

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE ENTEGRA COACH OWNERS ASSOCIATION

THE PREMIER ENTEGRA
DIESEL COACH OWNERS
ASSOCIATION



# **Featuring**

- ➤ Upcoming Events
- ➤ Technical Hints and Information
- ➤ Recipes for the Coach Life
- > Regional Activity
- ➤ And more

Travel Supreme Insignia Reatta Reatta XL Aspire Anthem Cornerstone

**JULY 2022** 



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### **Presidents Corner**

This has been a very busy quarter for Medarda and I, with Rallies in Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio (Hearthside Grove Lake Erie), Alexandria Bay, New York (Swan Bay Resort) and Goshen, Indiana (Homecoming & Academy with Entegra Coach). We traveled some 4,400 miles and met lots of new coach owners and first-time Entegra owners, made new friends and caught up with old friends and felt refreshed by all our interactions with the Entegra Family once again, but none was more important than the Homecoming Event in May.

Having been postponed due to the Pandemic for the last two years, the resumption of the Homecoming Rally and Entegra Academy was once again the capstone of our Spring. The Rally was planned and executed by a new

Entegra Coach Owners Association (ECOA) Newsletter "Rollin' Along"

Volume 6 Issue 1, July 2022

Produced by: Dana Sawyer dana.sawyer350@gmail.com



Rally Coordinator for Entegra, Dana Bright, with whom Medarda and I met just a year before as he interviewed us about our recommendations for the Academy portion of the event. I'm sure it was a short year for him as he planned and then pulled all the strings to together the event components: bring Registration, the camping, the building usage, the catering, the entertainment, the display coaches, the tours, the vendors, AND the two-day Academy with all the curricula, presenters. classroom assignments, technology. All together, it was a brilliant effort by a first timer and Dana pulled it off. Congratulate him when you see him next as together with the cooperation assistance of lots of Entegra staff, executed a terrific event, all for the benefit of the attendees: some 200+ coaches who were able to attend the event.

Needless to say, while the components of a rally such as this with such numbers and a curriculum and classes is much much larger than most of our club rallies, the essential intent is the same, to gather good people together in a great location for fellowship and networking to enhance and inform our RV lifestyle. While we do much the same on a smaller scale at our ECOA club rallies (and we encourage you to come), you really must put attending a Homecoming Rally and Entegra Academy on your RVer's Bucket List. In 2023 the event will be held again at the Fairgrounds in Goshen, IN May 23rd - 26th.

### From the Editor's Desk

"Destiny was funny stuff, he knew. You couldn't trust it. Often you couldn't even see it. Just when you knew you had it cornered, it turned out to be something else - coincidence, maybe, or providence. You barred the door against it, and it was standing behind you. Then just when you thought you had it nailed down it walked away with the hammer."

I thought this paragraph from Wyrd Sisters by Terry Pratchett, author of the Discworld Series, rather well describes our current times. But, as RVers we persevere and keep **Rollin' Along!** 

# Rally Ho' - Upcoming Events

Please use these dates to schedule your travel plans and rally plans for the summer. You should check the club website under events to either register for a particular event or see if it is open for registration. We've postponed our participation in the Calgary Stampede until 2023 due to uncertainty with COVID and changing border regulations.

- August 24, 2022 to Aug 27, 2022 FMCA at Lincoln, Nebraska
- October 3, 2022 to Oct 7, 2022 -SUMMERFEST, Carolina Pines Resort at North Myrtle Beach, SC
- October 6, 2022 to Oct 9, 2022 -Albuquerque Balloon Festival
- December 30, 2022 to Jan 3, 2023 New Year's Eve at the Cabana Club in Florida, Unfortunately this event has been canceled



### 2023 Tentative Schedule

- ➤ January 17-22 Tampa Supershow
- ➤ January 20-29 Entegra @ Quartzsite Gathering, Quartzsite, AZ
- March 10-14 Creekfire RV Resort, Savannah, GA
- ➤ March 14-18 FMCA Perry, GA
- ➤ May 8-12 The Ridge RV Resort, Sevierville, TN
- May 23-26 Entegra Homecoming, Goshen, IN
- ➤ July 12 -23 ECOA Calgary Rally
- ➤ August 17-22 Elkhorn Ridge RV Resort, Spearfish, SD
- > August 22-26 FMCA Gillette, WY
- October TBD Balloon Festival, Route 66
   Casino, Albuquerque, NM
- October 16-20 Normandy Farms, Boston, MA
- ➤ Dec. 30-Jan. 3 Margaritaville RV Resort, Auburndale, FL

### **Technical Hints and Information**

### Did you know:

You can turn off power to the Trav'ler Antenna after the satellites are locked by pressing <a href="POWER">POWER</a> and <a href="SELECT">SELECT</a> at the same time. Check the operator manual for details.

### Reporting Safety Issues to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)

No new Entegra Luxury Diesel safety issues were posted this quarter.

# MUST HAVE APPS

Available from Your APP Store



ECOA APP

In your App or Play Store under Wild Apricot for Members



ENTEGRA COACH Quick access to manuals, service locations, events and more



SPARTAN CONNECTED CARE Access to maintenance schedules, diagnostic codes, key contacts and more



IRV2 - RV FORUM Supporting thoughtful exchange of knowledge, values, and experience among RV enthusiasts (select owners forum then Entegra)

COACHNET -ALLSTAYS -TRUCKER PATH -



### **Member Stories**

# The DEF Sensor Bypass By Don Enns, ECOA VP

#### DISCLAIMER:

The following article and associated product is one member's answer to the Emergency DEF Sensor Derate guidelines that we published in Rollin' Along (Volume 5 Issue 1, July 2021, Page 5). The author had the unfortunate opportunity to have to use his DEF Bypass during a trip in the wilds of Bemidji, Minnesota. It got him out of a jam.

As always, this article is offered as a <u>service</u> to inform our membership and to help reduce the stress of ownership of an Entegra Coach. The Entegra Coach Owners Association receives no income from this product whatsoever nor does any of its officers or members.

This is also a buyer beware notice that its use is neither recommended nor authorized by ECOA, and its use may affect one's warranty status from OEM Spartan (Shyft Group) Chassis and/or Entegra Coach, Inc. Use at your own risk. Like any aftermarket tool, this information is offered in the spirit of emergency preparedness. It is recommended that repairs should be performed forthwith once the operator reaches a safe and secure location. By no means is a DEF Bypass considered a permanent solution to the failing DEF Head issue.

# The DEF Sensor Bypass – A Huge Game Changer

In early June, Charlene and I decided to once again finally cross the American / Canadian border into the United States for the first time since 2019 and the subsequent advent of COVID 19. We drove through the iconic upper peninsula of Michigan and ultimately made our way south to visit some of our Entegra friends. The 1,000-mile journey from Winnipeg went well and we had a great time at this fantastic

RV resort in Traverse City. Heading home for the return 1,000-mile journey however became close to representing one of the worst of nightmare scenarios known to possible Entegra coach owners. About 50 miles east of Bemidji, Minnesota, we experienced the dreaded CHECK ENGINE dash warning accompanied by that horrifying warning alarm. I managed to reset the alarm several times and we continued on hoping to make it to Bemidji where we had a RV site booked for the night. It was warm, with temperatures well into the 90's or into the mid 30'sC for our Canadian members, and I was terrified the source of the warning was that of the infamous DEF sensor failure issue.

About 20 miles out of Bemidji, the **CHECK ENGINE** light would not reset and the warning alarm went into a continuous cycle without the ability to silence the alarm. We limped into Bemidji and quickly parked the coach for the night.

I called Spartan and spoke with an after-hours service technician. The tech was quite good and after a series of prompts, we determined the coach had three of the dreaded engine fault codes all indicating a DEF sensor system failure issue. Spartan agreed to contact me in the morning. Needless to say, I tossed and turned all night in a panic knowing we were more than 250 miles and more than five hours out of Winnipeg and from relative safety.

The next morning Spartan contacted me and confirmed I had indeed a DEF sensor failure issue and I should attempt to travel to a Cummins and/or Spartan service centre. The nearest location from Bemidji was more than 100 miles away. The service tech also indicated that I would only get about three hours out before the engine derated to 5 MPH,



so be careful. I was quite annoyed that the service tech really had no further useful information to offer. And the service tech then told me my coach was off warranty and I would ultimately incur all costs. My annoyance grew as I had purchased my coach in December of 2017, meaning my warranty was still good for about another six months. So now I had another issue to deal with as I eventually had to spend several hours proving I was still under warranty with Spartan. Again, this was one of my worst Entegra coach nightmare scenarios.

However, I did indeed have a plan.

Last year, the ECOA executives heard an unbelievable amount of horror stories of our coaches breaking down due to DEF sensor failure issues. Many of our ECOA friends found themselves trapped while waiting on parts that took forever to arrive because of supply chain issues likely resulting from the pandemic. The DEF sensor failure issue became the main topic of conversation amongst many Entegra owners as Spartan and the DEF manufacturer Shaw, worked, albeit ineffectively, to provide a viable solution.

Being proactive and not too confident in that both Spartan and Shaw were actually working well to come up with a timely solution, I sought my own solution. I am lucky enough to work for the city fire department and consequently I have access to a group of excellent heavy duty diesel mechanics who are expert in both Cummins and Spartan products as our department has about 100 fire trucks many of which are built on a Spartan chassis and most of which have Cummins engines. I approached our mechanical director to seek out his advice.

Having direct access to Cummins engine software, we explored the option of converting my Entegra to a "firetruck" as fire apparatus do not have a DEF sensor derate setting because of their emergency vehicle status. This proved to be a difficult and expensive solution as it appeared I would have to take the coach to Montreal to have the software upgrade introduced to my coach. So, the mechanics forged on to find another solution.

Luckily one of our department's mechanics had spent many years working for Cummins in Winnipeg and conveniently is also quite tech savvy. Jeff managed to source out the software by which the DEF sensor could be "bypassed" thereby allowing the coach to continuously operate with DEF sensor failure issues. The only caveat was that I would have to manually monitor the DEF fluid levels as the DEF system would remain engaged, but with nothing related to the DEF system showing in the sensor array, including the DEF fluid level, would continue to appear on my dash.

Jeff played around with this problem over the long cold Winnipeg winter and built his first prototype DEF sensor bypass. Having access a very large fleet of trucks with Cummins engines, Jeff fine tuned the bypass after much testing and with several adjustments. Jeff then contacted me and indicated he had a working model to help alleviate the dreaded DEF sensor failure fiasco.





So back to Bemidji, and after talking to Spartan and feeling very under serviced, I called Jeff. "Install the bypass" was Jeff's advice and ten minutes later I had the bypass installed and secured in my coach's DEF tank compartment. After a quick check and after another call to Jeff, I left the RV resort in Bemidji and drove several hours back to Winnipeg without incident.

I ended up operating the coach for about five days until I could finally convince Spartan I actually had warranty, and was probably successful mainly because of the efforts of Joyce Skinner and Traveland. "Thanks Joyce".

So, the new DEF sensor arrived and was installed and is working well. However, Jeff states because it was a Generation 7 sensor, expect further future similar problems. But don't worry Jeff also said, as I have a DEF sensor bypass that works extremely well to counter sensor failure problems.

Jeff, recognizing that he had sourced out a fantastic solution not only for coach owners, but also for the entire diesel engine market, has decided to build and sell his bypasses online.

After meeting with Jeff to discuss the bypass, Jeff agreed to offer the bypass to the ECOA membership at a reduced rate of \$ 325USD which includes delivery into Canada and the United States. Should this offer be of interest to any of our Entegra coach owner members, Jeff can be contacted online at: canadarules@icloud.com.

And oh yea, don't read anything sinister into Jeff's distinctive email address, as the meaning

behind the address is support of Canadian hockey teams.

Please note the following ECOA disclaimer, as the usage of Jeff's bypass is at your own risk, and using such a device may possibly void any warranty claims. Consequently, if using the bypass and heading to a warranty centre, please consider removing the bypass before presenting the coach for service. That said, if it boils down to the choice of, for example, being stranded on a highway waiting for service or a tow, or moving on to your next destination, I would definitely consider the risk associated with using this device which I obviously did last month. And finally, the ECOA executive board including the writer of this submission, will not profit financially from any sales of this bypass, and those interested will deal with Jeff directly.

It should be noted that there is indeed software available online to counter the DEF sensor failure issue, and perhaps some bypasses are being sold at a cheaper price. Probably however the main difference with Jeff's bypass and those other bypasses out there, is that Jeff's bypass was built and tested by an industry expert and includes DEF sensor issue information and bypass installation instructions. Plus, and most importantly, those interested have the ability to contact Jeff and actually discuss their unique situation with Jeff to ensure they receive the right product. I was incredibly lucky as when I ran into trouble, Jeff was one phone call away and his bypass had me up and running very quickly. And that alone makes this bypass worth any extra cost.

Next newsletter, I will provide further updates on the 2023 ECOA Canadian Rockies Rally.



Stay safe out there, and oh yea, there usually is a solution to most problems. It's just a simple matter of trying to find it.

Never Too Old By Terry Walker, ECOA National Director

In October of 2017 Becky and I questioned whether we were too old (at the advanced age of 70) to be buying our 2018 Anthem 44F (our 3d Entegra). But after learning that our 80-year-old neighbors at the rally we were attending in Gold Canyon, AZ had just ordered a new coach that wouldn't be ready for another 6 months we decided to go ahead with the purchase. Since then we have met 90 year old "Don" who is currently driving his new Newmar on Fantasy Tours caravan through Alaska!

We've enjoyed this coach immensely and have used it extensively, racking up over 64,000 miles and averaging over 150 nights "camping" annually since purchasing. So at the ripe old age of 75 it seemed only logical to order a 2023 Anthem 45D at FMCA in Tucson, AZ this past March (Angie can be very persuasive). It is just now going into production with a mid-October projected completion date.



Angie wrestles the checkbook free

Having now dreamed into our 4th Coach purchase, we decided to take an even bigger leap by going full-time!

Held a 3-day estate sale in late May to convert most of what we had spent nearly 54 years of marriage accumulating. What little we decided to keep is now resident either in "LIEU" (our Anthem) or the 10x10 storage unit we rented.

Closed on the sale of our sticks and bricks on 6/10/22 (market was good to us), spent several days at fellow Entegra owners Dave and Ginny Molleck's guest rv pad organizing what we wanted to take with us. On 6/16/22 we hit the open road for our new home state of South Dakota, just as fuel and other prices started their climb. Not the best timing!

First couple of days it seemed no different than any of our other previous travels. Then came Saturday 6/18/22, that's when the dashboard lit up bright red with "OVERHEATED - SHUT ENGINE OFF". Fortunately, we were just coming up on an exit ramp where we could pull off. Unfortunately, we were 35 miles west of Chamberlain, SD on I90 (that is pretty much the middle of nowhere for those who aren't familiar with the area) on a stretch that was being milled so only 2 of the 4 lanes were being used, it was 104 degrees, a 25 mph crosswind was blowing, and the milling machines were headed directly for the area where I was parked. No pressure!

COACHNET located a diesel technician (in Chamberlain on a Saturday afternoon) that was willing to come to us and was able to track down the broken coolant hose (which of course was in the most inconvenient location). He was able to build a new hose, install it, and add proper coolant to get us back on the road after



only 7 hours of sitting on the side of the road questioning the sanity of this chosen lifestyle!



Coach on side of roadside

We recuperated from this experience by spending 2 nights at a little campground in Wall, SD just 2 blocks from Wall Drug. The night after we left, ½ a block of downtown burned fortunately with only property damage. I was beginning to think we had a black cloud hanging over us.

Since then, we've spent 30+ days at a couple of RV resort campgrounds in Rapid City, the longest we've ever stayed in one place ever. We have managed to get all that newby full-timer stuff taken care of; many of you have taken this path before us so you know the drill. Mail service, new drivers' licenses, new plates

and registration for the vehicle, insurance, etc. I'm sure something else will come up, and when it does, we'll deal with it.

During it all we've met quite a few new friends, been able to enjoy the company of fellow Entegra owners, controlled rising fuel costs by spending more time parked than traveling, and even met George Washington at Mt. Rushmore on the Fourth of July.



### Entegra Coach Website By Dana Sawyer

When was the last time you checked out the Entegra Coach website? Of course they have links to all the different models, their promise and warranty, a build and price capability, and a dealer locator. They also have a tab dedicated to the coach experience under which you will find helpful owner centric information.

# ➤ Experience Entegra Coach

 Connection - Contains instructional articles related to travel, maintenance, and more



- Event Locator Upcoming Entegra
   Coach events and RV Conventions
- Owner's Center A way to meet and interact with other owners
- Videos Various videos with owners and about the product
- Entegra Store Buy Entegra branded products
- Dealer Marketing Hub Dealer Use

If you are an owner (original or you bought a previously owned coach), you should make sure you are registered at the Owner's Center.

# **Recipes for the Coach Life**

# Love Soup C & J's Gourmet Foods

Found at the Shipshewana Flea Market, the packet contains:

Split Peas

**Beef Bouillon** 

Onion

Macaroni

Pearl Barley

Lentils

Rice

Spiral Pasta

#### Directions:

Brown  $\frac{1}{2}$  Ib ground beef, drain, add to soup mix with 6 cups of water. Bring to boil, reduce heat, cover and let simmer for 45 minutes. Add the pasta in the last 15 minutes.

## **Regional Activities**

# Gotta Watch Your Friends By Ken Wurtenberger, ECOA VP

Chris and I were excited when ECOA decided to host a pre-Homecoming rally at Hearthside Grove Lake Erie (HGLE) in May 2022. Having been part of a previously planned rally hosted by our Tennessee RV Community in July 2020, we were anxious to revisit this new luxury RV resort.

Traveling with our friends, the Rodi's and Greenfield's, we began our caravan from Crossville, TN, to HGLE. But first, a weekend stop in Cincinnati, Ohio, to visit family and take in a Cincinnati Reds baseball game was on the agenda (Yay, a win for the home team!). Without any issues, we all arrived at HGLE, in Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio, on Monday, May 9th.

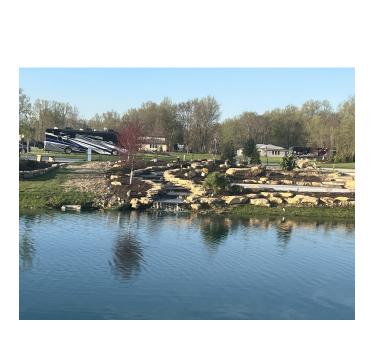
So happy to be greeted by our friends, Eric and Diane Frantz, the owner /managers of HGLE. Really amazed and impressed at the growth of the resort in just two short, pandemic-plagued years.













After setting up camp at our full hook up, spacious pull-in lake front site, we settled in for five days of fun, lake front walks, restaurants, beautiful sunsets and fellowship with our other ECOA members.



On the evening of arrival the Frantz's hosted a complimentary wine and cheese event and arranged for a Chamber of Commerce presentation to tell us all about activities and sights in the area. Besides the tourist town Geneva-on-the-Lake, this area has Amish communities, many covered bridges, wineries, Lake Erie beaches and walking trails.

On the last rally day, ECOA bussed us on a fun excursion to 3 wineries, with dinner at the last one. The evening ended with an ice cream social, compliments again of the Frantz's. Not to forget the hospitality of Entegra Coach, we enjoyed a delicious dinner one evening at the Lodge by the Lake, thanks to their usual generosity.

If you've ever considered participating in an ECOA rally, check out our website for a list of current rallies, register and join the fun!

During one of our happy hour gatherings I noticed my friend, Mike Greenfield, talking with Pat Bauer. I knew something was up when shortly thereafter, Pat reached out to me for a meeting. The next day, Pat and Medarda explained the Association's need to fill a VP vacancy and described the duties and responsibilities of the position. Not normally something I would seek out, but their persuasiveness and my appreciation for ECOA convinced me to volunteer to fill the vacancy. So, keep an eye on your good friends; you never know what they are up to!

After a fun filled week in northeastern Ohio, we said our goodbyes to Eric and Diane and promised to return. We highly recommend anyone traveling in this area of Ohio to add Hearthside Grove Lake Erie to your 'must stop' list. Great luxury resort, lots to see and experience and wonderful hosts.

Heading west on I90 and I80 to the Elkhart County Fairgrounds in Goshen, Indiana, our next destination was Entegra Homecoming 2022. Homecoming was finally here, the first time since 2019! Everyone has been planning for this week for the last three years.

The smiles on our faces couldn't have been bigger when we were greeted by Entegra personnel upon arrival at the fairgrounds. After quickly checking us in, we were escorted to our site in the campground area of the fairgrounds.

By arriving on Friday before the Monday rally start date, we had a few days to relax and anticipate the arrival of the other eight coaches from our Tennessee RV community.

Scanning the Homecoming Agenda of Events, we could see the next five days were going to be fun and busy. With so many seminars, tours, crafts, events, entertainment, food and new 2023 Entegra coaches to inspect, we were getting excited. There was a special anticipation in the nightly entertainment featuring themed 'Red, White & Blue' and '50's Sock Hop' evenings.



# Rollin Silver Allong





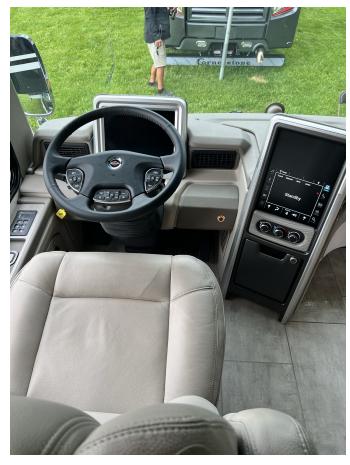




A lot of interest was shown in the new completely redesigned, trendsetting Cornerstone, Anthem and Aspire dashboard, plus the unveiling of a new Entegra logo.









Needless to say, we thoroughly enjoyed attending Homecoming 2022. A BIG shoutout and thanks to Entegra for hosting an amazing event. Dana Bright, Joyce Skinner, Pat Carroll and the entire Entegra Team really outdid themselves. We are eagerly anticipating next year's event scheduled for May 22-26, 2023. Hope to see old and new friends at next year's Homecoming.

Until then, safe travels.

### FMCA Rally Lincoln, Nebraska By Wayne Baumann, ECOA Alt Nat Dir

My wife and I will be going to Lincoln for the FMCA rally. We are the wagon master for the Entegra Coach Owners Association members. We are going to meet in the holding area on Augusta 22nd at one pm to get parked and that night we will be having happy hour at four pm. On the 23rd we will have a potluck and the club will provide the meat. On the 24th Buffalo Bill will visit us and give a talk about his life. We hope to have a representative from Entegra and Spartan visit with us on the 25th or 26th at happy hour. If you plan to come to a happy hour and you have not called me, be sure and call so that we have an idea how many will be there. If you are an ECOA member but not parking with us you are still welcome to our happy hour; please call me so I can tell you where we will be parked. Phone 307-752-9244 or 307-673-1931. Terry Walker and I will be attending the FMCA business meeting and if anybody has anything that needs to be brought up at the business meeting you can call Terry Walker National Director 309-678-1346 or Wayne Baumann Alt



National Director 307-752-9244. Will see you all at FMCA Rally Lincoln, NB. Wayne and Eidella

### Hearthside Grove Lake Erie Rally By Dana Sawyer

In spite of the cool afternoon 31 coaches were warmly welcomed to the Hearthside Grove Lake Erie Rally start, by our Wagon Masters Pat and Medarda Bauer.



After receiving some instructions and ECOA SWAG, and with a bit of free time before our evening Welcome Reception and Dinner, Linda and I watched the coaches roll in and explored some of the magnificent casitas (2000 sq. ft., 2 car garage houses) being built or already finished. All sites are drive- in, and have a view of either a water feature or preserve (trees) area.



The first evening's welcome reception, hosted by Hearthside, included local wines and a large charcuterie board. Welcome messages and introductions by Pat Bauer, ECOA President were followed by Eric and Diane Frantz the Managing Partners of Hearthside Lake Erie and a talk about many area attractions and the history of the local area. Dinner included fried Perch, a local favorite, and conversation that continued well past dinner.

Day two brought a full breakfast accompanied by a goodie bag from Hearthside Grove and more rousing conversation that speakers worked hard to overcome. Following breakfast the men's technical talk was well attended with questions and comments ranging over old and new coaches and from Reatta to Cornerstone. Several small groups walked away from the talks to work on existing problems or exchange information. Ladies chat was next and one should not guess at what was discussed there upon pain of death. The second evening's dinner was hosted by Entegra (although no representative could attend because of homecoming prep) and held at The Lodge at Geneva-on-the-Lake.

Day three, an on-your-own day, Linda and I visited family in nearby Cleveland and returned for dinner in Ashtabula at Harbor Halcyon (a Harbor District Speakeasy). Others hit the nearby links for golf, or visited covered bridges or wineries, and many other local activities.

Day four started slow with time to relax and prepare for "The Great Wine Tour". Following a presentation explaining the science behind the wine industry in the Lake Erie area, two buses full of rabble rousing ECOA Members left Hearthside for a tour of three wineries (DeBonne Vineyards, Grand River Cellars, and Cask Three Oh Seven), where at each stop we had a wine tasting. At the final stop we had dinner and a special dessert wine. All pictures of the winery tour have been deleted to protect the "innocent".



As if that was not enough the evening was topped off with an ice cream social provided and prepared by our Hearthside hosts Eric and Diane Frantz



Eric and Diane Frantz

where Pat Bauer also introduced a new ECOA Vice President Ken Wurtenberger. A great end to another ECOA Rally.



We are now in our third season located along the breathtaking shoreline, within Geneva State Park, Ohio. We are enjoying tremendous growth and development.



### Hearthside Grove Lake Erie By Anna Farber Marketing Coordinator

Thank you, Entegra Coach Owners Association, for hosting your May rally at Hearthside Grove Lake Erie. We had a wonderful time with you and hope you enjoyed all that Lake Erie, wine country and the surrounding area has to offer.

Our resort clubhouse features a state-of-the-art theater, fitness center with Peloton and Nordic Track equipment, a community kitchen and cozy lounge spaces. Across the entry boulevard is The Grove; our retail space where you can find local treats, apparel, and resort rentals such as golf carts, bikes, and kayaks. Here you can also reserve your wine country tour tickets on our shuttle. We have over 10 miles of golf cart friendly roadways to lead you



through the state park, to the marina, beach, restaurants, shopping, and entertainment.



The resort pool and spa are the setting for daytime activities such as water aerobics and yoga, and evening music with socializing at our pool house. We offer pickleball courts, a dog park, and an outdoor fitness park for those looking to stay active during their stay.



At Hearthside Grove Lake Erie, we offer both rental and ownership opportunities. We continue to enhance this ever-growing community with a luxurious lifestyle. Design the site of your dreams with a bungalow, outdoor kitchen, waterfall feature, stunning fire-pit area or a combination of these. Our bungalow floor plans offer attached garage options, two story

or ranch style bungalows, outdoor hardscapes, and so much more.



We are currently in Phase 3 of development. This phase will bring 33 new lots averaging over 12,000 square feet per lot. These lots, nestled in the beautiful park-like setting, offer tranquility for you to relax and unwind. We have a growing inventory of bungalow landscapes and waterfall lots.



If you are interested in staying with us, please visit HearthsideGroveLakeErie.com and click on the Reserve Now button to book your stay. Download our free mobile app to learn more about our activities calendar, the surrounding area, and more. Call us with any questions at 440-261-4063. We can't wait to see you soon. Safe travels!



### Swan Bay Rally By Medarda Bauer, ECOA Secretary

If you have never been to Alexandria Bay New York it is certainly a place to add to your Bucket List. The quaint town is located in the heart of the 1,000 Islands area where beauty and water activities abound. The best resort in the area is Swan Bay, a well planned, well paved resort along the St. Lawrence Seaway. With adirondack chairs nestled along the shore one can sit to watch the freighters move up/down the coast and blow their horns to signal their passage.

It is interesting to note that Biltmore is not the only castle in the US. This area was the playground of the nouveau riche who came from New York City, purchasing islands of their own and escaping the heat of summer while maintaining their elegant yet lavish lifestyle. Several excessively large homes were built, two being Boldt Castle and Singer Castle. Our rally group was able to visit and tour Boldt Castle at the conclusion of our river boat cruise and onboard luncheon. This luxurious American Castle is situated on a heart shaped island and incorporates its own power building, an aviary, greenhouse, and playhouse. The gardens are extensive and beautiful with a short boat trip to the boat house available. Boldt was the owner of New York City's Waldorf Astoria Hotel.











The area is also the site of the largest antique wooden boat museum. Housed in four buildings it showcases wooden leisure boats and racing boats from the Golden Era. Likewise the Bolts luxury barge the "La Duchesse" is moored here. At 106' it exudes luxury throughout and is a real gem to see.

Additionally for the adventuresome you can cross two bridges and visit Kingston Ontario. Just remember to bring your passport.

Our four day rally was fantastic with time to meet repeat attendees as well as welcome first timers. The catered dinners were excellent and there was sufficient time to go on your own to explore the wineries, or golf courses, or visit the small villages in the area. ECOA will come back to this area in the future.

# **Membership**

Make sure to check out the ECOA APP: Wild Apricot For Members

### **FMCA International Area**

# Letter from FMCA By Rett Porter, National President FMCA

July 18, 2022

Dear Governing Board Members,

We are making final preparations for FMCA's 105th International Convention and RV Expo, presented by Blue Ox, "Golden Getaway," scheduled for August 24-27, 2022, at the Lancaster Events Center in Lincoln, Nebraska. To register, use the form included, visit <a href="https://www.fmca.com/fmca-lincoln-2022-learn-more">https://www.fmca.com/fmca-lincoln-2022-learn-more</a>, or call our Events Department at (800) 543-3622.

The meeting notice and booklet for the Governing Board meeting are included in this mailing. The Governing Board meeting will be held in Lincoln on Wednesday, August 24. Chapter secretaries received a roll call sheet for this meeting requesting verification of their chapter representatives. If you are not a delegate for this meeting but you are a Chapter Alternate National Director or Chapter President and would like a meeting booklet mailed to you, please contact the Chapter Services Department, or email chapters@fmca.com. The meeting booklet can also be reviewed online. Please note that your Governing Board Meeting Pack is not the same as your Convention Confirmation Packet. If you have asked that one or both of these packets be held at Will Call, you can pick up the packet beginning on Saturday, August 20, 2022.

Governing Board meeting participants can get Activity Cart transportation from the parking areas to the Multipurpose Arena on Tuesday



and Wednesday, or they can drive their personal vehicles and park in Lot A. Do not park in Lots B1/B2/B3/B4. These lots are set aside for event exhibitors.

FMCA's popular RV Basics course, powered by the FMCA Academy, will be held August 21 through 23, 2022, right before the convention. Learn the dos and don'ts of RVing for trouble-free travel from expert instructors in a relaxed setting with other RVers. Attendance is limited, so visit <a href="https://www.fmca.com/academy">https://www.fmca.com/academy</a> and register now!

FMCA is once again offering hands-on RV Driving and RV Backing classes in conjunction with the RV Driving School, August 17-22, 2022, just prior to the Lincoln convention. If you are interested in participating in either or both classes, please contact the Events Department.

Remember to register for the Chapter Fair in Lincoln, which will take place on Tuesday, August 23. A flier is included for additional information. Don't miss this opportunity for your chapter to reach potential members. You must register to attend. There will be no on-site registrations.

Chapter Officers attending Lincoln are invited to a Chapter Officers' Reception on Tuesday, August 23, in the Lincoln Room Receptions Area at 10:30 a.m. The invitations and stickers are included for those who are registered for the convention.

The minutes from the Executive Board and Board of Directors meetings that were held in Cincinnati, Ohio, on May 20, 2022, are incorporated with this mailing.

The dates and locations of other FMCA events are available in Family RVing magazine and on FMCA.com. Be sure to check which of these events fit into your travel plans.

This mailing, as well as previous Governing Board mailings, can be found on the Governance website, http://governance.fmca.com.

Safe travels, and Claire and I look forward to seeing you in Lincoln.

Rett Porter, National President

### **Links of Interest**

#### **LINKS OF INTEREST**

- ➤ ECOA APP
- ➤ ECOA Web Page http://www.entegraowners.com/
- ➤ ECOA Apparel https://ecoa.logosoftwear.com/
- Entegra Coach <a href="https://www.entegracoach.com/">https://www.entegracoach.com/</a>
- Spartan Chassis <a href="http://www.spartanrvchassis.com">http://www.spartanrvchassis.com</a>
- ➤ FMCA <a href="https://www.fmca.com/">https://www.fmca.com/</a>
- > IRV2 <a href="http://www.irv2.com/forums/f278/">http://www.irv2.com/forums/f278/</a>
- > FIREFLY http://fireflyint.com
- ➤ RiverPark http://riverparkinc.com

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

- Entegra (M-F, 8-5) 800-283-8267
- ➤ Entegra (after hours emergency) 574-361-0034
- Spartan (M-F, 8-5) 866-383-3695
- ➤ Spartan (after hours emergency) 800-543-4277
- > FIREFLY (M-F, 8-5) 574-825-4600
- RiverPark (M-F, 8-5) 800-442-7717