

# CHOCTALK

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www.coachhouserv.com

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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



I hope everyone is managing well in this summer heat.

Well, another amazing rally has come and gone. I always think they can't keep getting better but they do. Hershey PA was beautiful, even though we had some rain the first few days. Then of course the day we were to leave the weather cleared up and was beautiful. But a little rain doesn't stop CHOC! We made our own personal candy bars at Hershey Park and toured the area around the park, including Walter Hershey's house and school. If you don't know much about Mr. Hershey, just Google his name. You will be amazed at his life and all the wonderful things he did for the children who did not have much to look forward to in their lives, plus everything he did for his community. He was truly an amazing man.

We also got to tour the Amish Community. We saw a one room school house, as well a typical Amish home. Their life style and culture is so different from ours. I did like how some things in their lives were so simple and basic compared to our lives.

We had a busy schedule but did manage to squeeze in some time to relax and enjoy each others company. Thank you to all the people who volunteered. I appreciate seeing everyone getting involved, that's what keeps the club going. And speaking of volunteering, we have several openings in the board coming up in October. The five open positions are Secretary, Treasurer, 1<sup>st</sup> VP-Membership, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP-Rallys (second year of position) and Alternate National Director. The only way to keep this club successful is for members to come forward and run for office. It is always good to get new blood on the board. Please think about these positions. You can get in touch with any of the current officers if you are interested or email someone on the nominating committee, Phil Millonzi, Sally Grissom, Karon Millonzi, Bud Ronalds or Bette Wegler. \*See page 3 for full details.\*

I was sad to leave PA. We stayed a few extra days and toured the farm lands. I fell in love with the area. But Terry and I still had a lot of traveling to do. A few days after we got home we packed the car and drove to California to see our granddaughter's graduation from high school. We spent about 6 weeks on the road and put over 7,000 miles on the car. We had a wonderful time eating our way across America. America is such an amazing country. There is so much to see. We will never get tired of touring this great land of ours.

Hope everyone has a safe and comfortable summer. See you in Hiawassee, GA in October.

## **FALL GA RALLY NEWS**

As you know our CHOC Fall Rally will be held in Hiawassee, GA October 9-13, 2012. We are looking forward to a great rally and have 42 coaches with 82 people signed up to participate. There will be opportunities for people to get to know one another especially during our first "CHOC Parade of Homes" and our own CHOC Olympics. Special thanks to Sally Grissom, the Durfees and the Chesters for organizing these activities.

FYI: Hiawassee, GA., it's name comes from the Cherokee word Ayuhwasi, which means a meadow.

See [baldmountainpark.com](http://baldmountainpark.com) for the latest information for: group facilities/pavilion, campground location/directions, campground sites/map and campground phone number.

The 2013 Spring Rally will be held in Natchez, MS. The plan is to have information and registration forms ready to be distributed at the fall rally. Hopefully we will continue great rally attendance in the Spring. Dates will be announced soon, so watch your email. Of course for those of you without email, you will receive information via regular mail. -Phyllis Johnson Rally Coordinator.

## CHOC OFFICER ELECTIONS

During our Hiawassee, Ga. Fall Rally on Oct. 9-13, officer elections will take place. Five positions will be open. Many of our current officers cannot run for reelection because of term limits. In order for our club to continue, we need energetic dedicated members to step up and assume leadership roles for the club. Please consider running for election for one of these positions.

The following positions will be open. A brief description of each position is given here. A full description is available from the chapter president upon the request of any interested candidate.

### **A. 1st Vice President/Membership**

The 1<sup>st</sup> VP for membership calls all new members to welcome them to the club. Should someone's CHOC or FMCA membership lapse, the officer will call the member to remind them that their dues are overdue.

### **B. Treasurer**

The Treasurer collects the dues and disperses funds as needed for chapter expenses. He or she maintains the chapter financial records and maintains the chapter checking account. The Treasurer works with the auditing committee and prepares the chapter tax return.

### **C. Secretary**

The Chapter Secretary keeps membership records, reports the results of chapter elections to the national office, and handles the annual chapter certification. The Secretary also keeps and reports the minutes from each membership meeting. The Secretary further keeps all non-monetary chapter records.

### **D. FMCA Alternate National Director**

The Alternate is responsible for attending the annual FMCA governing board meeting to represent the chapter if the National Director (Chuck Johnson) is unable to attend. Fuel costs to attend the meeting are reimbursed by the club.

### **E. 2nd Vice President/Rally Coordinator**

This position was vacated when Vicky Ferrari resigned. Phyllis Johnson has filled the position as interim 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, but will have to be elected by the membership in order to continue in the position for the second year of the term.

All positions are 2 year terms. There is one vote per coach, and you must be present to vote. No proxies will be accepted. The candidates need not be present at the rally.

Any members who are interested in running for any of these positions should contact any member of the nominating committee to advise.

Nominating Committee members: Phil Millonzi (kar154@aol.com ),  
Karon Millonzi (kem4now@aol.com), Bud Ronalds (budronalds@gmail.com ),  
Bill Thompson (thetees@ameritech.net ), Bette Wegler(bweger@msn.com),  
and Sally Grissom (scgrissom@yahoo.com )

### **AND WHAT ABOUT SPEED?**

Here is one you can test on your own. Try keeping your motor home at 54mph or 55mph over a couple of tanks of fuel. Then compare the fuel consumption at 60mph-70mph. You will prove to yourself that driving at a lower speed can make for a dramatic improvement in your fuel economy, and help keep your engine and transmission temperatures at a “happier” spot.

Seen on RV bumper sticker: No hurry; cruise control set on 55mph, pass on the left, thank you.

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

Volunteer opportunities will be available at the fall GA rally. Sign-up sheets will be located on the registration table.

### **SAFETY TIP**

Many campers use rope lighting around their campsite for accent or safety reasons. However, if the rope lights are plugged into your coach and placed on the ground, you need to be careful. They can actually set up a ground grid for lighting to follow right into your motor home. This will cause a bypass of any surge protection you may have on your AC power circuit, therefore , the rope lighting should be connected directly to park power.

## Helping your A/C keep things cool

With record temperature around the country, I thought this would be a good time to pass along a few tips to help keep your coach cool.

You can DIY, or find a service man to do the following for you.

Pull down the inside foam air filter, located inside the large plastic cover directly below your coach's roof mounted A/C. It can be washed out with some soap and water, then just shake off the excess.

Before you put the filter back up, take an old paintbrush or a vacuum and clean off the electric heating element. It the finned pipe located directly above the air filter. This should be done once or twice a year.

Now you're ready to clean the air conditioner's condenser. Cleaning the roof mounted condenser should be done about every two years.

For the next part, you must unplug from shore power AND shut off your inverter (if your coach has one).

Get up on the roof and remove the A/C cover. (It's held on with screws around the sides.) With the cover off, stuff some old rags to block the air inlet. Brush or vacuum out the condenser coils, then spray them down with a cleaner, such as Fantastic or Simple Green. Be careful to avoid damaging the fins.

Let the cleaner soak for a while, then rinse off with a hose, being careful to avoid getting water down the air inlet. Use your brush or a condenser comb (available at any auto parts store) to clean out debris from between the fins. This can make a big difference in the A/C's ability to cool, and can even lower the current draw when it's running!

Once your done cleaning, remove the rags and re fasten the cover. Now you can reconnect to shore power and try you A/C.

Once you have a sparkling clean A/C, help it along by using a windshield cover or inside reflector to reduce heat input.

Turning the fan speed to "low", and letting it run constantly will help dehumidify better and keep the temperature more even. If the inside temperature is close to where you want it, the A/C can keep the coach cool with the fan on "low" under all but the worst conditions.

For a fast cool down, leave the fan setting on "Auto" and open the shutters located to the rear of the A/C's air intake (The air intake is where the air filter is.) Once the inside temperature is tolerable, switch to "low" fan speed and close the shutters.

I hope these tips help keep you cool this Summer.

Mike D.

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## **CHOC NEW MEMBERS**

I apologize for not having the new member information in this CHOC-Talk. We have been traveling since the Spring Rally in May and have not been back home. I did not bring my CHOC membership information with me, so look in the next December newsletter for all the new member information. Phyllis Johnson, Secretary.