

# FMC Motorcoach Owner's Club

Volume 10 Issue 3

September 2009

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## Letter from the President

Hello fellow FMC owners- I'm Bill Sitton the newly elected president of the FMC owners club. WWW.FMCowners.com

I have met a few of you at rallies, more online, and hope to meet all of you in the future. We plan on having a great year with opportunity for fun, travel, and getting the group together.

We have some new officers and some returning from hiding. Our new Sec/Tres is Lynn Clugston, in MO. Our National director is Gene Albers, in WI. Alternate National Director is Stephen Heinrichs in CA. The VP's are Western, Greg Miller in CA. Mountain region is Jim Evans here in CO. Midwest, Barney Martin in MI. Southeast Denny Shewmake in GA. International, Frank Borrmann,

in Canada.

We are already in the planning stage for rallies over the next year and welcome suggestions WWW.FMCowners.com for new and interesting ways of getting more owners involved. Stephen has been having "work parties" on some weekends to get coach repairs done and help out other FMCowners.

I love traveling in our FMC and hope you share in this motorhoming experience too. This picture is my wife Kathleen, my youngest Noelle, myself and our Coach at the 4 Corners Rally this year.

Come check it out at, You guessed it, WWW.FMCowners.com

Bill Sitton FMC#902

**We're on the WEB  
FMCowners.com**



## Up Coming Events-Felton CA Rally in November

The next FMC Rally will be held November 6-8, 2009 in Felton CA..

Your Rally masters for this event are Greg Miller and Stephen Heinrichs. Both members and Non-members are invited.

A "special guest" is promised for this event. Rumor

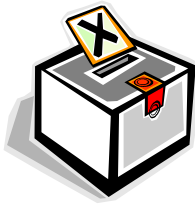
has it, this person "of interest" was in the second Coach when the World Land Speed record for motorhomes was set at Riverside International Raceway, east of Los Angeles California.

For info on this rally, go to page 4 or contact Greg Miller at gregmiller@pobox.com. There will be more info on the FMC Owners site.



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## New Officers and Contact Information



Election results

President:: Bill Sitton-bsitton@westernet.net

Midwest VP: Barney Martin-barney4u@usa.com

West Coast VP: Greg Miller-gregmiller@pobox.com

Southeast VP: Denny Shewmake-denshew@mindspring.com

Mountain VP: Jim Evans-jim.evans@yahoo.com

International VP: Frank Borrmann-borrmann@xplornet.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Lynn Clugston-clugston@fidnet.com

Newsletter Editors: Connie Kubiak-newsletter@fmcowners.com

Gene Albers-hausalbers@ez-net.com

National Director: Gene Albers-hausalbers@ez-net.com

Alternate National Director: Stephen Heinrichs-Stephen@Heinrichs.com

## FMC Owners Club Information



As a person with an interest in FMC Motorcoaches, or as an owner, you can stay current in News and Information by visiting us at [FMCOwners.com](http://FMCOwners.com).

Find mechanical assistance, see pictures of projects in the works and completed, view rally pictures, chat with others or look up member information. There is now an area to discuss Club business and a link to the FMC site at Yahoo.

Special thanks to Mountain VP Jim Evans for his continued diligence and work as the "webmaster".

Do we have your current contact information? To save Club dollars, and provide more rally opportunities for FMC Owner Club Members, correspondence from the Club will be sent via Email whenever possible.

You can go to the FMC Owners site and change your contact information on line.

You can also complete the application in this newsletter to renew membership or to send your updated info. If you know someone who isn't a member yet, pass along this application.

Remember, this is your organization. We want to hear from you regarding your thoughts, Rally ideas and Club goals for the future.



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## Rhineland Mini-Rally

Submitted by

Gene Albers

It would appear that the Rhineland Rally was hexed from the beginning. When scouting out possible meeting location, as per the orders issued by Barney, our crusading leader, I became violently ill and had to abort the mission. However, having a well developed sense of discipline (permanently instilled in my psyche by a ham size German fist - - my Father's) the search was continued during the following week..... that is immediately after being released from the emergency ward. This time we did not travel as far as Lake Superior and zeroed in on the Rhineland area. Then, lightning struck again which necessitated making, almost, a sight unseen decision to make reservations at West Bay for the July meeting.

West Bay is located on a hill, that in some respects, could be compared with Mount Serabachi - - not nearly as high, but the lack of elevation is more than compensated for by the thousands of rocks strategically situated where every one must walk. All the sites are back-ins, OK! Except that the management insisted that we un-hook the towed vehicles on the only paved incline leading to the camp sites. Un-hooking is difficult enough, but on a ten percent grade - - yet? Then drive the FMC, sans towed car, on up to the peak of the rocky knoll, to park in, almost, level RV sites. Lots of trees, cleverly placed to hide the busy highway some fifty feet from our designated meeting location.

After parking the coach, I began to limp down the path, cane in hand, for the purpose of retrieving the parked VW. While painfully descending the mountain, a park worker drove by on a golf cart. Despite seeing that I was not exactly amused by the rock infested walkway, she did not offer me a ride to the parked car! However, she politely, while passing me at warp speed, she did yell "Have a nice day!"

It was about this time that I received a call from Barney, our fearless leader. (Remember him? He's the guy who insisted upon the Rhineland location while shouting orders from a Lower Michigan Hovel, some 300 miles from Rhineland) He reported that his FMC developed some engine problems. His plan, now, was to coax the coach into McAllister, Wisconsin where his friend could correct whatever it was that ailed his supposedly perfectly restored FMC. It is to be noted that Michigan mechanics could not solve the problem - - therefore, Wisconsin Technicians had to be called upon to correct the botch job inflicted upon his coach by Wolverine Amateurs.

As we received no communications from any of the others that were scheduled to arrive on Friday, we decided to drive to Rhineland for some life sustaining supplies. You know, things like batteries for the TV remote, wipers to keep the never ending rain off the windshield and a TV program guide. While tooling along the road leading back to West Bay, we noticed a really nice motorhome parked in one of our reserved sites. We quickly went to the site for the purpose of evicting that coach from our meeting area. Surprise, it was the Rolla, MO. contingent, very loyal FMC Owners Club Members who vowed to attend the Rhineland Meeting. The coach could be described as an FMC with a glandular condition, a Vogue.

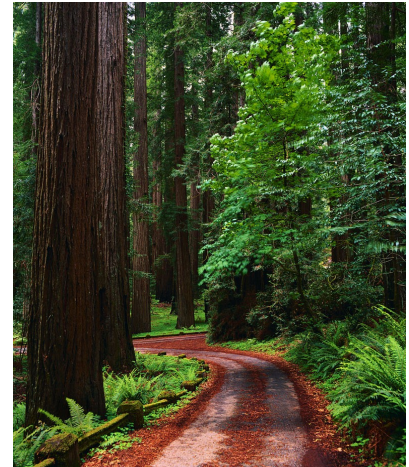
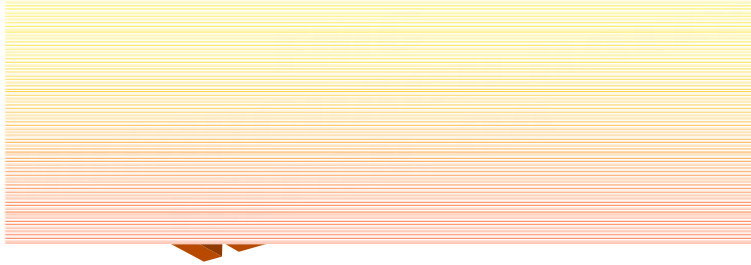
After a night of well deserved rest, we were awakened by Connie and Barney backing their FMC into their assigned spot. Connie did a great job of backing into limited space, even though Barney mis-directed the operation.

Lenny and Margaret came in next with their brand, spanking, new Dynamax, complete with slide-outs, canopy's, radar, and a lot of other accessories that this poor country boy never new existed.

Quick brunch in Rhineland, courtesy of Ken, after which the official FMC Owners Meeting was held. Barney, Connie, Ken, Lynn and myself were all sworn in as officers of some type or another. After adjourning, a suitable ceremony was conducted to honor Lenny for all his years of devotion to the FMC Owners Club. It was also entered into the official minutes of the meeting that Len and Margaret should be associate members of the club for as long as they want to be.....provided that they pay their dues, of course.

So went the Rally. Two FMCs and Two SOBs. But fifty percent club coaches ain't too bad, you know. I don't think that West Bay Camp Ground will be placed upon the Club's Short List for future rally sites. That would be another story

That was about it. Small meeting, but the future has some new thoughts.



**WHEN:** November 6 - 8, 2009  
**WHERE:** Cotillion Gardens RV Park and Cabins  
300 Old Big Trees Rd. Felton, CA 95018  
831-335-7669

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### **RALLY AGENDA**

**Friday - Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>** Check-In 1 PM - Pets Allowed On Leash ONLY - NO Add'l. Charge  
FREE Day  
Walks through Cowell State Redwood Park  
Challenge FMC Buddies to Ping Pong, Billiards & Air Hockey  
Swap FMC MODIFICATIONS & REPAIR Stories / Nightmares!  
La Bruschetta Italian Restaurant - NO HOST Dinner/Optional

**Saturday - Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>** Monterey Bay Whale Watch Cruise - 10:00am - 4:30pm (alternate of steam train in redwoods for non-boaters)  
6:00pm - FMC Meeting & Dinner - Bret Harte Hall

WE will be joined for dinner by Earl Anderson who was the Assistant Sales Manager of the FMC Motor Coach Division. He will give a presentation about his experiences selling the coaches. This will include what it was like to ride in one of two coaches setting the World Motor Home Land Speed record. He will also reveal the product development decision he now regrets!

**Sunday - Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>** FMC Wrap up Meeting  
Group Photo / Group Hug  
Monterey Bay Aquarium, Winery tours, Santa Cruz shopping, etc.  
Pot Luck Dinner at the Club House for those staying Sunday Night

### **RALLY COST**

### **RALLY INCLUDES**

Make your own space reservation directly with the park. Call them to make your reservation for the nights you will be there advising them that you are part of the FMC Coach Owners rally.

To be determined

1 dinner / 1 Bay Cruise - Per Person

Other things yet to be determined!!!

*Advise Greg Miller of your reservation: [gregmiller@pobox.com](mailto:gregmiller@pobox.com)*

***Resort Amenities Include: LITTLE - You are in the Woods - ENJOY!***

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## FMC Tips

This section will address common problems found when you own a FMC Motorcoach. The editors would like you to submit any topics you would like to see addressed. Please submit to Connie or Gene at [pairadice4u@hotmail.com](mailto:pairadice4u@hotmail.com) or [hausalbers@ez-net.com](mailto:hausalbers@ez-net.com)

Each issue (4/year) will take a topic and discuss it here by who we consider to be an expert in the field. Topics will be

shortly reviewed, with more info on the FMC Owners sight.

This issue will address the question of engine overheating.

The old system was finicky and worked great if kept at 100% new condition. Impossible to maintain in certain parts of the country.

Barney Martin, Midwest VP,

has solved his problem by replacing the Brass radiator with a lighter and more efficient single-core Aluminum radiator from a Ford F-250/350 pickup truck.

Minimum modifications were required to adapt to the fan-shroud housing.

For more information, see the discussion and pictures posted to the [FMCOwners.com](http://FMCOwners.com) site in "new radiator album."



## Rally Schedule 2009-2010

November 6-8, 2009-Felton, California

Greg Miller, Western VP-[gregmiller@pobox.com](mailto:gregmiller@pobox.com)

May 2010-Memorial Weekend-G.L.A.S.S. Rally-Berrien Springs Michigan

Barney Martin, Midwest VP— [barney4u@usa.com](mailto:barney4u@usa.com)

June 14-19, 2010– Republican City area, Nebraska

Denny Shewmake-[denshew@mindspring.com](mailto:denshew@mindspring.com)

Barney Martin, [barney4uAusa.com](http://barney4uAusa.com)

Keep these dates !! Watch for more info to come!!

Contact the Rally Masters. Open to **ALL** FMC Owners.



FMC Owners  
G.L.A.S.S. 2009

The deadline for the December 2009 newsletter is November 15, 2009. Please submit your Rally pictures, project info or other topics of interest to [newsletter@fmcowners.com](mailto:newsletter@fmcowners.com)

**1st Annual Mega Rally  
Nebraska Area  
June 2010**

**The Goal is 20 or More Coaches  
Here is one location suggestion**

**Hunter Cove Campground  
Harlan County Lake**

Hunter Cove Park is located on Harlan County Lake near Republican City, Nebraska. Harlan County Lake, with a normal pool surface of 13,250 acres, is the second largest lake in Nebraska. The lake and surrounding land hold great appeal for sportsmen, birders, naturalists or anyone wanting to just get away. Hunter Cove Park offers 150 campsites, two shower buildings/comfort stations, laundry facilities, two picnic shelters, a sewer dump station, water hydrants, playground equipment, a volleyball court, and a boat ramp.

Some of the items of interest will be: activities and event –fishing, etc; technical (mechanic), questions/seminar; sports and activities for youth; recipes and campfire cooking .

Denny Shewmake (South VP [denshew@mindspring.com](mailto:denshew@mindspring.com)) and Barney Martin (Mid west VP [barney4u@usa.com](mailto:barney4u@usa.com)) are your Rally Masters. For you geography buffs, this site is under consideration by the Club Officers because it is the geographical center of the lower 48 states and it doesn't hurt that it's very affordable.

This will be the 1st Annual Rally to be held with the purpose of revitalizing and rejuvenating the Club. How many can we get to attend? Just think of the photo opportunity!

It is the expectation Officers will be on hand and the hopes many FMCs will attend. The annual Business Meeting and Elections will be held.

If you would like to see a topic discussed, a presentation made, a nomination for elections or have any comments on Club Business —Please contact a present Officer.

Keep this date and location—more info to come in the next Newsletter and on line at [FMCOwners.com](http://FMCOwners.com).

Contact the Rally Masters if you have suggestions or would like to volunteer.





**FMC MOTOR COACH**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**Membership held EXCLUSIVE to**

**FMC Motor Coach Owners**

(Must be active member of FMCA)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

FMC MOTOR COACH SEQUENCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

FMCA MEMBER No. \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON BADGE #1 \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON BADGE #2 \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER of CHILDREN \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Initiation fee is \$ 25.00. This includes first years dues and badges.

Chapter dues are \$ 10.00 per year, payable January 2 of each year.

Make check payable to:

“FMC MOTOR COACH OWNERS CLUB”

and mail to:

Lynn Clugston

P O Box 445

Rolla, MO 65402

clugston@fidnet.com (lowercase)

Home phone 573-368-3208



Your new officers are working on the following topics:

By-Laws  
Rally Sites  
Job Descriptions  
Membership Recruitment  
Benefits of Membership  
Dues  
Newsletter  
Nominations/Election

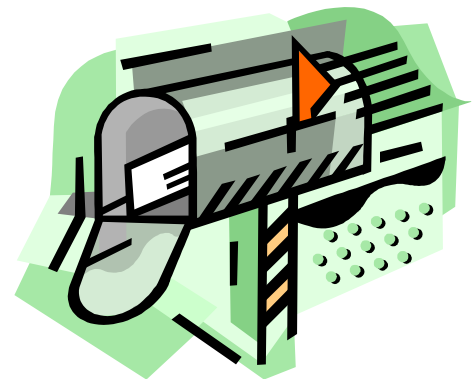
Any comments or suggestions are welcome. Please contact any Officer directly or post your thoughts on the web site at [FMCOwners.com](http://FMCOwners.com)

Future Newsletter Topics

FMC Tips  
Meet the Officers  
Rally Updates and more Highlights  
Membership Renewal

The next Newsletter will be December 2009

Look for it soon!!





## RALLY PHOTO GALLERY



RECOGNIZE ANYONE,  
ANY COACH

OOPS



Connie Kubiak and Gene Albers  
Newsletter Editors

9239 Vans Lane  
Kingsley MI 49649

## **FMC Owners Club**

**Our objectives are to develop camaraderie, pride in owning a unique and wonderful coach, sharing knowledge in an open exchange of technical information on maintaining, upgrading, parts and service. We need to be passionate about owning, driving and working on our FMC Motor Coach.**

**A high priority is to keep the fun in FMC Motor Coach ownership. We are a fun-loving, family-oriented group and will produce and promote events that will include the entire family.**

