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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Holiday Greetings!

We had a lot of fun at our fall rally in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The weather was nearly perfect, the campground was very nice and the camaraderie was, by far, the best part of the week. We had several new members joining us and that is always so much fun. Our activities included a Civil War luncheon theatre, a tour of the aquarium, a ride on a large catamaran, and a day filled with helpful seminars and a fun supper of walking tacos.

At our fall business meeting we elected new board members to fill the following positions: President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, FMCA National Director, and FMCA Alternate National Director. You will find their names in this newsletter. All your Board members are happy to hear from you anytime. We want to make your CHOC experience the best we can. Also, at the fall business meeting there were some suggestions presented for the board to consider for our charitable donation of \$500. At that time, it was brought up that we should be good stewards with our funds and make sure we check into a charity before we send them our donation. To that end, Margaret Hedstrom did some research and found some sites that rate various charities using a number of categories. Since this time members were interested in donating to a group that serves veterans we found AMVETS National Service Foundation. They have a four star rating and do some significant work on behalf of our veterans. So our donation is being sent to them. If any of you have ideas about charitable donations please send me an email and let me know. It is important to give but we want to make sure we are being thoughtful in where we send our money.

We are looking forward to next spring in Washington DC. Nancy Trunzo, our newly elected Rally Coordinator, has been working very hard already and from what I've heard we are in for a great time. I hope that by having the information out this early you will all make plans to come! We have an overage in our treasury and so the board has decided to subsidize our spring rally by \$1000. Margaret Hedstrom, treasurer, has more detail in her financial report.

It is hard to believe that 2015 is coming to an end. I hope it has been a healthy and prosperous one for you and that 2016 will be a year that finds you in continued good health and able to fulfill all your wishes. This seems to be a perfect time to say how lucky I am to have gotten to know you all and how much I am looking forward to 2016 and our new adventures together!

-Melody

From The CHOC Rally Coordinator

Thank you for electing me your Rally Coordinator. I enjoyed planning the St Augustine Rally and it was a great learning experience. Pat and I had such a good time at the Fall Rally in Chattanooga. Great job Melody!

2016 Spring Rally- Washington D. C.

April 25 - April 29, 2016

Cherry Hill Park Campground
9800 Cherry Hill Rd, College Park, MD 20740

800-801-6449 for Reservations



Everyone should make their own reservations at the campground. They are giving us a group rate of \$ 61.20 per night. It is the same rate for 30 amp or 50 amp service. The deadline for Rally Campground reservations is March 1, 2016. You must tell them you are with Coach House Owners' Club to get that rate.

After you make your reservation please send me an e-mail to let me know you are coming. My e-mail address is nancypatrunzo@gmail.com. My cell is 302-745-8144.

The Rally will include learning the history of our nation's capital city, seeing monuments to our fallen heroes, visiting the buildings where the nation's business is conducted....and lots of food and fellowship.

The Spring Rally registration form will be out shortly to everyone's e-mail address or to your postal address if you do not have an e-mail. It will also be available on the CHOC Factory website.

Thank you again for this opportunity. We will see you at Cherry Hill Park in April!

Safe and fun traveling,

Nancy Trunzo

Latest CHOC Election Results

The following positions were filled with the elections held at the Chattanooga rally:

President:

Melody Thompson (Re-elected)

2nd Vice President/Rally Coordinator:

Nancy Trunzo

3rd Vice President / Communications:

Charlie Hedstrom

FMCA National Director:

George Abosamra

FMCA Alternate National Director:

Lou Heine (Remaining one year term)



Thanks from all of the club members go to Chuck Johnson for his dedication and for his years of representing us at the FMCA national meetings. Thanks also to Phil Millonzi, the retiring Communications VP for his work keeping us informed with the newsletter and periodic e-mails.

CHOC FMCA National Director

Diane and I left Venice, Florida, July 22, to meet up with Bill and Melody, Lou and Martha, in Naperville, Ill, and made our way to Madison, Wisconsin, as the CHOC Representatives to the FMCA National Conference. All together, there were seven Coach House families present along with several former Coach House owners.



As your representative, I was impressed by the size of the organization, numbers of people, vendors, seminars and opportunities to learn and to volunteer and run for a leadership position within FMCA. All new representatives gathered for an orientation before the business meeting and elections were held beginning at 9:AM and concluding at about 4:30 PM. Many committee reports and addresses were given throughout the day celebrating the achievements and raising concerns for the future of FMCA. A major concern is that of membership, currently standing at 72,754 members. We gained about 10,000 new members this year, but lost almost 14,000 members due to attrition and inactivity. A marketing program has begun to reverse this downward trend.

Financially, FMCA remains solvent with an excess of nine million dollars in investments. This solvency has enabled FMCA to continue the Assist Seven Corners benefits program to all FMCA members at no extra cost beyond our annual dues and, THATS A BARGAIN!

You should also check out Seven Corners discount drug program. You might be able to save up to 85% on your prescription medications (request an ID card from FMCA).

Remember, if you are a member of FMCA and are traveling at least 100 miles from home and have an accident, you are covered under the medical program of FMCASSIST in North America, whether in your RV or your automobile. However, you must call this number as soon as possible following an accident: 1-877-202-4176, for assistance. For more information, check out your monthly FMCA Magazine, it is an invaluable resource and comes to you FREE with your FMCA Membership.

Other programs worth checking into available through FMCA are: mail forwarding service, FMCA Road Assist., FMCA Insurance. FMCA Tour Connection. Michelin Advantage (RV Tires).

In addition to what I have written above, the many vendors and company reps provided opportunities to learn about everything you ever wanted to know about RV's and RVing. From tire safety to antennas, gasoline or diesel engine, you name it, it was available.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to represent our CHOC Chapter at the 2015 National FMCA Conference in Madison, Wisconsin.

New Member Corner

We are very pleased to welcome the following new members to our CHOC club.

Janice & Jim Fowler from Elizabethtown, NC.
Inge & Wolf Hager from Fort Meyers, FL.
Lore & John Wagner from Troy, MI.
Barbara Ann & William Mayfield from Panacea, FL.
Maureen & Jim Blackwell from Lake Wales, FL.
Suzanne & Joseph Jenniches from Ocean View, DE.
Betty & Bob Porter from Gainesville, FL



We hope you will join us at our spring rally so we can get to know each of you.

Jan Zitzewitz

First Time Rally Attendees at Fall Rally

Four couples were first time rally attendees at the Chattanooga Rally.

Lore and John Wagner
Gwen and Ellis Brown
Kathy and Bill Beaty
Pat and Bill Meyers

“Thank you to the rally organizers for a wonderful rally in Chattanooga! Everything was excellent, from the choice of the campground to the many planned activities and the catered meals. This was our first CHOC rally and we really enjoyed meeting everyone. As new Coach House owners, the owner seminars were especially beneficial. We look forward to attending future rallies. Safe travels! Everyone! ~ Kathy Beaty



CHOC is on Facebook!

Yes, as at least 86 CHOC members know, CHOC is on Facebook as a “secret” group. All CHOC members that join our Facebook group get to see and submit posts to the group. No one outside of our group has access to our posts. We share technical tip documents, photo albums from each rally and event invitations. The most common use of the group page is to pose questions to everyone in the group. Some post photos of their trips or the things they have done to or for their motorhomes. You can also view the member list to see the profile pictures of everyone in the group.



If you want to join the CHOC Facebook group, you must first open a free account on Facebook at www.facebook.com. Be sure to define a secure password that you write down in a safe place. If you have family members or close friends that are on Facebook you may want to identify 3 to 5 of them as “Trusted Contacts” who you can call if you cannot login to your account. Uploading a profile picture will help your real life friends find you on Facebook. It also helps our club members to learn your name and face before we meet at the rallies.

Once you are on Facebook you can join our group by requesting an invitation from one of the group admins, CHOChedstrom@gmail.com or CHOCmarg@gmail.com. That person will send you the invitation after verifying your entry on our roster. Just accept the invitation that will appear on your Facebook page and you are in.

To get to the CHOC group page, just click on the “CHOC” group name that will appear in the left margin of your Facebook page under “GROUPS”. Going to the CHOC group page is the best way to post new content to the group or to view older discussions, photo albums and our documents (or “Files”). However, as new posts are placed on the group page, each member will see those new posts intermixed with the rest of their Facebook newsfeed on their own page.

As you get to know our group members, you may want to add some of them as Facebook Friends. You do not have to be a Facebook Friend with anyone in the club to be part of the group. So, only send Friend requests to those with whom you wish to share your personal Facebook presence.

Once you are part of the group, check out the File about “Making Facebook Safe” on our group page.

I enjoy Facebook most for keeping contact with family. Now you can include your CHOC family, too!

Please contact me for help with our Facebook group or to submit a CHOC Talk article.

Charlie Hedstrom (919.247.3697 or CHOChedstrom@gmail.com)

From the Treasurer

HAVE YOU MOVED? If you need replacement name badges to correct your home location, please email Margaret Hedstrom at chocmarg@me.com to request them.

As a reminder, 2016 CHOC dues are due by Jan 1, 2016. Dues are \$25 per coach and checks should be made payable to CHOC. Please mail your checks to:

Margaret Hedstrom
CHOC Treasurer
401 Dunwoody Drive
Raleigh, NC 27615



Our club anticipates having \$10,000 of unallocated funds this year. Of that money, we estimate \$6000 may be needed to cover early rally expenses. Since Washington, DC is an expensive area for a rally, the CHOC board decided to supplement the spring rally by \$1000.

Fall 2015 Chattanooga Rally Balance Sheet

INCOME (29 coaches)	\$ 13,694.00
EXPENSES	
Dish T' Pass Catering	\$ 5,654.43
Walking Taco Dinner	\$ 392.02
Entertainment	
Tennessee Aquarium	\$ 2,729.50
Buttonwillow Church (Lunch & Theater)	\$ 2,142.25
Printing	\$ 51.87
Postage	\$ 25.75
Rally Badges	\$ 185.50
Bus Transportation	\$ 2,050.00
TOTAL Expenses	\$ 13,231.32
OVERALL TOTAL	\$ 462.68

A Word or Two from Phil

As your former Communications Officer I don't know where to begin to thank everyone for all your support. The only way I know of is simply saying "THANK-YOU !!!" I appreciated very much your member contributions to the CHOC-TALK newsletter, and members joining our CHOC Facebook page. The bottom line is members supporting CHOC. Speaking of CHOC support, I urge everyone to support our newly elected Officers. Please don't hesitate to call or E-mail your President and ask if there's anything to do to help. Please call or e-mail your Treasurer to say great job!!! And how about your newly elected Rally Coordinator, don't hesitate to offer your help. Behind the scenes your board spends countless hours working hard to ensure CHOC remains an outstanding club. Here's a way to show your support—by attending the CHOC rallies.

Speaking from the past I know what it takes to edit and produce your CHOC-TALK newsletter and also monitor your CHOC Facebook page. I will miss my behind the scenes hours working for CHOC, please give your new Communications Officer, Charlie Hedstrom, your full support.

On a personal matter I thank you all for your well wishes during my recent "medical down-time." Perhaps this is not necessary but as a reminder, Medicare does not pay for out-of-country medical expenses or for emergency room visits. I strongly recommend when traveling out-of-country you purchase some kind of travel medical insurance. I know this from first hand experience.

Best wishes to all, have a great Holiday season and see you at the rallies

Coach House Production Facility Expansion

David Gerzeny has announced plans to build a 12,000 square foot addition to their existing manufacturing plant located at 3480 Technology Drive in Nokomis, Florida.

The new addition will encompass a state of the art paint booth and new fiberglass production areas. An overhead crane system will be installed to triple the production capability of the fiberglass department. Coach House brought all fiberglass production and support back to Technology Drive in 2012 and this expansion will make it easier to keep up with mold maintenance, repairs, and development of new products.

The new addition will put the entire plant “under roof” which speeds up production during inclement weather. It also allows Coach House to embrace new technologies in lower weight fiberglass production, as well as provide a new home for the superior paint and finish our customers have come to expect from our Platinum, Platinum II, and Arriva product lines.

David was quoted as saying, “We have an understanding that the only way to maintain the relationship we have with our customers is to stay at the cutting edge of technology. Our mission is to provide our employees with the best facility, the best tools, and the best environment available to build the highest quality product we can.”

In addition, David said, “In 30 years of building one of the premier motor home products available, we have tried to embrace the future, encourage new methods, and welcome change. Our employees are our backbone, and we owe them the best we can provide.”



Coach House- Open House

Coach House, Inc. has announced plans for an “OPEN HOUSE” from March 3-5, 2016 from 9am-5pm.

Coach House owners can drop by and have a vehicle safety check done at the factory. Our technicians will give your Coach House motor home a quick once over, whether you are coming to vacation in Florida, or leaving our sunny state on your way back home up North.

Other events for the open house include refreshments, plant tours, and information about our new models and features.

Steve was quoted as saying, “In an effort to keep our products in the public eye, we felt that we should have an event to keep in touch with our current owners, future owners, and the general public. As many of you know, the expansion of our production facility should be underway in early 2016. This Open House will give us an opportunity to show our product, say hello to old friends, and meet new friends while we expand to meet the demand for our Platinum, Platinum II, and Arriva motor homes.”

Although the full schedule of events has not been finalized, you can keep up to date on announcements either on our website at www.coachhousesrv.com, or by visiting our Facebook page.

Don't forget, if you are a current owner of a Coach House product, remember to refer a friend or prospective buyer. We pay a \$200.00 referral fee if the customer takes delivery of a new motor home.

We look forward to seeing all of you in March.

CHOCTalk

Coach House Owners' Club Chapter FMCA
Coach House, Inc.
3480 Technology Drive
Nokomis, FL 34275

Photos from the Tennessee River and Aquarium

