

Letter From the President



L to R-: Bill, Kathleen & Noelle Sitton-Stephen
Heinrichs-Bill Rogers & Jim Steinborn—June 2009

A Decade of Fun

Ten years ago, an invitation to join together and form the FMC Owners Club was sent out to all known FMC coach owners, and the club was born. Now ten years later, we are again calling for a great gathering of the FMC motor coach owners. This gathering is set in the middle of the U.S. so as to be attended by all. This Mega rally, to be held mid-June 2010, is a great chance to get the coach off the couch and see a fair number of FMC's and the people they cart around. With a good number of

coaches at a rally, it is a great place to see what others have done to their coach.

My coach (#902) is very original. It still has the 8-track tape player which works fine, and sounds good too. The built in food center with a blender and ice crusher. was a nice thought. I enjoy the original condition of #902 but after 35 years it will not be too long before the inside gets some new threads. The many years nap inside a barn was very kind to the coach. It was a little thirsty (guzzled engine oil) at first. The last owner had the pistons replaced and the wrong piston rings were not doing their job. New engine runs great and uses no oil.

Please find the proposed revisions to our Club Bylaws to be voted on in June at the Annual Business Meeting during the Minden Rally, in this Newsletter. See you in June!!

Bill Sitton
President
FMC Owners Club

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Special points of interest:

- 1st Mega Rally Registration.
- Upcoming Rally Highlights
- 2010 Calendar
- Revised ByLaws

SouthEast Spring Rally—April 2-4, 2010

The FMC Owners Club South East Mini Rally will be held at Georgia's Vogel State Park April 02, 03, 04 (Fri Sat Sun). <http://gastateparks.org/Vogel>

Currently, 12 sites available which will probably go fast. Hope to get some of the North Georgia, Tennessee and Western North Carolina folks, among others.

No set agenda other than to meet, greet and talk.

Contact Denny at
denshew@mindspring.com or

678.525.9892 for information.

Meet the Board Members—National Director Gene Albers

Gene's info was not available for print in the December 2009 Newsletter. It is included here as he is recovering from surgery. He is home and back on-line. We wish him a speedy recovery.



My name is Gene Albers. I am a widower, have three children and have lived in Oconto Falls, WI (temporarily) for the past ten years. I retired from Federal Service after spending a total of 30 years being sworn at by the Congress, the media, the general public, and a lot of bad guys. I will not reveal my age but, as a hint, I am a World War II vet, and the baby of the family is now 56 years old. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin, did graduate work at the University of Minnesota and also studied at other "Higher" learning institutions in the U.S. and Germany. Although not having achieved any outstanding academic awards, it is to be especially noted that wherever I studied, I was always recognized as the smartest student in the dumb row.

I can be reached at 920-373-7446, by snail mail at PO Box 985, Oconto Falls, WI 54154 and through cyberspace at hausalbers@ez-net.com.

My RV days started in the 50s when I acquired a very used Greyhound bus, which I crudely converted into a fishing and hunting conveyance. It wasn't much, but it sure beat tent camping. Sometime during the 60s, I bought one of the early Travco motor coaches. It was complete with indoor plumbing, stove, furnace and all the other amenities with which the "Hound" was not equipped. Just a little aside here- In those by-gone days, the camp grounds were filled with travel trailers whose owners, upon inspecting the Travco, shook their heads in disgust, and usually commented that "motorhomes are not practical, will never be popular, and will never replace travel trailers". This unit served all the needs of the growing family and gave yeoman's service until

1975 when it was replaced with a brand, spanking, new Travco, complete with both dash air and coach air. Ah, the millenium had been reached and life was good! My Wife suddenly passed away in 1985. Without her and the kids, who were now away from the fold, motorhoming lost a lot of its appeal. To fill the gap, the Travco was retired in favor of a Piper Cherokee that was used for both recreational and occupational purposes until I retired.

Soon after that the bug hit and the search for a motorhome, especially an FMC, began in earnest. Luckily (I think) Number 146 was located in a California desert. Fortunately, the arid climate was a favorable factor in preventing much interior or exterior deterioration. In fact, the unit was in good enough condition to allow a problem free trip back to Wisconsin. The coach remained in this condition, and was kept in regular use until I had the good fortune to locate an unused Spartan chassis. This unit was complete with a Cummins engine, Dana rear end, and an Allison Transmission. Frank Borrmann, our Canadian International Representative, transferred all of these components into #146, at his garage in Bluevale, Ontario. Although some problems have been encountered after the conversion, the coach has been quite reliable and has done a lot of traveling throughout all parts of the USA. In fact it is so reliable that it has successfully traversed the totally impassible roads leading to Barney Martin's vast holdings near Kingsley, Michigan.

My traveling companion is Faye Slaney. Faye is a widow and has been a family friend since high school days. I'm not going to divulge her age, either, but will

say that she serves as navigator, campground locator, driving advisor and an all around excellent RVing companion. In the past she has been active in finding rally locations and has acted as the recording secretary at rally meetings. All in all, a valuable club asset.

I do not have any one particular club goal in mind. However, I do have a few thoughts, many of which you have heard before with respect to what I feel might be the general aims of the group. There is prestige (power) in numbers and for that reason a plan to increase membership is certainly in order. Considering that we own "Extinct" motorhomes, which are no longer in production, increasing from within might be an impossible task and alternative avenues must be explored. Perhaps it would be wise to research the possibility of forming, without loosing our unique, FMC identity, some sort of working relationship with other clubs that feature older motorhomes. GMC, Travco (naturally) and the Bus Nuts, quickly come to mind. New guidelines and club regulations are also in order. However, they should be developed in the interest of promoting pride, friendship, the exchange of information, and the preservation of club. Above all, it is to be remembered that the primary purpose of the organization is to enjoy each others' company and to promote our special FMC recreational life style. This goal can be negated by over regulating and care must be taken to not develop by-laws that some might consider regimentation. Keep it simple and keep it fun!

FMC MOTOR COACH OWNERS CLUB

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Membership held EXCLUSIVE to
FMC Motor Coach Owners_
(Must be active member of FMCA)**

Date _____

FMC MOTOR COACH NO. _____ FMCA MEMBER No. _____

NAME ON BADGE #1 _____

NAME ON BADGE #2 _____

NUMBER of CHILDREN _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____

CELL PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

To save postage, most correspondence will be sent via email when available.

Initiation fee is \$ 25.00. This includes first year dues and badges.
Chapter dues are \$ 10.00 per year, payable January 2 of each year.

Delinquent after March 1.

Make check payable to:
"FMC MOTOR COACH OWNERS CLUB"

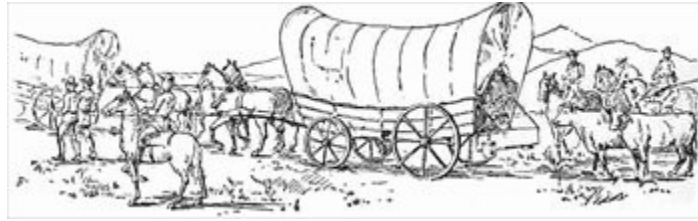
Mail to:

Lynn Clugston
FMC Owners Club Secretary/Treasurer
900 Halifax Drive
Rolla, MO 65401-3976
clugston@fidnet.com

Home phone 573-368-3208

The First Annual FMC Mega Rally

Days of June 15th to the 19th, 2010



Back to the Pioneer days—when they was only the FMC ---the pioneers came in search of a better motor home! And now---we will relive the past in the center of this country at Pioneer Village, Minden, Nebraska (Just south of Kearney off of I-80)

Your Wagon Masters are Trail Boss Denny Shewmake and Injun Guide Barney Martin. We are going to have a real great campground complete with water and 30 amp service and dump station at the Pioneer Village (www.pioneervillage.com). We will tour the world class private museum with over 50,000 irreplaceable items all within less than a one mile walk on Friday. Outside of the compound there is a great little town of Minden that hosts golf courses, a Historic active play house, supplies, saloons and eateries.

Stake your claim for 4 nights of camping (come earlier or stay longer if you wish) with water and 30 amp service for your horse (with a dump station in the camp), one catered lunch and dinner, a trip to the great past of the museum, limited yarns on health, safety and coach operation, games, prizes and rewards!

Names: _____ FMC Coach # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Member with 2 Adults Early bird \$130 After May 5th \$140 _____

Extra Campers each \$35 Child (6 to 12) \$28 Non members \$10/coach _____
Under 5 free!

Total \$ _____



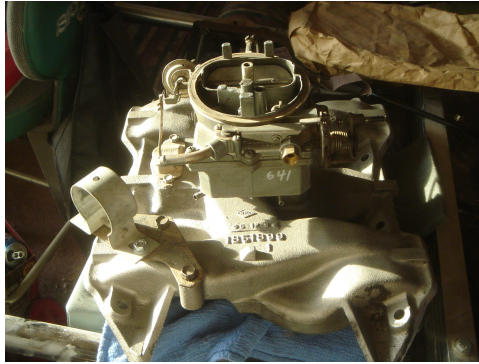
Make you check payable and send via pony express, snail mail, pigeon or USPO to;

Denny Shewmake
346 Pineview Dr
Canton, GA 30114-8154
denshew@mindspring.com
678-525-9892

Technical Corner

Back to the Future

I'm looking for fuel mileage for this 440. The 2-barrel intake manifold is from a 1959-1960 Chrysler 383. In these 2 years the 383 was built with the same stroke as the 440. This is the only years a 383-intake manifold will fit the 440. The carburetor is from a 1975 Chrysler 400 cu. In. engine



The camshaft I will use is gear driven and will rotate counter clockwise. This will require the pictured reverse cut distributor /oil pump drive and thrust collar along with the gear drive. These parts are from the 413HT heavy-duty truck engines up to 1971. The camshaft grind is designed for torque at lower engine speed and heavy load. It has very small lift and short duration. It should improve bottom end power for getting the coach rolling up here at high elevation. We live above 6,500 ft. and its uphill everywhere to get out of the Rocky Mountains.



I also plan to use the lockup torque converter version of the 727 transmission built for the 400 cu. in. engine in 1978. All of these should bring up the MPG.

This is going back into the past to improve the future.

Meet me in Nebraska to get the results of these changes.

Bill Sitton

Underlined is revision/change **ARTICLE I - CHAPTER NAME**

The name of this not-for-profit organization shall be the **FMC MOTOR COACH OWNERS CLUB Chapter** of the Family Motor Coach Association, Inc., hereinafter referred to as chapter and FMCA.

ARTICLE II - OBJECT

1. PURPOSE: This chapter exists to promote social, recreational, and informational exchange activities that provide for the enjoyment and pleasurable use of family member coaches.
2. AREA: This chapter shall be authorized to function in the International Area.
3. SCOPE: This chapter will have members with a mutual interest in and own an FMC brand motorcoach.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERS

1. ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible for and to maintain membership in the chapter, a person must be in good standing with FMCA, and meet the dues requirement and provisions set forth in the bylaws of this chapter.

Membership in this chapter shall not be denied any person because of race, sex, religion, color, marital or family status, age, nationality, or disability.

2. The term "family unit," is defined as a person; his or her spouse, or partner; dependents of each, regardless of age; non-dependent grandchildren and great-grandchildren aged 18 and under.

3. The term "membership," is defined as either a family unit or an individual or individuals owning a qualifying motor coach who share a membership number.

4. The term "member," is defined as each adult who, jointly or individually, constitutes a membership. The voting rights of each member are defined in the description of each category.

5. A member must own a qualifying motor coach or at least 1/3 interest in a qualifying motor coach in order to vote or hold office in this chapter.

6. The term "qualifying motor coach," is defined as a self-propelled, completely self-contained vehicle that contains all the conveniences of a home, including cooking, sleeping, and permanent sanitary facilities, and in which the driver's area is directly accessible in a walking position from the living quarters. The terms motor coach and motorhome may be used interchangeably.

7. DUES AND FEES:

A. ANNUAL DUES: Annual payment of chapter and national dues enables persons to become active members and entitled to all rights and privileges of the chapter and FMCA. The annual dues for membership in the chapter shall be an amount as the membership shall establish.

B. RENEWAL: Renewal dues from chapter members become due and payable on January 1 of each year.

C. INITIAL APPLICATION: Application for new membership shall be accompanied by payment of annual chapter and national dues (unless already an FMCA member). If an initial application is accepted after October 1, the dues shall be regarded as covering the next membership year.

D. INITIATION FEE: New and reinstated members may be required to pay an initiation fee in an amount to be established by the chapter membership.

E. ARREARS: Any member whose dues remain unpaid for more than three months after becoming due shall be considered delinquent; after six months shall be suspended; after twelve months the membership is canceled.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

1. DUTIES OF OFFICERS: The duties of elected officers shall be as defined in the Member and Volunteer Handbook.

2. TERMS OF OFFICE: The elected officers of this chapter shall serve a two year term of office, or until their successors are elected.

3. RIGHTS AND LIMITATIONS:

- A. A member must own a qualifying motor coach or at least 1/3 interest in a qualifying motor coach in order to vote or hold office in this chapter.
- B. An individual FMCA member may hold office(s) in only 1 chapter.
- C. Individual FMCA members may hold no more than 2 offices in the same chapter.
- D. Any member in good standing may be nominated from the floor for any elective office.
- E. Only Full Members, Full Lifetime Members, Life Members, or Honorary Members who have advanced from one of these classes have the right to hold office in this chapter.
- F. No official or member shall become vested of any right, title to, or interest in any chapter property, except as required by law.

4. EXECUTIVE BOARD:

- A. The officers of the chapter shall constitute the Executive Board.
- B. The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between its business meetings. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the chapter, and none of its acts shall be in conflict with the chapter or FMCA.

ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES

- 1. APPOINTMENT: Committee members and chairperson (except Nominating Committee) shall be appointed by the president.
- 2. DUTIES: All committees shall function within the policies of the chapter and (except Nominating Committee) under the direction of the president. Financial reports, vouchers, and monies due the chapter shall be submitted on a timely basis.
- 3. QUORUM: A committee quorum shall be a majority.

ARTICLE VI - CHAPTER ADMINISTRATION

- 1. AUTHORITY: This chapter shall be democratically self-governed, deriving its existence and authority from the consent of its membership assembled in meeting or, in certain instances, by mail [or internet based](#) vote on stated propositions.
- 2. ORGANIZATIONAL YEAR: The fiscal and membership year of the chapter shall commence on January 1 and end on December 31.
- 3. CHAPTER MEETINGS:
 - A. TYPES: The term “meeting” shall include coach rallies, campouts, dinner meetings, and any other gatherings suitable to the function of the chapter.
 - B. BUSINESS MEETINGS: The chapter must hold at least 1 business meeting each membership year at which a quorum is present. Said meeting shall be duly announced in advance to the membership.
 - C. OFFICER ELECTION: The voting general membership is to elect chapter officers, including a president, vice presidents, a secretary/treasurer, a national director, and an alternate national director.
 - D. QUORUM: A quorum for the transaction of business at any duly-called chapter meeting is [25%](#) of the chapter family unit memberships or 15 family unit memberships, whichever is less.
 - E. VOTING: Except as specified elsewhere in these bylaws, a simple majority vote of members in good standing and voting shall be required to approve or disapprove any matter.

The chapter has established that voting will be 1 vote [for each family unit](#).

Balloting by mail [or an internet based method](#) may be undertaken when a proposed matter is voted to be of such importance or urgency that a total membership vote is advisable.

F. PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS: The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern this chapter's proceedings to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of FMCA, and the bylaws of this chapter.

4. MAINTAINING AFFILIATION:

This chapter must maintain a minimum of 15 family unit memberships.

The chapter secretary shall furnish to the national office of FMCA, no later than December 31st each year, a membership list, a list of chapter officers, and assurance that a business meeting was held.

5. ANNUAL AUDIT: An annual audit of the chapter's financial books and records shall be undertaken and reported to the membership.

6. APPLICATION OF NATIONAL CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS: This chapter accepts and agrees that the chapter bylaws shall conform to any mandatory requirements stipulated in the Constitution and Bylaws of FMCA.

ARTICLE VII - ELECTIONS

1. NOMINATING COMMITTEE COMPOSITION:

A. The Nominating Committee shall consist of not less than 3 chapter members in good standing, nominated and elected every [two years](#) by the chapter membership.

B. Election of an individual to the Nominating Committee shall not prohibit that person from being nominated for elected office.

2. NOMINATING COMMITTEE DUTIES:

A. To select one of its members as Nominating Committee Chairman.

B. To nominate candidates for the chapter offices of president, vice presidents, secretary/treasurer, national director, and an alternate national director for the new term to be presented for voting by the chapter membership.

C. To obtain clear acceptance of the nominees to serve the chapter should they be elected.

D. To make certain that nominated candidates are members in good standing and qualified under applicable national and chapter bylaws.

E. To nominate candidates to fill vacancies that occur in elected chapter offices.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

1. MANDATORY AMENDMENTS: National Bylaw amendments applicable to chapter operations shall be automatically adopted by the chapter and are not subject to a vote by the chapter membership.

2. AMENDING PROCEDURE: These bylaws may be amended by a 65% affirmative vote of the members present and voting at a duly-called meeting, providing that prior notice of at least 30 days has been given of the proposition(s) to amend.

Any member of the chapter may propose amendments to the bylaws.

Approved amendments to these bylaws become effective immediately upon their adoption, or at such time as specified in the amendment.

3. DISTRIBUTION: Copies of changes, additions, amendments, or revisions to these bylaws shall be forwarded to the national office and to the National Area Vice President.

ARTICLE IX - LIQUIDATION AND DISSOLUTION

This chapter of FMCA may be dissolved by a majority vote of chapter members. All of the remaining assets of the chapter shall be contributed to the purpose(s) for which the chapter is organized, or to a qualified non-profit charity or charities.

EFFECTIVE October 08, 2000

AMENDED: _____ (Date the chapter voted on the bylaws or amendments to the bylaws)

Mega Rally-Celebrate the 10th Anniversary --Highlights

The Mega Rally registrations are rolling in. As of this writing, there are 10 coaches and 29 attendees. Let's shoot for the most FMCs ever assembled in one place!

Minden NE and Pioneer Village are welcoming us with open arms. Included in Registration is Camping (with electric) for 4 nights, a catered lunch and dinner for 2 and museum admission.

Rally Masters Denny and Barney are working on Seminars, Games, Arts and Crafts and more.

This year, marking the 10th Anniversary, a special gift will be given to each Coach. Prizes will be awarded in several categories.

The Annual Business Meeting will be Friday June 18. Forward or bring your agenda items for Board and membership consideration. If unable to make the Meeting, please submit your ByLaws comments early to your Board Members.

Meet the people who you've chatted with on-line or on the phone. Talk about the FMCs,

swap parts if you have some to share and meet those from far off places.

Lots to do and see. Come meet new friends and visit long acquaintances.

Contact Rally Masters Denny Shewmake or Barney Martin for more information.

See page 4 to register.

Calendar 2010

April 2010—Spring Rally—Southern U.S.—Denny Shewmake—678-525-9892 denshew@mindspring.com
See Page 1 for more information

May 2010—G.L.A.S.S. Rally—Berrein Springs Michigan--Barney Martin—231-590-0210 barney4u@usa.com
Let Barney know you're registered so we can park together.

June 15-19, 2010—Mega Rally—Minden Nebraska—Denny or Barney (see above)

September 2010—Fall Rally—Spring Lake Michigan—Jim Westover--616-296-9004 or barney4u@usa.com

Do you have a topic you'd like to see covered in the Newsletter? Do you have a special item you'd like to share with the membership? Maybe a traveling experience, a special location, a Technical “fix”, or maybe a problem you'd like an “expert” to discuss.. I will be contacting the members for thoughts on the club, previous rallies and pictures to share for the next issues. Forward your thoughts to

fmcownersnews@hotmail.com

FMC Owners Club

Newsletter Editor

9239 Vans Lane

Kingsley MI 49649

The next Newsletter will be June 2010-Deadline for submission is May 15, 2010.



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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 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.



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