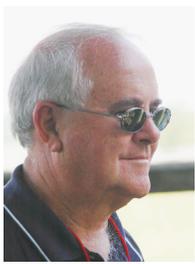


Letter From The President

By Bill Ellis

Good evening from the mountains of South Carolina. We finally had some rain and the temperature has dropped down into the 80s. By the time you receive this newsletter we will be on our way to Savannah. This is camping weather and I know we are looking forward to seeing all of our club members.



Savannah is a sell-out, with 72 coaches registered. This afternoon I started loading up our new enclosed trailer that will house all the club's equipment and supplies. This is my personal trailer that we will use for rallies and other club events. Basic items will be kept in this unit and inventories will be counted at the end of each event. This will stop us from having to haul our items in our coaches. We will also carry some emergency supplies in case we are asked to help during natural disasters. We need to make up a name for this unit as it will be at Savannah. A little paint and some Coach House decals would not hurt either. I will discuss with Steve as we might have an insurance problem with Coach House markings on my personal unit. When not in use it will be kept in a secure garage at my home here in S.C.

I would like to add some cabinets and shelves and need some other ideas as to how we are going to set it up. Take a look and let me know. It is almost big enough for a single bed for LB. Since he is not a Coach House owner, this would be perfect for him.

Savannah is only days away and we are getting excited about another great Rally. If you should have any questions, please call me on my cell phone 864-918-5575.

See You Soon.

Regards,

CHOC Talk

OCTOBER 2007 • NUMBER 32

CHOC members covered for medical evacuation

As members of FMCA, CHOC members have coverage under the MEDEX PLUS Program.

This program helps traveling members to effectively manage the complexities and expenses of out-of-area medical and travel emergencies. Members receive this coverage with no sign-up required.

Travel can be for business or pleasure at a distance of 100 or more miles from your primary residence. Coverage is provided while traveling within the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. MEDEX must approve and coordinate all services.

MEDEX provides members with toll-free access to travel assistance services and also coordinates and pays the approved costs associated with the following:

- 1. Emergency medical air and ground evacuation:** Medically supervised evacuation to the nearest appropriate facility if an FMCA member is involved in an accident or suffers a sudden, unforeseen illness and adequate medical facilities are not available.
- 2. Repatriation of remains:** The return of an FMCA member's mortal remains in the event of death.
- 3. Return home of unattended grandchildren and dependent children:**

Transportation home for an FMCA member's children and/or grandchildren left unattended as the result of a member's accident, illness, or death.

4. RV and automobile return home:

Return of an FMCA member's drivable vehicle to his or her residence (or return of a rental vehicle) if the member is

unable to operate the vehicle due to accident, illness, or death.

5. Transportation to join a hospitalized member (for member traveling alone — if member is hospitalized for seven days or more):

The transportation of a family member or friend to visit an FMCA member

who is hospitalized for seven days or more.

6. Transportation home after initial evacuation: The transportation of an FMCA member to the point of origin, or permanent residence, following an emergency evacuation.

Each of these services has no limit to the cost that will be paid by MEDEX, with the exception of the fifth one — family member visit transportation for the member traveling alone — which has a limit of \$1,000.

For CHOC members who will be at the Savannah Rally, be sure to pick up a MEDEX PLUS brochure.



CLUBTalk

Proposals to come up for a vote at Rally

As discussed at the May 23, 2007, General Meeting of CHOC in Gettysburg, Pa., we promised to update the club By-Laws and evaluate the annual dues level of the club. Both the revised By-Laws and the Annual Dues proposals can be viewed on the club website and will also be included in the registration packets at the Savannah Rally.

Revised By-Laws — The proposed changes primarily relate to the election and term of office for the club officers. Officers will now be elected for a term of two years, with half of the officers being

elected in odd numbered years and the other half in even numbered years. The exception to this will be the National Director and Alternate National Director, who must be elected every year per FMCA. Also, officers are limited to two consecutive terms in the same office unless there are no other candidates for the office. These changes were made to maintain continuity in the club leadership while also providing for adequate officer turnover to allow other club members with fresh ideas to take a leadership role.

Annual CHOC Dues — The annual

dues have been \$10 since the inception of the club approximately 9 years ago. The current proposal is to increase the annual dues to \$25 per coach. We looked at 16 other clubs as a point of reference. The average annual dues for the 16 clubs was \$25.75. Seven of the clubs had dues less than \$25, five of the clubs had dues more than \$25 and four clubs had dues of \$25. This increase in dues would cover the higher cost of administration and give the club some flexibility when planning rallies.

These two proposals will be discussed and voted on at the CHOC General Meeting in Savannah on October 12, 2007. If you have any questions or comments before the meeting or if you will not be attending the meeting and have comments you would like to be shared at the meeting, please contact either Jack Mowrer or Bill Ellis. Contact information is on the last page of the Newsletter.

From the National Director

By Vicky Ferrari

The annual meeting of the FMCA Governing Board took place on August 13, 2007, during FMCA's 78th International Convention held at the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center in Redmond, Ore. The highlight of the meeting was the election of FMCA's National Officers:

They are:

President: Connie Pool, F140306

Senior Vice President: Nelson K. Stubbs, F107765

Secretary: Joanne Durbin, F76454

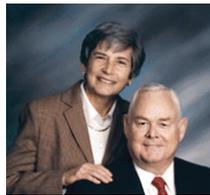
Treasurer: Doug Key, F72824

Immediate Past President: Don Moore, L154921

Jay Blumenthal continues for another year as our International Area Vice President and representative to the Executive Board.

The overall theme to the meeting was a need to build membership and tighten our belts in light of operating losses during the past year.

I have been asked by the Executive Board to serve on the Legislative & Governmental Affairs Committee for 2007-2008. The Committee assists members who face local parking rights problems and other restrictions concerning the use of their motorhomes.



Corbett and Connie Pool



Nelson K. and Janet Stubbs



Joanne and Max Durbin



Judy and Doug Key



Darlene and Don Moore

The Convention was held in a beautiful setting surrounded by snowcapped mountain peaks. This is high desert country, approximately 3,100 feet above sea level. During August, the weather is typically sunny, with low humidity and temperature highs in the mid-80s. Unfortunately, our weather was quite a bit warmer. Approximately 2,500 coaches were in attendance.

New MEMBERS

CHOC would like to give a warm welcome to the following new members:

California: John and Joan Coffey

Delaware: John and Jessie Pieplow

Florida: Bill and Carol Cummings, Roland and Barbara Down, Chuck and Phyllis Johnson, Bob and Brenda Loder, Jack and Janet Rouse, Vince and Carolyn Vincent

Illinois: Bill and Melody Thompson

Maryland: Bob and Judy Trammell

Minnesota: Wayne and Jone Classon

New Jersey: Henrietta Creighton

North Carolina: Jim and Pat Glauert, Anthony Gula, Jay and Vickie Sanders

Oklahoma: Eddie and Gaylen Claxton,

Oregon: Bill and Marie Gregory, Kendall and Joseg Peterson, Chuck and Peggy Potter

Pennsylvania: Les and Elaine Sheridan

South Carolina: Rudy and Trish Fields

Vermont: Wally and Ann Stein

Washington: Larry and Betty Miller

CLUBTalk

Every RVer needs to know about fire safety

[Excerpted from an article by Mark J. Polk, RV University]

Did you know that there are close to 20,000 reported RV fires each year? A large percentage of these fires are transmission-related fires. Automatic transmission fluid leaking from the transmission can ignite, and quickly spread if it contacts any portion of the exhaust system. Before traveling in your RV, inspect the underside for any signs of fluid leaking. Have any potential leaks checked out and repaired immediately.

Over 25 percent of RV fires are caused by shortages in the 12-volt electrical system.

Not only do you need a fire extinguisher, you need to inspect it before each trip to make sure it is charged. Look to see if the arrow is pointing in the green area in the sight gauge. If it reads empty or needs charging, replace it or have it recharged immediately. If it's a dry powder type fire extinguisher, the arrow pointing in the green doesn't always guarantee that it will work. Every month

Do not risk your personal safety, or the safety of others, attempting to put a fire out. The first step is to get everybody out of the RV and away from the fire safely.

you should turn dry powder extinguishers upside down, tap on the bottom of the extinguisher and shake it. It should sound hollow, sort of like a drum. If not, continue tapping on it until it sounds hollow and the powder that settled in the bottom is released.



There are four different types, or classes of fire extinguishers, A, B, C, and D, and each type is for a specific type of fire.

- Class A extinguishers are used for fires caused by ordinary combustibles like paper and wood.
- Class B extinguishers are used for fires caused by flammable liquids like grease, gasoline and oil.
- Class C extinguishers are used for fires caused by electrical equipment.
- Class D extinguishers are used for fires on flammable metals, and often they are for a specific type of metal.

Some fire extinguishers have multi class ratings like, AB, BC or ABC, which means one fire extinguisher can be used to put out different types of fires.

The National Fire Protection Agency rules that RV's must have a "BC" rated fire extinguisher near the exit. "BC" rated fire extinguishers are used for flammable liquids and gases like grease, gasoline and oil, and for electrical fires.

Many RV fires that happen inside an RV are type A fires caused by common combustibles like paper, and they require a type A fire extinguisher to put them out. This is why, in my opinion you need more than one fire extinguisher for your RV.

It's a good idea to keep a BC type fire extinguisher in an outside storage compartment where it is easily accessible. You should also keep a BC type fire extinguisher inside the RV and keep an A type fire extinguisher inside the RV.

Having these fire extinguishers available is a great idea, but they are worthless if you and the other people traveling in the RV don't know what type of fire they are used for and how to properly use them. Get everybody who will be in the RV together, and make sure they understand the different types of fire extinguishers you have and where they are located in the event of an emergency.

The old style labeling for fire extinguishers, to designate what type of fire they are used for was with the letter A, B, C or D. Newer style labeling for fire extinguishers includes a picture designating the type of fire it is used for. If it can be used for multiple types of fires it will show the pictures for the types of fires it can be used for and it will have a red diagonal line through the picture of what it is not intended for.

Most importantly, do not risk your personal safety, or the safety of others, attempting to put a fire out. The first step is to get everybody out of the RV and away from the fire safely. Have somebody call 911 for help, and if you can't extinguish the fire within the first minute or so let the professionals put it out.

CLUBTalk

Hotter than &!#%&*!!

By Katie Mathews

.....

When my husband Max and I embarked on an 11-week, 10,000-mile trip that would take us through 25 states this past May, I thought we were prepared for anything. We both had separate lengthy backgrounds of RV ownership and travel — we had logged well over a quarter-million miles in all manner or RV's for more than 50 years.

Everything was fine until the day we left my daughter's home in Gig Harbor, on July 2, 2007, headed for Yakima in Eastern Washington. It was there that we first encountered temperatures over 100 degrees. Ironically, we remained in three-digit temperatures (the highest was 113 degrees near Bend, Ore.) until we arrived home in "Deep East Texas" where the high was only 76 degrees on July 27.

Several of the nights in that 25-day period remained over 100 degrees, and I don't believe that any RV manufactured today is meant to handle that kind of constant heat. Keeping food of any kind outside of the refrigerator/freezer was impossible. Bread molded before it dried out; bananas quickly became over-ripe; wine turned to vinegar, etc. Worse yet, my makeup and perfume were quickly ruined. I discovered one cupboard that remained somewhat cool — the large one below our gas burners — and that was due to the several gallon containers of water at the back that formed some additional insulation from the unrelenting sun.

We purchased one of the insulated bags from the grocery store and kept perishables in that bag and in the low cupboard. That way our bread and

bananas, etc. remained edible for 2 to 3 days. Of course, my makeup was also moved into that cooler storage place. We stopped at restaurants more often and left the generator and air conditioner running while we were inside.

Another solution was to leave the generator on to power the coach A/C while driving, especially in the afternoon. The air conditioner powered by the

motor does a great job keeping the entire coach cool until you are traveling in temperatures that top 105 degrees.

The worst time that will remain forever etched in my memory was the night in Wendover, Nev. It was 108 at 5 a.m. and although the A/C had run non-stop, it was never cool enough to sleep soundly. The inside temperature remained in the mid-eighties. In retrospect, we should have gone to a hotel about midnight as it took a few days for both Max and I to recover from that one night. The next day we visited a Campers World store in Draper, Utah. Every RV should be

equipped with the 4-inch-thick 'pillows' to stuff into the space below the ceiling fan, and we were lucky to find them.

What a world of difference!

What we learned in a nutshell is this:

- Purchase the 'pillows' for the ceiling fan when you buy your RV!
- Don't hesitate to keep that generator and the A/C on while driving
- Keep food in the lowest cabinets
- Use insulated bags for food
- Eat in restaurants
- Don't hesitate to check into a hotel when temperatures don't drop at night
- Elderly people, especially, should be very cautious when traveling in extreme heat.



Roster continues to grow

By Jack Mowrer

.....

Currently we have 170 members (coaches) in the club with 55 new members this year to date. While 32 percent of members are located in Florida, where the club started, we have members in 33 states as reflected below.

Other double-digit states include Pennsylvania and South Carolina, with New York, Texas, North Carolina and California not far behind. Although 70 percent of the members live in the eastern United States, membership in the central and western U.S. continues to grow.

If you would like to contact members who live in your area, you can use the CHOC Roster that was sent to all members with this newsletter. We will issue an updated roster with the fall newsletter.

If you know of any Coach House owners who may be interested in joining the club, they can contact Bill Ellis for information on the club or Jack Mowrer for information on how to join the club. Or look at the CHOC website: www.choc-talk.com.

AL	1	NC	7
AZ	4	NJ	2
CA	7	NM	1
CT	1	NY	9
DE	2	OH	5
FL	55	OK	2
GA	6	OR	4
IN	2	PA	11
IL	4	RI	1
KS	1	SC	10
KY	2	TN	2
LA	2	TX	8
MA	1	VA	4
MD	6	VT	2
MN	1	WA	2
MO	1	WI	2
MS	2		

RALLYTalk

CHOC to dine at Paula Deen's restaurant

Paula Deen is a self-made success story who learned the secrets of southern cooking from her Grandmother some 30 years ago. She had no idea at the time that the love for southern cooking her grandmother instilled in her would lead to a life-long career.

Newly divorced and with only \$200 to her name, Paula packed up her two sons



Food Network star Paula Deen.

and moved from Albany, Ga., to Savannah. There she started her own catering business called The Bag Lady, where she prepared fresh lunches to sell to downtown businesses and doctors' offices.

Most days Paula rose in the early morning to grill chicken for her popular chicken salad. Every Thursday night she cooked until the wee hours to create a mouthwatering Friday barbecue special, Boston Butt. Her local specialties, such as chicken pot pies, barbecue sandwiches, lasagna and banana pudding, caught on with the Savannah business crowd and quickly became the talk of the town.

In 1990, Paula opened her own restaurant in the south side Savannah Best Western. Called The Lady and Sons, it served breakfast, lunch and dinner in a small space that could seat 42 people. The restaurant remained in that location for four years, where Paula and her sons built their business with a core of faithful patrons. In 1995, Paula jumped on the opportunity to relocate to downtown Savannah, where The Lady and Sons has been ever since.

The Lady and Sons has gathered accolades from critics and media alike. The most important honor for Paula was when the food writer for USA Today recognized The Lady and Sons as having



The Lady and Sons, Savannah, Ga.

the Most Memorable Meal of the Year for 1999. CHOC members will be able to judge for themselves when they have dinner at The Lady and Sons during the Savannah Rally.



**Savannah Rally Feature Recipe
Paula Deen's Popovers**

INGREDIENTS

- 4 eggs
- 2 cups milk
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Butter, jam, syrup or honey, for serving

Preheat oven to 450 degrees F.

Grease 12 large muffin tin cups or 12 custard cups. Break the eggs into a bowl and beat well. Add the milk, flour, and salt, and beat until just blended. Fill the muffin tin cups or custard cups 3/4 full with the batter. Place the pan on the center rack in the oven. Bake for 30 minutes without opening the oven door.

Serve the popovers hot with butter, jam, syrup, or honey.

Upcoming RALLIES

- October 3-6, 2007** Rocky Mountain Area Rally, San Juan County Fairgrounds, McGee Park, Farmington, NM. (FMCA)
- October 11-14, 2007** Coach House Savannah Homecoming Rally, Skidaway Island State Park, Savannah, Ga.
- January 9-13, 2008** Western Area Rally, Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival, Indio, CA (FMCA)
- February 6-10, 2008** Southeast Area Rally, Hernando County Airport, Brooksville, Fla. (FMCA)
- February 25-28, 2008** FMCA's 79th International Convention, Fairplex, Pomona, Cal.
- July 14-17, 2008** FMCA's 80th International Convention, Minnesota State Fair, St. Paul, Minn.

CHOC Talk

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Update from the Nominating Committee

The Savannah Rally is almost here and with it the election of new officers for CHOC for the upcoming year. Here are the offices that have a candidate so far:

- President
- Vice President (Membership)
- Vice President (Rally Coordinator)
- Secretary/treasurer
- National Director

We are still looking for a Vice President (Communications), which includes the

newsletter, and an Alternate National Director.

If you have anybody in mind who would be willing to fill either of those positions, including yourself, please let me or a nominating committee member know. We will see all of you at the Rally in Savannah.

Dorte Lowman
Committee Chairperson
Nominating Committee
dortelowman724@comcast.net

The lighter side: A little RV humor

Wish and ye shall receive: A RVing couple, both born the same year and month, were celebrating their 60th birthdays. During the celebration, a fairy appeared and said that because they had been so loving she would grant them each one wish.

Very excited, the wife said that since she had already visited most of North

America in her Coach House Platinum she would like to visit Europe. The fairy waved her magic wand; airline tickets instantly appeared in her hand.

Then it was the husband's turn. He paused for a moment, then said with a sly look, "Well, I'd like to have a woman 30 years younger than me." The fairy waved her wand, and presto, he was 90.