	COMMUNITY UPDATES
06	FCCC LETTER
08	CLUB UPDATES
10	NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION
12	FCOC LETTER
14	UPCOMING EVENTS
17	EVENT RECAP
18	FEATURED MEMBERS
20	SERVICE UPDATE
24	SEASONAL ARTICLE
26	ROADSIDE RECIPES
30	BRAINTEASERS
36	OASIS DEALERS

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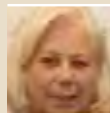
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SEE THE GUIDE



MESSAGE

FROM



Hello, FCOC members!

I hope this Winter issue of *RV Soul* finds you well and you are enjoying the season wherever the road has taken you. The start of this year has been both active and rewarding for all of us at Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation, and I appreciate the opportunity to connect with you through these pages.

We recently concluded another successful Florida RV SuperShow in Tampa, an event that consistently sets the tone for the spring buying season and offers valuable insight into the year ahead. Tampa provided an excellent forum to engage with RV owners, dealer partners, and OEMs while highlighting the continued strength and innovation across the FCCC portfolio.

A notable highlight of this year's show was the introduction of Foretravel as a new FCCC partner. The REALM FL605 marks a bold new chapter for Foretravel Motorcoach and Freightliner Custom Chassis Corp., continuing to solidify FCCC as a high-end top-tier chassis supplier of Class A Premium Diesels.

Our presence in Tampa also reflected several internal enhancements underway at FCCC. These efforts are focused on strengthening our legacy as the industry leader in customer support and service. You will continue to see these improvements take shape through expanded resources, streamlined processes, and a renewed emphasis on owner confidence and care.

Service remains central to everything we do. At Tampa, we highlighted our "Road Ready" maintenance videos along with additional service-focused initiatives designed to help owners better understand their chassis, maintain performance, and travel with confidence. Providing education and proactive support throughout the ownership experience remains a top priority.

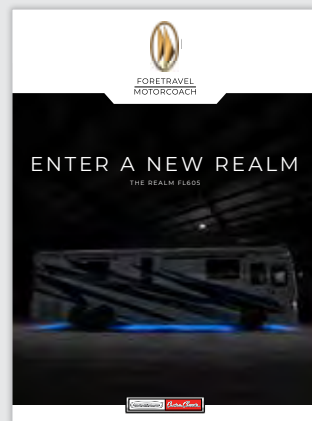
On behalf of the entire FCCC team, thank you for your continued trust and engagement. We value your partnership and look forward to supporting you in the year ahead.

Wishing you a safe, comfortable and enjoyable winter season. Until next time, safe travels and happy trails.

Sincerely,

Akbar Ghous

Vice President of Sales and Marketing, FCCC



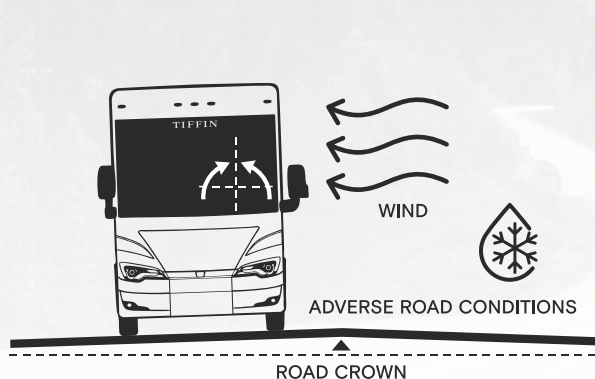
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CLUB UPDATES



PROPOSED BYLAW UPDATES TO STRENGTHEN AND GROW FCOC

The Executive Board is recommending several important updates to the FCOC bylaws. These proposed changes are designed to ensure the continued strength, relevance, and growth of our club as the premier organization for owners of RVs built on a Freightliner chassis.

Why These Changes Matter

The RV industry is evolving rapidly. In recent years, there has been significant growth in RVs built on Freightliner chassis that were originally designed for the commercial truck market. Daimler Truck North America (DTNA), the parent company of Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation (FCCC), manufactures the majority of heavy-duty trucks and freight haulers in the United States.

One platform in particular—the increasingly popular Freightliner M2, now offered in multiple configurations by numerous RV manufacturers—has entered the RV market in large numbers. While DTNA builds excellent products, its customer support model is not designed for individual RV owners.

FCCC, by contrast, remains uniquely committed to owner-level support. Owners of RVs built on FCCC chassis can receive direct assistance by calling 800-FTL-HELP. Owners of RVs built on M2 or other DTNA truck-based chassis do not have individual owner support available.

The Role FCOC Plays

This is where FCOC fills a critical gap. As a club, we provide guidance, education, and community support for owners of Freightliner-based RVs—especially those who do not receive direct, individualized assistance from DTNA. While we may not have access to all proprietary FCCC data, our collective knowledge, experience, and resources allow us to offer meaningful, credible support to these owners.

Other groups are actively trying to attract this growing segment of Freightliner-based RV owners, sometimes in ways that prioritize their own interests over the needs of owners. FCOC stands apart. Our mission has always been to support Freightliner chassis owners with accurate information, high-quality education, and a welcoming community.

Expanding membership eligibility strengthens our club, enhances our educational mission, and ensures that all owners of RVs built on Freightliner chassis have access to the support they deserve.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Executive Board believes these proposed updates are in the best interest of both the club and the broader RV community we serve. By welcoming more Freightliner-based RV owners into FCOC, we reinforce our mission, strengthen our membership, and ensure the club remains relevant in a changing RV landscape. Members are encouraged to review these proposals carefully and participate in the upcoming discussion and vote.

PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES

Below is a summary of the proposed updates, listed by Article and Section. The proposed changes will be presented for member consideration and vote in accordance with club procedures.

Article III: Membership

Eligibility

To be eligible for and to maintain membership in the Club, a person must own at least 1/3 interest in a motor home built on a qualifying chassis. A qualifying chassis shall include any John Deere, Oshkosh, or Freightliner chassis, including those manufactured at any Freightliner factory or plant location. There shall be no restriction based on VIN or factory of origin. However, FCCC may not be able to support these products to the extent they can support the chassis they manufacture.

Explanation

This change makes all Freightliner-based RVs eligible for membership in the club.

Article V: Elections

Rights and Limitations

Any member in Good Standing may be nominated from the floor for any elective office.

Only Full Members or Honorary Lifetime Members have the right to hold office in this Club. To be eligible for election to an office in this Club, a person must own at least 1/3 interest in an approved motor coach as defined in Article III: Membership and be a member in Good Standing.

Explanation

This update aligns Article V with the proposed changes to Article III and ensures consistency across the bylaws. If the Article III change is not approved, this update becomes moot.

Article VIII: Amendment of Bylaws

Amending Procedure

These Bylaws may be amended by a 66 2/3% affirmative vote of the members present and voting at a business meeting, provided that prior notice of at least thirty (30) days has been given of the proposed amendment(s). Notice may be provided by electronic communication or by mail. Approved amendments shall become effective immediately upon adoption unless otherwise specified.

Explanation

This change allows official notice of proposed bylaw amendments to be delivered by electronic communication, including email.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

83 total new members (Oct. 1–Nov. 30, 2025).

Philip Allen & Laura Beck
Westminster, MD

Anthony & Elizabeth Archer
Boone, NC

Randy & Marsha Arndt
Denison, TX

Larry & Larry Baragar
Mesa, AZ

Twila Barlow
Peoria, IL

Franklin & Joan Barrow
Harvest, AL

Bobby & Jan Baughn
Box Elder, SD

Steve & Kenda Belardo
Alpine, TX

Ed & Kathy Benvie
Pembroke, MA

Steve & Carla Biehl
Weatherford, TX

Martin Bischofberger
& Therese Spuehler
Müllheim, TG, Switzerland

Bill & Sheila Bishop
Springfield, IL

Tyree & Ann Bowman
Sioux Falls, SD

Leon & Anna Brasowski
Gillette, NJ

Randall & Lauren Brust
Coopersburg, PA

Tammy & Joe Budde
Delaware, OH

George Cero & Tami Oquinn
Bedford, TX

Larry & Lisa Cole
Ooltewah, TN

Jeff & Connie Coleman
Richburg, SC

Charles & Rhonda Coons
Winter Garden, FL

Gary & Donna Crandall
Laramie, WY

Aaron & Kristen Crawley
Hamlin, NY

Roger & Z. Donna Cutler
Round Rock, TX

Davide Dangelo
Hamilton, ON, Canada

Tom Dennis
Orlando, FL

Mike & Cheryl DiLeo
Murrells Inlet, SC

Matt Duff
Yuma, AZ

Daniel & Vee Duffy
Cape Coral, FL

Denise Dummerth
St. Louis, MO

Albert & Tracy Dykstra
Crystal Lake, IL

Bob Early
Mill Creek, IN

Gary & Xian Ely
Cumming, GA

Vince & Sue Farris
Whitwell, TN

Bob Fisher
Spokane Valley, WA

Bart & Toni Franklin
Port Orchard, WA

Kevin & Diane Gannon
Perrysburg, OH

Rob & Shirley Garlish
Delavan, IL

Henry & Stevie Giffin
Norfolk, VA

Kenneth Golubski
Silver Springs, FL

Erich Gotthardt
South Walpole, MA

Mark & Tammy Gullifer
Merritt Island, FL

Alan Hageman & Kathy McGuiness
Columbia, SC

Jeff & Judy Haug
Devine, TX

Michael & Lori Horner
Charles Town, WV

John Karsner
Pleasanton, CA

Bryan & Amanda Kilgore
Greenwood, IN

Matthew King
Olathe, KS

Scott & Laura Lee
Henderson, TN

Charles & Jeanne Lewis
Hudson, IN

Rose & Philip Magoon
LaBelle, FL

Jack Mazza
Bridgeville, DE

Brian McGuire
Plano, TX

Chris & Dianne McVetty
Murfreesboro, TN

Peter & Cynthia Meyer
Gulf Breeze, FL

William & Christina Nagy
Talbot, TN

Philip & Cindy Newman
Tijeras, NM

Greg & Marilyn Poston
Winter Garden, FL

Steve Rainey
Zachary, LA

Mike & Michelle Rathbun
Danvers, IL

Jeremy Renshaw
Glendale, AZ

Chip Robinson & Gerry O'Meara
Augusta, GA

Cowan & Julie Rodgers
Knoxville, TN

Robert Rush & Erica Ellis
Burke, VA

Norman & Sheilah Scheurich
Madison, AL

John & Jessica Seymour
Churchville, PA

Michael & Annette Shreves
Fishers, IN

John Smith
Suffolk, VA

Scott Soeder
Bull Valley, IL

John & Laurel Sorber
Green Cove Springs, FL

Jack & Pat Tenhulzen
Florence, MT

RC Thomaas
Lake City, FL

Bill Vanassen & Kim Engle
Folsom, CA

Gregory & Maria Voreh
Venice, FL

Candice Walck & Mark Chest
Loris, SC

Christopher Warren
Crestview, FL

Mark & Jeanette Willhoft
Washington, MI

Terrance & Marina Williams
Summerville, SC

Donna Wilson & Wally Knight
Meansville, GA

Mark & Trish Wilson
Lincoln, IL

Andrew & Patricia Wojteczko
Caledon East, ON, Canada

Kathleen Woodby
Athens, TN

Michael & Kim Yates
Forest City, NC

Ian & Katie Yazell
Gastonia, NC



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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Air Ambulance
Trip Home
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FCOC PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Brrr! Winter has arrived. If you have the chance, head south! For those staying put, be sure your coach is either tucked away in a heated barn or properly winterized. Whichever option you choose, do it thoroughly and do it right. By the time you read this, Jan and I will be in Lakeland, Florida, for our winter event, which coincides with the Tampa SuperShow. I'm hoping for warm weather this year. Past visits to Tampa haven't always delivered the shorts-and-t-shirt days we dream about.

I'm pleased to report that our membership continues to grow, especially with the increasing number of S2RV Class C owners joining us. With the proposed change to our rules scheduled for the 2026 business meeting in June, we anticipate even greater growth in our M2 community. Be sure to attend the meeting at the Amana Colonies and vote to allow all Freightliner-based coaches into our club.

Our November event in Myrtle Beach was a tremendous success. Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation (FCCC) hosted Camp Freightliner for Class A owners and immediately afterward for Class C and S2/M2 owners. FCOC is the only organization that offers an S2/M2 camp alongside an event, and our goal is to provide both classes at each of our national gatherings whenever possible.

If you haven't attended a Camp Freightliner tailored to your coach, you're missing out on an invaluable learning experience. Each attendee receives information specific to their chassis. To justify sending their training team, FCCC requires sufficient attendance. If you want to see these classes continue at our events, please register early and help spread the word.

As mentioned earlier, we are actively working to expand our club's reach to include all RVs built on any Freightliner chassis. Many owners have coaches built at other Freightliner facilities, yet support for them is limited. Some organizations seek their attention, but few truly serve their needs. Our purpose isn't to make money. Our mission is to support our members with trusted information and create opportunities to share great times with friends.

We maintain two Facebook pages: FCOC Events, which is open to the public, and our members-only Freightliner Custom Chassis Owners Club group. Be sure to follow both pages to stay up to date. If your friends own a Freightliner chassis RV, invite them to join. I also encourage all members to organize a campout with fellow Freightliner owners. It doesn't have to be big or complicated. Posting your invitation on the members-only page ensures it reaches current FCOC members. Some of my closest friendships began at small campouts with other members, and I'm confident you'll find the same warm connections.

Let's also continue to spread the word. As I travel to club events, I see an abundance of coaches on Freightliner chassis. When I chat with their owners, I often discover many have never heard of FCOC. To spark their interest, I leave behind a copy of *RV Soul* or a business card, and often they decide to join our thriving community. Each current edition of *RV Soul* features a convenient QR code on the cover, making it effortless for potential members to access our registration page with a simple scan. I encourage you to pass your copy along after enjoying its contents and help us connect with even more future FCOC members. I'm also exploring the idea of a small gift to accompany our outreach to potential members. I look forward to sharing more details on that soon.

Steve Bertling

Steve Bertling
FCOC President

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**FOR
A WORLD
THAT'S
ALWAYS ON™**

EVENT UPDATES

SAVE THE DATE*:

CRYSTAL BEACH, TX

April 15-19, 2026

AMANA, IA

June 19-23, 2026



* 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.

CRYSTAL BEACH, TX

April 15-19, 2026



ANAHUAC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



THE STRAND HISTORIC DISTRICT



SPACE CENTER HOUSTON



TROPICAL ESCAPE TO MARGARITAVILLE

Get ready to kick back and soak up the sun at the all-new Margaritaville RV Resort in Crystal Beach, Texas! With its laid-back beach-town vibe and five-star amenities, this rally offers the perfect spring escape. Just steps from the Gulf of Mexico, this Parrot Head paradise blends island style with upscale comfort—complete with swim-up bars, live entertainment, and unforgettable sunsets.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- 4 nights of tropical relaxation at a luxury RV resort with full hookups and beachfront access
- Educational seminars from Freightliner, RV Safety (with coach weighing and a tire safety class), AquaHot, Kleen Tank & more
- 4 catered dinners and 2 nights of live entertainment
- A guided boat ride and a local oil rig & museum tour (with time for lunch)
- Access to all resort amenities, including swim-up bar, lazy river, and License to Chill Pool

EXPLORE THE AREA

Crystal Beach and the Bolivar Peninsula offer relaxed beach-town charm and natural beauty.

While you're there:

- Visit the Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge or the Smith Oaks Bird Sanctuary for bird watching
- Try fishing, kayaking, or jet skiing along the Gulf Coast
- Take a short ferry ride to Galveston, where you can explore:
 - Moody Gardens (aquarium & rainforest pyramid)
 - The Strand Historic District
 - Galveston Naval Museum
 - Head inland to Space Center Houston

CRYSTAL BEACH



AMANA, IA

June 19-23, 2026

AMANA COLONIES



AMANA COLONIES



AMANA WOOLEN MILL



CELEBRATE SUMMER IN THE HEARTLAND

It's not just cornfields. The Heartland is full of culture, craftsmanship, and community at its best. FCOC is heading to the Amana Colonies in Iowa for a jam-packed summer rally that combines tradition with excitement. Educational sessions, historic charm, great eats, and your chance to meet the board at our annual business meeting.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Camp Freightliner sessions for both Diesel Pushers & Super C owners
- Educational seminars, unique vendors, and hands-on workshops
- Opportunities to meet & mingle with the FCOC Executive Board
- Great Midwestern hospitality and delicious locally made food

EXPLORE THE AMANA COLONIES

Immerse yourself in the heritage of one of the country's most well-preserved communal villages:

- Sample wines, beers, and cheeses from local producers
- Tour the Amana Woolen Mill, antique shops, and artisan craft studios
- Visit historic sites and stroll scenic trails between the seven Amana Colonies
- Time your visit with summer festivals and farmers' markets for a true local experience

ARE YOU IN THE FCOC FACEBOOK GROUP?

Want to swap tips, ask questions, or see what other Freightliner RV owners are up to? Our public Facebook group is where it's happening!

This isn't just another group. It's the front porch of the Freightliner Chassis Owners Club—open to both Diesel Pusher and Super C owners. You'll find:

- Helpful advice and community Q&As
- Real-time event updates and announcements
- Travel inspiration, stories and friendships
- A place to ask questions and get real answers from fellow members



Not in the group yet? Join today.

Already in? Invite someone who should be!

EVENT RECAP



WHEELS BY THE WAVES: HIGHLIGHTS FROM MYRTLE BEACH

If you attended our Myrtle Beach event, you already know what a fantastic time it was. If you didn't make it, you truly missed out. From an excellent location to a full schedule of activities, the week delivered on every level. While the first day brought cooler temperatures, the weather quickly warmed up, and as always, the people made the experience even better with their friendly, welcoming spirit.

We kicked off the week with Camp Freightliner for Class A coaches and wrapped it up with a dedicated session for Class C coaches. This marked the second time we've hosted camps for both classes, and FCOC remains the only organization offering Class C sessions away from the Gaffney factory.

Members enjoyed insightful presentations from Cummins/Onan, Michelin, and Freightliner, which addressed many chassis-related questions. Additional valuable sessions from Kleen Tank, Blue Sky, and ADV Detailing covered tank systems, water heaters, and practical coach cleaning tips.

The chili cook-off was both fun and delicious. Congratulations to our winners:



First Place: Betty Chandler

Second Place: Janene Rehder

Third Place: Mike Woodford

A big thank you to all the chefs who shared their amazing chili with the group.

Desiree hosted a popular session highlighting favorite Amazon gadgets, sparking plenty of conversation and shared ideas during a well-attended roundtable discussion.

The group also enjoyed a memorable outing to the Carolina Opry Theater for *The Christmas Show of the South*, a truly can't-miss performance. The evening concluded with an all-you-can-eat seafood feast at The Original Benjamin's Calabash Seafood.

A heartfelt thank-you to Abe and Desiree Shalley, along with Walter and Sherry Donaworth, for organizing such a fantastic and memorable event!



FEATURED MEMBERS



TRAVELING IN STYLE: MARK AND BARBARA COHEN'S 40-YEAR RV JOURNEY

What started as a \$30 Disney vacation has become a 40-year love story between Mark and Barbara Cohen and the open road. Today, the Cohens cruise around in their 2008 National Pacifica diesel coach, having traded one borrowed pop-up camper for decades of memories, milestones, and motorhome adventures.

FROM POP-UP TO PACIFICA

Back in the day, a coupon and a borrowed camper kicked off a journey neither Mark nor Barbara saw coming. "That did it," Mark says, recalling that first trip to Disney. From there, their rigs got bigger, their travels broader, and their love for RVing deeper.

Now rolling in a 36-foot diesel coach that fits perfectly into a custom-built garage, they've dialed in the comforts that matter most: a king-sized bed, a shower Mark can stand in (he's tall), and steps wide enough for real feet.

"We're not full-timers," Barbara explains, "but we're most-timers—and that's just how we like it."

IT'S THE PEOPLE YOU MEET

For the Cohens, RVing is more than just travel; it's a community. They've made friends across nearly every state and stay actively involved in clubs like FMCA, Good Sam, Escapees, and Harvest Hosts.

They don't just attend rallies; they help lead them. At one recent rally, they even chose the charitable partner—a local animal rescue in Sevierville. "We're rescue people," Barbara says. "Always have been. Dogs, birds, you name it."

TRAVEL WITH A TAIL

Speaking of animals, their current co-pilot is Duke, a 10-year-old German Shepherd and a gentle giant. "People see him and pick up their little dogs," Barbara says with a grin. "But he wouldn't hurt a fly."

RV life means no leaving pets behind, no stressful boarding, and no compromise on comfort. Their rig is as much home for the animals as it is for them. It's part of why they moved into motorhomes instead of towables.

"WE'RE NOT FULL-TIMERS, BUT WE'RE MOST-TIMERS—AND THAT'S JUST HOW WE LIKE IT."

— Barbara Cohen



"HE LOVES THE DRIVE, I LOVE THE RIDE."

– Barbara Cohen

FLEXIBILITY IS FREEDOM

Whether avoiding a hurricane or abandoning a poorly maintained campground, the Cohens value their freedom to change plans. During Hurricane Helene, Barbara's weather-watching instincts led them out of North Carolina just in time. Leaving a campground that later flooded.

"My biggest advice? Always check the weather," she says. "If you don't like where you are, go somewhere else. You can."

That freedom extends beyond emergencies. One look at a site in Louisiana and Mark made the call: "We're not staying here." They drove off, booked a KOA instead, and never looked back.

STORIES THAT STICK

The road has given them plenty of stories—from seeing tipping goats hiding in teepees during a storm, to mixing new libations at a winery with a little help from Jack Daniels. With Harvest Hosts, no two overnights are the same.

"We woke up, and all the goats had vanished," Barbara recalls. "They were stacked inside these plastic teepees, hiding from the storm. It was hilarious."

A HOME THAT ROLLS

Their motorhome is more than a vehicle to travel, it's a home. Barbara hangs her own artwork, fills the space with photos, and makes it their own. They cook, smoke meats, and host barbecues when they visit their kids.

"We eat healthier on the road than we do at home," Barbara says. "I even pre-make meals before a trip."

Even when they park to visit family, the RV becomes the social hub. "We invite them over to us. It's easier than eating out every night."

BUILT FOR EACH OTHER

Barbara navigates, Mark drives. It's a rhythm that works. "He loves the drive, I love the ride," she says. She also loves not having to fly.

"I don't do planes," Barbara admits. "RVing lets us go everywhere without me having to board a flight."

Their motorhome is sized for two, cozy enough to feel like home, and spacious enough for visitors. "We built this lifestyle together. It's ours."

STILL ROLLING

After 40 years, the Cohens are still not done. The road calls, and they're answering. Whether it's heading north to Michigan to see friends or co-hosting rallies in Tennessee, they're out there—living, laughing, and sometimes looking for tipping goats.

**"WE LOVE THIS LIFE. AND WE DON'T
PLAN ON GIVING IT UP ANY TIME SOON."**

– Barbara Cohen

SERVICE UPDATE



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SEASONAL ARTICLE

WHY RVERS HEAD SOUTH EVERY WINTER AND HOW THE SEASON ACTUALLY GETS BETTER ON THE ROAD



Winter doesn't stop the RV life. While much of the country braces for cold mornings and shortened days, RVers can easily improve their quality of life by doing one simple thing: changing latitude. Heading south isn't just about warmth. It's about restoring the parts of RV life that winter in colder regions slowly takes away.

More daylight. More outdoor time. Fewer logistical headaches. More reasons to linger instead of rushing. And once RVers experience winter this way, it tends to become permanent.

THE REAL BENEFIT: LIFE MOVES OUTSIDE AGAIN

The biggest shift winter RVers notice after heading south isn't temperature, it's that you don't lose your day to dark winter evenings at 4:30 pm. Down south, winter mornings don't require strategy. You can walk the dog without bundling up. Cook outside without racing the sunset. Sit still without shivering. RV life regains its natural balance between inside and out. That's the payoff most RVers are chasing: not heat, but ease.

WHERE RV LIFE FLOURISHES IN WINTER

Certain regions consistently support the kind of winter RV living people actually want, not sightseeing marathons, but livable days.

The Desert Southwest – Winter brings mild days and crisp nights that feel tailor-made for RV schedules. People spend mornings walking trails or biking, afternoons exploring small towns, and evenings outdoors around a fire pit instead of a furnace.

The Gulf Coast – Here, winter feels social. Campgrounds stay active, outdoor meals remain the norm, and waterfront towns continue operating at a relaxed pace with plenty of happy hours. RVers often settle in for weeks, not days, building routines instead of itineraries.

The Southern Atlantic Coast – This region offers a middle ground, cooler than the deep south, warmer than the interior states. RVers come here for walkable towns, coastal breezes, and a winter that feels present but manageable.

What these areas share isn't novelty. It's community, consistency, and space to live well.



WHAT RVERS DO ALL WINTER

Contrary to the stereotype, most winter RVers aren't sightseeing nonstop. Winter is when RV life becomes more intentional.

- Long morning walks instead of long drives
- Weekly markets and local restaurants instead of packed attractions
- Outdoor hobbies that don't require extreme weather planning
- Campground social hours that turn into standing dates

This is the season when RVers stop passing through and start settling in.

WINTER IS WHEN RV COMMUNITY PEAKS

If summer is about movement, winter is about connection. Down south, people stay longer. They recognize each other. Conversations deepen. Campgrounds become neighborhoods instead of pit stops. Many RVers return to the same winter locations year after year – not for the scenery, but for the people. Winter travel doesn't isolate RVers. It concentrates them.

WHY SOUTHBOUND WINTER TRAVEL MAKES EVERYTHING ELSE BETTER

By relocating for winter, RVers avoid the slow grind of cold-weather logistics and reenter spring already energized. Instead of waiting for campgrounds to reopen or roads to thaw, they're already in motion when the rest of the country wakes up.

THE UNOFFICIAL RV ADVANTAGE

Most people experience winter as something to endure. RVers experience it as an opportunity to keep living the daily lifestyles they love.

Heading south isn't about escaping responsibility or chasing a vacation. It's about using mobility the way it was intended – to follow conditions that support better days. And once winter becomes livable instead of limiting, you can hit the road and explore some more.



ROADSIDE RECIPES



SAVORY WINTER CHICKEN POT PIE SKILLET

Servings: 4

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 cups cooked chicken, diced
- 2 tbsp butter
- 1 small onion, diced
- 1 cup frozen mixed vegetables
- 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 tsp dried thyme
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 cup refrigerated biscuit dough, cut into quarters

DIRECTIONS:

1. Sauté the Base

In a large skillet over medium heat, melt butter. Add onion and cook until softened, about 3 minutes.

2. Build the Filling

Stir in frozen vegetables and cook for 2 minutes. Sprinkle flour over the mixture and stir well to coat.

3. Create the Sauce

Slowly pour in chicken broth and milk, stirring constantly. Add thyme, salt, and pepper. Simmer until the sauce thickens, about 5 minutes.

4. Add Chicken and Biscuits

Stir in cooked chicken. Gently place biscuit pieces on top of the mixture.

5. Cook and Cover

Cover the skillet and cook on low heat for 12-15 minutes, until biscuits are cooked through and fluffy.

6. Serve Warm

Spoon into bowls and enjoy a comforting, home-style meal—perfect for winter RV living.

TIP: Use rotisserie chicken or leftover roast chicken to save time and fridge space.

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.



COZY CAMPFIRE HOT COCOA CAKE IN A MUG

Servings: 1-2

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tbsp granulated sugar
- 2 tbsp cocoa powder
- 1/4 tsp baking powder
- Pinch of salt
- 3 tbsp milk
- 2 tbsp vegetable oil or melted butter
- 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- Optional toppings: mini marshmallows, chocolate chips, ice cream

DIRECTIONS:

1. Mix the Dry Ingredients

In a microwave-safe mug or small bowl, whisk together flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking powder, and salt until well combined.

2. Add the Wet Ingredients

Stir in milk, oil or butter, and vanilla extract until a smooth batter forms. Fold in chocolate chips if using.

3. Cook

Microwave on high for 60–90 seconds, until the cake has risen and is set in the center. Cooking times may vary depending on your microwave.

4. Top and Serve

Let cool slightly, then top with mini marshmallows, vanilla ice cream, or a drizzle of chocolate syrup. Enjoy warm straight from the mug.

TIP: Perfect for RVers—no oven required and just one dish to clean up!

CAMPGROUNDS
— THE ONLY PLACES —
PLACES WHERE
Strangers
• BECOME NEIGHBORS •
AND NEIGHBORS
Become Friends
• OVERNIGHT •



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?



2016 Jeep Wrangler

Receive the Preferred Price* (1% below factory invoice) on the purchase or lease of most new Chrysler, Jeep®, Dodge, Ram and FIAT vehicles. The Preferred Price – combined with current incentives† – can help you save up to thousands of dollars off the MSRP.** Whatever you do, don't miss this amazing opportunity!

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.

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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34-35
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WORD SEARCH: STATE CAPITALS



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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1	7	9	3	8	2	6	5	4
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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 33.

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!

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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	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 Falls	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	Fallfield	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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