

Look for Coach House's new Web site at www.coachhousesrv.com

Letter From The President

By **Pauline Stevens**, *President*

Thanks to all who had the confidence in me to elect me to the office of President of CHOC. I will do my best to do a good job and will always welcome your ideas and opinions.

I would like to take a minute to thank Carole Blascak, who was our first president. Without her, the club would not have gotten started. Because of health problems she has had to sell her Coach House but will stay on as an associate member and will serve on the rally committee. Thanks, Carole!

Also, I want to say a big thanks to Bern Wolsky, our past president, for all his hard work. Bern will stay active in the club and will continue to offer help and advice. I am sure we will all need this. Thanks, Bern!

We are looking forward to the FMCA South East Area (S.E.A.) Rally Feb. 5 to Feb. 9 in Brooksville, Fla. We plan to meet off the rally site at the Brooksville Wal-Mart and caravan in as a group; this will allow us to be parked together. It's also a chance to show off the club to other Coach House owners.

Bob and I attended one FMCA rally and had a great time. Bern and Marlene Wolsky as well as others have attended several rallies and always learn a lot. See the Rally News article in this newsletter about other upcoming rallies.

We do need people who will serve as rally hosts and also need ideas on locations for future rallies.



The Platinum 270, a stretched version of the new Coach House Platinum motorhome, was introduced recently at the national R.V. industry trade show.

New Platinum Models Are a Hit in Louisville

By **Wes Knadel**

The newest additions to the Coach House family made a very successful debut in late November at the huge R.V. industry trade show held annually in Louisville, Ky.

The introduction of the brand-new Platinum 232XL (23 feet long, with a slide-out) and the Platinum 270 (27 feet long) made this Louisville show one of the most successful in Coach House history. Two months' worth of production were sold, and several new dealers were added in strategic areas around the nation. All this in the midst of economic uncertainty and terrorism fears that cut Louisville attendance nearly in half from last year.

Certainly, the competition took notice. Many manufacturers came by to see our products — all of our current competitors, plus some BIG-name manufacturers who seem to be aware of a downsizing trend

among consumers. One direct competitor was in the Coach House booth five separate times. Hmmm. . . .

We received many complimentary comments from visitors to our display. Virtually every RV dealer who came by remarked favorable and strongly about how nice our vehicles looked and how well they are made.

Overall, the response at Louisville is a strong indicator that our marketing direction and adherence to quality are building a solid foundation for growth.

A key component in Coach House's success has always been a close relationship with our customers.

What's New

The Platinum 270 is the most spacious vehicle ever produced by Coach House — big enough to include a sofa and table at the front of the coach, opposite the galley, in addition to two twin beds or

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RallyNews

Rally Schedule

FMCA South East Area Rally

Feb. 6–9, 2002
Brooksville, Fla.

CHOC Spring Rally

April 12–14, 2002
Suwannee Valley Campground, White Springs, FL
Hosts: Pauline & Bob

CHOC Fall Rally

Sept. 22–26, 2002
Bay St. Louis, Mississippi
Host: Juan & Agatha Galvez

CHOC International Rally

Nov. 1–3, 2002
Stay-N-Play Resort, Nokomis, FL
Contact: Pauline Stevens

FMCA South East Area Rally

The FMCA South East Area Rally will be in Brooksville, Fla., Feb. 6 to 9. We plan to come in to the rally site as a group in order to make CHOC better known to other Coach House owners. We will meet at the Brooksville Wal-Mart at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 5. This is located at 13300 Cortez Blvd. (S.R. 50). We will proceed from there to the Rally site as a group. Please bring a piece of cardboard about the size of a shirt-cardboard so we can write down your caravan number. This will be placed in your windshield during entry to the rally site.

Your registration for the rally MUST be made with FMCA. After registering please notify Pauline or Marlene via email or USPS if you wish to be a part of this fun time.

Directions to Wal-Mart: From I-75 Exit 61 (U.S. 98/S.R. 50) turn onto U.S. 98 West for about 8 miles; then left onto S.R. 50 for about 4 miles, then turn again onto S.R.

50W. Go approx 5.5 miles to Wal-Mart. See you there!

— Marlene Wolsky

Spring Rally

The annual CHOC Spring Rally will be held April 12–14 at Suwannee Valley Campground, White Springs, Fla..

We will arrive Friday, April 12. There will be a pot-luck dinner at 6 p.m. (bring a dish to share; meat will be provided). Live entertainment at 7:30.

Saturday morning, breakfast will be provided: OJ, coffee, muffins. Lunch is on your own. Dinner at 5 p.m. followed by a Yankee Swap Meet at 7 p.m.; please bring a wrapped gift not to exceed \$10 value.

Sunday morning starts with a pancake breakfast; then leave for home or other interesting places. Have a safe trip!

The rally fee is \$65 for two or \$45 for one per coach. There is an early registration form on the back page of this newsletter.

—Pauline Stevens

Platinum

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two power sofas, depending on the floor plan chosen.

The Platinum 232XL achieves a new level of spaciousness, too, but in a different way — with Coach House's first-ever slide-out. At the touch of a button, the sofa back folds down — and out — to form a double bed with no loss of floor space. The aisle stays clear day and night!

Both new models include the same long list of standard features as the original Platinum, but the TV has been upgraded to 19 inches and a roof antenna included. New options available for 2002 include a DVD player, heated holding tanks, air dam and fog light package, and security alarm and keyless remote entry.

The new 270 and 232XL give Coach House a well-rounded family of small, upscale motorhomes

on the cutting edge of the downsizing trend. They also complete Coach House's transition to a Class C manufacturer. At this time, there are no more van conversions under way at the Coach House plant, although there are a limited number of new Coach House vans still available at selected retailers. So for those fans of the original Coach House, there is still a chance to obtain one of the last Class B's.



The Platinum 232XL features a slideout that allows the power sofa to fold down without taking up the aisle.

Firearms in Campers

Over the past several months I have had several people ask me about carrying a pistol in their vehicle or motorhome. Their main concern is whether it is legal for them to carry a pistol in their camper.

There are 50 states, and each state law may vary to some extent. That does not include city ordinances, county ordinances or federal laws concerning firearms.

Even though you may have a permit to carry a pistol in one state, it is no good in another state. If you cross a state line with the pistol in your vehicle you could go to jail.

Firearms are dangerous to people who are not well-trained in their use, such as military personnel or law enforcement officers. My advice is, if you are not trained in the use of firearms, leave them alone.

There is a book on the laws concerning firearms in all fifty states. Write Travelers Guide P.O. Box 2156, Covington, KY 41012. Email: gunlaws@juno.com

Freddie P. Lott
Retired Chief of Police, Augusta, Ga.

Club*News*

Meet Your New Club Officers

Pauline Stevens, President, served as past Vice President. Born in Wisconsin and moved to Florida as a child. I have three children; Gary, Cheryl and Craig; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Worked and owned a beauty salon for 25 years then moved to the country after the loss of my husband. I met Bob and we bought our first Coach House. Now on our second Coach House, which we hope to wear out seeing the USA and Canada. In doing all this we have made some wonderful friends.

Marlene Wolsky, Secretary. I was born and raised in Washington, D.C., where I attended public schools from kindergarten through college, earning a B.S. in Education. I have three sons and seven grandchildren. Married Bern in 1980 and started traveling in our first motorhome. Joined the Capitol Chapter of FMCA in 1983 participating in rallies as well as hosting rallies. Full-timing for 3-plus years in our Barth, charter members of the Fulltimers chapter and present members of the 3T's chapter. We have attended FMCA rallies in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, Maine and Florida (Tampa and Fort Myers). We bought our first van camper in 1996 and at a van camper rally toured the Coach House factory and fell in love with the quality and workmanship of the Coach House. Bought our first Coach House in 1997 and our second one in 1998 — a 1999 192KS wide-body. To date we have put over 57,000 on this latest Coach House.

Wyanda J. Mitchell is now serving her second term as Treasurer of CHOC. Born in Kansas and raised in south-central Missouri near the Ozarks. Graduated from Central Missouri University with dual degrees in Business Education and Social Studies. Advanced post-graduate work in accounting at CMU as well as Clarion University in Pennsylvania. She has taught high school, junior college and college classes in both Missouri and Pennsylvania. Wyanda has worked as an accountant, co-owned a

motorcycle dealership, owned and managed a fur ranch and owned an insurance agency. She retired as a State Farm Insurance Agent in 1998. The mother of four children, Chris, Steve, Kathy and Wenton, all living in Pennsylvania. She and Don have decided to make Florida their retirement home and hope to travel to and attend Bluegrass festivals as time permits.

Robert (Bob) Schneider is now serving his second term as CHOC's FMCA National Director. He was born in New Jersey and after serving in the navy spent 20 years in the steel business. The father of four children, three boys and a girl; one son lives in Reno, Nev., with the rest living in Florida. He had a cleaning business in Florida for 20 years then retired and met Pauline. Bob now spends his time working and raising fish on the farm, traveling in their Coach House seeing this great country.

Donald P. Mitchell is now serving his second term as our Alternate National Director. Don was born and raised in Franklin, Pa., where he played varsity football for three years at Franklin High School. He worked 34 1/2 years as an inspector for Chicago Pneumatic Tool Co. in Franklin and was Chairman of the Shop Committee (Labor Relations) for 10 years. Boating and water activities consumed most of his free time throughout the years and he had a second home near the Clarion River. He and Wyanda were married in December 1994 and Don then took early retirement in 1996. They build their first retirement home in the woods near the Clarion River but now relocated to Acardia, Fla., where they make their home. They hope to spend the summer months traveling in their Coach House.

The bios of the rest of our officers will be included in the next issue.

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Changes in Bylaws

At the annual meeting in November, one of the business items discussed was the fact that under our present bylaws, a member could be delinquent in dues payment for up to eighteen months before losing membership privileges. A motion was made, seconded and passed to change the bylaws as follows:

“Annual dues shall be payable on Jan. 1 of each year; if not paid by Feb. 15, the member shall be sent a late notice, and then if not paid by April 15, the member shall become delinquent and dropped from the membership rolls.”

The current stipulation that members must also be current members of FMCA is still required.

A second change to the bylaws was to reduce the number of board meetings from four times a year to twice a year; this is in compliance with FMCA requirements.

Please mark your calendars and send in your annual dues of \$10 to the treasurer by the first of the year. Thanks to those who paid their 2002 dues at the annual meeting — they saved us a 34 cent stamp or maybe more by the first of the year.

—Wyanda Mitchell

Help Wanted

Have you done something to your coach that you would be willing to share with other members? Have you taken a trip to that someplace special? Do you have a special challenge (we don't call them handicaps!) that makes RVing different for you?

Write it up and send it to the editor so it can be included in a future newsletter.

Email: wjohn1075@aol.com or write to Bill Johnson, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459-1380.

—Bill Johnson

CHOC*Talk*

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CHOC Spring Rally April 12-14, 2001 • White Springs, Florida

Suwannee Valley Campground, Rt. 1, Box 1860, White Springs, FL 32096.
From I-75 Exit 84 go east on S.R. 136 2.5 miles to White Springs Road, then south 0.2 mile to Steven Foster Road. Turn left and go one-half mile to park.

You must reserve your own campsite. For reservations call (386) 397-1667 and mention that you are with the Coach House Owners' Club. Special rate is \$14.00 per night. Email: camping@suwanneevalleycampground.com

Rally Fee: \$75 for two persons per coach; \$50 for one person per coach.

Pre-Registration Deadline: March 20, 2001

LAST NAME FIRST NAME SPOUSE'S NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

PHONE (INCLUDE AREA CODE) NUMBER OF PERSONS IN COACH

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Are you a Coach House Owners' Club Member? Yes No

Return this form along with payment to: Pauline Stevens, 31515 Betts Road, Myakka City, FL 34251-9407

If you would rather not cut out this form, please write the information on a plain piece of paper.