

Presidents Corner

What a whirlwind first half of 2018! Rallies, rallies, and more rallies! It just does not get better than that, 657 coaches have been in attendance at one or more of the following so far in 2018:

- New Years Eve 2017 - Mario & Ann LaCute (RVOne & Entegra)
- Tampa Supershow - Pat & Medarda Bauer (Lazy Days, Tampa)
- ECOA Gathering-Quartzsite AZ - Gary & Dee Jones (Paul Everet RV Country & Entegra)
- Stone Mountain Pre-Rally – Lee & Linda Hanson (NIRVC)
- FMCA Rally, Perry, GA – Pat & Medarda Bauer (NIRVC & RVOne)
- Entegra Academy & Homecoming (Entegra Coach)
- FMCA – Gillette, WY – Wayne & Eidella Baumann (Entegra Coach & RVOne)
- Summerfest – Spearfish, SD – Pat & Medarda Bauer (Entegra Coach).

As you can see, where apropos we have noted the Rally/Wagon-Master and supporting sponsor for each event. We have been busy, and lots of people have had a great first half. But wait, there's more...here's what's yet to come:

- Traverse Bay Rally – Pat & Medarda Bauer (Entegra Coach) Sept. 24-28
 - Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta – Robert & Allene Gross Oct. 10-14
 - **Crusin' the Mountains Rally – Asheville, NC – Randy & Dee Ann Ferrell Oct 29-Nov. 2**
- And we may not be done yet!

Links of Interest

- ❖ ECOA Web Page <http://www.entegraowners.com/>
- ❖ ECOA Apparel <https://ecoa.logosoftware.com/>
- ❖ Entegra Coach <https://www.entegracoach.com/>
- ❖ Spartan Chassis <http://www.spartanmotors.com/rv-range/>
- ❖ FMCA <https://www.fmca.com/>
- ❖ IRV2 <http://www.irv2.com/forums/f278/>

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

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Contents

Presidents Corner.....	1
Upcoming Rally's and Events	3
Destinations	4
Talking Tech	6
Entegra Service Highlights.....	10
Member Profile.....	11
Recipes	11
Regional Activities	12
National Director	17
Secretary	18
From the Editors Desk.....	20

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Rollin' Along



Official Publication of the Entegra Coach Owners Association

The first two of these are already sold out, but that last one is **new**. So new in fact that it has not even been announced yet! Club member Randy Ferrell has put together a Rally in Asheville, North Carolina that is centered around collectible cars and hot rods. You will receive an email blast as soon as we are ready to begin registration. As with all our rallies this year, we expect it to sell out quickly. Be sure to pay attention to your email notices, and make sure you have added the following email address to your address book:

donotreply@entegraowners.com. That is the email address we use to send out our E-blasts. If it is not in your address book, there is a good chance the notice will go to your junk mail or spam folder and you will miss out.

While I am talking about the subject of rallies, I have to say that our SUMMERFEST '18 that we just closed was fantastic. Not only did we have 97 coaches in attendance, but we also celebrated our fifth birthday. Elkhorn Ridge was a fabulous venue, with paved, spacious sites and paved roads throughout the park. The meals were generous, the recipes were tasty, and the scenery in western South Dakota was nothing short of spectacular! You'll see pictures elsewhere in this edition of Rollin' Along. But of far more importance was all the wonderful people who came to the rally and shared the experience. We had attendees who were present at our very first Summerfest in 2013 and decided to join up, as well as folks who were attending their very first event. We had people who travelled great distances, and those who live a stone's throw away. I can say for sure, however, they will all be back. It was that much fun.

Entegra Coach has always supported our events, whether with financial support, or supplying technicians to service our rigs, or just showing up to keep us informed and to let us know they appreciate us buying their motorhomes. This year, they have gone over the top. When we asked Ken Walters where they got their feather flags, he asked why, and when I told him we wanted each club officer to have one, he decided to buy them for us on-the-spot. I hope you see them often as you come to

club events or travel the country. Thank You Entegra Coach!

Now let's talk about changing of the guard. Tom Crowley has been an officer and Vice President for quite some time. Tom was our first webmaster and he also started our newsletter, Rollin' Along. It was time to hand off those two tasks to other people, so please welcome our new webmaster, Jeff Hamilton, and our new newsletter editor, Dana Sawyer. Tom will stay on as VP but will step away from those other responsibilities.

Speaking of changing of the guard, I am seeking volunteers to staff an officer search committee to find and solicit candidates to serve for the 2020 - 2021 biennium. As a volunteer organization, it is important that we identify and encourage our fellow members to volunteer their time and service for the good of the club. While some of our current officers will elect to continue for the next term, some will elect to move on in their retirement. While we thank them for their service, it is also imperative that we identify their replacements. Therefore, it falls to me to identify several members who are interested in soliciting and securing the commitments of our next set of leaders. If this is something you could commit a relatively short time in service of this club, then please send me an email regarding your desire to help find our next slate of officers. Please send your email to wmpbauer@mac.com.

Please let me take a couple of minutes to share with you the importance of **volunteering** in our organization. It is gratifying that members of our club will commit some of their valuable retirement hours to help dispatch the work necessary to maintain our club membership. We have had several people volunteer a small amount of their time each month to that task. Likewise, we have asked several times for individuals who could help us with our financial health, and people have stepped forward. But Wait...There's More, as we are not done asking for help, as we also need guidance in the areas of **insurance coverage**, and **federal taxes** due to our nonprofit status under the

FMCA umbrella. All help is appreciated, but we especially appreciate those members who have the commitment to help in their area of expertise and experience.

Speaking of membership, it has diminished somewhat. Many of our members seem to be confused that our club is actually a subset of the much larger Family Motor Coach Association, or FMCA. Unfortunately, we do not have the manpower to conduct our renewals on the same calendar month as does FMCA. As a result, you get billed separately for your ECOA dues (\$20) in January, and in your application month for FMCA. It would be great if we could match FMCA, but they have paid hourly staff while we are simply volunteers. As a result, we will always have some degree of confusion regardless of how simple we make the explanation. This year we archived 624 memberships for non-renewal, which we greatly regret. You can help with clarifying to other members as you encounter them in your travels. Feel free to let them know that our membership in ECOA is contingent upon their membership in the larger FMCA, and they will be billed separately for the two memberships.

Please look elsewhere in this edition of Rollin' Along for our lineup of Rallies and Events for 2019. We think 2019 will be an exciting time. While you are in that mode of planning, please, Please, PLEASE let us know of exciting locations you think could support a club event. If you do not tell us about your best locations, how will we know? What's more, it's fantastic when members step forward to propose doing small local or theme type rallies. Heck, they cannot all be 100+ coach gigs. There are not that many truly Class A Resorts, and they must be booked more than a year in advance. So, if you have an idea for a smaller, focused rally, work with us, and together, we CAN make it happen.

Travel Safe & Godspeed

Upcoming Rally's and Events

- **2018**
- Traverse Bay Rally September 24 – 29, (waitlist only)
- Albuquerque Balloon Festival, October 10 – 14 (waitlist only)
- Crusin' the Mountains Rally October 29 - November 2
- FMCA Midwest Area Rally, August 8 – 11
- FMCA South Central Area Rally, September 19 – 22
- FMCA Eastern Area Rally, October 3 – 7
- FMCA 99th International Convention and Expo, March 2019, Perry Georgia

- **2019**
- Tampa Supershow Jan. 16-20
- Quartzsite Gathering Jan. 19-27
- Sarasota Fairgrounds Feb. 24-28
- Stone Mountain Campground Mar. 8-12
- FMCA in Perry, GA Mar. 13-16
- Cherry Hills Rally, Washington DC May 2-6
- Entegra Academy & Homecoming May 13-16
- Spruce Goose Rally, Albany, OR June 1-5
- FMCA International in Minot, ND, Aug. '19
- Normandy Farms Rally, Foxboro, MA Sept. 16-20 - SUMMERFEST '19
- Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta Oct. 9-13
- Amana Colonies, Amana, IA Oct. 17-21
- FMCA 100th International Convention and Expo, August 2019, Minot North Dakota

Details available on ECOA, Entegra, or FMCA websites,

Destinations

Tell Us Your Favorite Destination

We want to hear your stories about your favorite destination. Include things like the locations name, address, month and year you stayed there, ease of access from highway, size of sites and ease of access inside destination, amenities (especially those you enjoyed), nearby attractions, why did you choose the location (just passing through, attending event, other), and any other interesting information about your stay. Provide photos if possible, especially of you and your coach at the location. Provide a caption for each photo. Submit your stories and photos to

dana.sawyer350@gmail.com.

Regardless if you are a full timer, part timer or weekender, reaching a destination requires driving. Do you use the 3-4-5 rule (300 miles a day, off the road by 4, and happy hour by 5), the 3-3-3 rule (300 miles a day, off the road by 3, and no more than 3 consecutive days driving), or are you a road warrior getting the maximum miles possible in a day? EMAIL your rules to the editor so they can be shared in the next issue of Rollin' Along.

DUCK CREEK RV PARK PADUCAH, KY

Traveling along I-24 we came across Duck Creek RV Park at exit 11 in Paducah, KY. Just off the interstate, this park has great accommodations for large Class A coaches with multiple slides and their toads. We were just passing through and only stayed overnight. The overnight price was very reasonable we thought.

They do have weekly and monthly rates if you wish to stay and explore the area. Nearby are the wonders of Western Kentucky's Land Between the Lakes recreation area, historic downtown Paducah,

and the National Quilting Museum along with art, music, and food festivals throughout the year.

Every family receives a rubber ducky for each visit and like toys, the person with the most wins. We received our first one in July 2018.



PINE GROVE RV PARK GREENWOOD, NE

Along I-80 in Nebraska between Omaha and Lincoln at exit 420 is Pine Grove RV and Campground. Roads and sites are mostly gravel with full hookups at every site. With large sites easily handling 45 footers and a toad, this is a great overnight stop. You may also want to stay an extra day to visit the Strategic Air Command (SAC) & Aerospace Museum just 5 miles away. Their exhibit of retired Aircraft includes a U-2, SR-71, B52, and many more. You could spend the weekend and attend the races at the I-80 Speedway that is close enough to walk to. On race nights it can be a bit noisy between 7PM and midnight.

Getting service on the road is always difficult. Should you require chassis service there are two Spartan service places in Lincoln, Nebraska less than 20 miles away. Or, for the shopper there are the outlets at Gretna.



SUNDERMEIER RV PARK ST. CHARLES, MO

Just off highway 370 at exit 7 on the northwestern side of St. Louis, Missouri sits Sundermeier RV Park. This quiet park has paved roads and concrete pads that easily accommodate big rigs in either back in or pull-thru sites. All sites have 50 Amp and the water pressure is great. They even tell you to make sure you have a water pressure regulator. WIFI supports streaming although like most campgrounds when everyone is on the connection is slow.

The location is great for just an overnight stop or to stay longer and visit the many attractions of historic St. Charles and greater St. Louis. Just behind the park and easily accessible is Katy Trail State Park trailhead for hiking and biking. Another nearby attraction is the Lewis and Clark Boat House and Nature Center with the famous St Louis Arch and Mississippi River an easy afternoon trip.



Talking Tech

What Is Your Favorite Tech Gadget or fix/modification?

We want to hear your stories about your favorite tech experience. Write a short story about your favorite tech gadget or fix/modification. Submit your stories and photos to dana.sawyer350@gmail.com.

DANGLING ENGINE HEATER CORD

Does your engine heater cord dangle? Are the prongs covered in road grime?

Keeping it clean and ready for use is as simple as storing it disconnected in the outlet box. Simply place the plug inside the box, without plugging it in, and snap the lid closed. Now the prongs will stay cleaner for a longer time reducing your maintenance.



CURBSIDE WATER TANK SHELF (2013 ASPIRE) By PAT BAUER

If you study these photos, you will grasp the methodology of my construction. I will not provide measurements as each water cabinet will probably be different.

- Convert to a side hinged door, if necessary.
- Cut 2 pieces of 1/2" angle steel for supports to span the space between the sides.
- Attach the 4 angle irons to each end the steel supports, then attach to plywood sides.
- Cut plywood shelf. I cut it in two pieces so it would fit in and around the tubing.
- Glue indoor/outdoor carpeting to shelf.
- Attach 1/2" angle aluminum to form a front lip.
- Screw shelf to steel support. CAUTION: Do not use screws long enough to pierce the water tank!



FROSTED WINDOWS

Hoping to achieve a slightly different look, we elected to install a frosting film in the bathroom window. The material is available in most big box hardware stores and some craft stores. Several different frost designs are also available.

Tools required are a marking device (pencil, pen, sharpie) measuring device (we used a metal ruler), cutting devices (scissors and razer knife), squeegee, and a lint free cloth. We elected to purchase the application kit that included an application fluid (a window cleaner will work). Figure 1 shows the contents of the application kit.



Figure 2 Application Kit

From the inside, start by removing the screen and measuring the height and width of the visible part of the window. The film should not extend into the part of the glass that seals against the sealing strip. Next mark and cut the window film to the measured dimensions. Dry fit the film to check height and width and trim as necessary. Using the screen as a template (figure 2), mark and cut the corners. Once again dry fit and trim as necessary.

Clean the window glass then use the lint free cloth to pick up any remaining debris. Spray the window with the application solution (this will let you move it around slightly). Remove the backing from the



Figure 1 Use Screen as Corner Template



Figure 3 Finished Product

top of the frosting film and position the sticky side on the top of the window. Pull down the backing while holding the top in place making sure to minimize bubbles and wrinkles. Once loosely in place use the squeegee to remove any remaining bubbles then the lint free cloth for a final wipe to make sure everything is smooth and dry. The finished product is shown in figure three.

SEELEVEL II TANK MONITORING SYSTEM By TOM CROWLEY VICE PRESIDENT

Many of our motorhomes have the SeeLevel II tank monitoring systems installed. They most certainly are one of the best on the market for accurate measurement of your fresh, gray and black tanks, but occasionally they may not indicate the correct levels. When that happens the question is what to do? There is a simple diagnostic test that may be done. Press the tank monitor button and while holding it, also press the battery button. The readout will display:

➤ **DIA** for Diagnostic

P## This is the power level for the sensors, the higher the value the better. If your value is below 35, then a quick cleaning of the tank is in order. Most likely this is your black tank, where the tank sides have built up with TP and/or scum. One of the best ways to clean the tank is to use Extreme Holding Tank Cleaner

www.happycampersworld.com. Empty and rinse the tanks. Mix the tank cleaner with 3 or four gallons of warm water and add half to the black tank and half to the gray tank. Then fill both tanks to 50% or so and drive at least 200 miles. It is best to drive in the mountains to get a good agitation of the tanks. Drain and rinse the tanks once more and you should be good to go.

L # this indicates the number of sensors you have.

Any questions feel free to drop me an email.

Happy travels,

Tom Crowley

404.375.5578

tcrowley@gatech.edu

Entegra Service Highlights

Do you have a story of great service?

We want to hear your stories about great service. Describe what led to the need for service, the service you received, how your expectation was met, and why it was exceptional. Identify the dealer or service center and any specific personnel that should be highlighted. Photos of your coach before, during, and after would be great. Provide a caption for each photo. Submit your stories and photos to dana.sawyer350@gmail.com.

SPARTAN ACADEMY, 2018 RV OWNERS TRAINING, ENTEGRA PARTNER SESSION BY DANA & LINDA SAWYER

If you own an Entegra with a SPARTAN chassis this five-day session will shorten your learning curve while providing vetted information on your specific SPARTAN chassis and coach. The vetted information is important because as you may have noticed, occasionally, the internet does have incorrect information. This is also a chance to have your annual maintenance and inspection performed by factory trained technicians.

First thing you must do is register for a session. The class is in such high demand that as soon as the classes are listed as available you should select the time you desire and get registered. I kept checking almost daily for the 2018 schedule to open and when I spotted the open schedule, the first class had already been filled. Use the link <http://www.spartanmotors.com/owners/rv-chassis/> and scroll down to the class schedule. Our class of eight coaches included Aspires, Anthems, and Cornerstones used by part timers, mostly timers, and full timers and included both new and experienced owners. As you would expect the group became an instant family sharing tales, ideas, and even a few drinks.



Each day starts with breakfast, then morning instruction followed by lunch, afternoon instruction, and an end of day event dependent on the day. “Big Mike” the primary instructor, is knowledgeable, experienced, and very patient about answering specific questions. Mike and Matt both provided answers and clarifications making the complex systems easier to understand. One section is dedicated to Entegra specific information and presented by PJ of Entegra. Again, very helpful and complete information. The facility is pet friendly with our class having several dogs and even a bird



in the classroom. We even heard a tale about a pot belly pig once attending. While class is underway your coach chassis is undergoing an inspection (and service if you desire). After classroom instruction everyone gets to walk under their coach and get close and hands on many of the chassis parts and pieces.

Ladies, this course is also meant for you. Do not think that you get 5 extra shopping days. Not one of the ladies in our class came late or left early and every one of them said it was worth the effort. Every lady also participated in the driving course and did an excellent job.

A bonus is the one-time chance to purchase maintenance parts at a special discount.

Member Profile

Do not be afraid to say hello to Entegra owners you meet along the way. You might meet someone like Greg and Cathy Kettmann. Owners of an a 2018 44W Aspire, they are full timers that call New Hampshire home and will soon be heading to Alaska.

Recipes

Share A Favorite Recipe

Do you have a favorite recipe that is made for the coach kitchen? We would love to have you share that recipe. Provide the list of ingredients, instructions, and photos. Submit your stories and photos to dana.sawyer350@gmail.com.

APRICOT BALLS

BY LINDA LOU HANSON ECOA VP

What a summer this has been! I think Spring forgot to show up here in Iowa. However, we packed up the motorhome and headed to Spearfish, South Dakota and found a group of fellow Entegra Owners at the ECOA Summerfest Rally where the weather has been perfect! Wish you were all here. You must come learn about the city of Deadwood and the Adams Family. And no this isn't the one with Fester, Lurch and Morticia...haha. But there are a lot of spine tingling twist and turns for sure. Which brings me to my recipe that follows. I made these not long ago (both sweet and tangy). It's fun to watch people's faces when they bite into them. If you want a tasty treat and a conversation starter, these will do the job! Enjoy and Happy RVing!

APRICOT BALLS

- 1 pkg (8 oz.) dried apricots, ground
- 2-1/2 cups flaked coconut
- 3/4 cup sweetened condensed milk
- 1 cup finely chopped pecans

Blend apricots, coconut and condensed milk well. Shape into small balls. Roll balls in chopped nuts. Let stand at room temperature about 2 hours to form. If you want to make them tangier, add 2 Tbsp. lemon juice to the mixture before rolling into balls.

Regional Activities

LEARN TO NOT BURN BY WAYNE BAUMANN ALT. NATIONAL DIRECTOR

At Buffalo, Wyoming in late June and about 30 miles south of where we live in Sheridan, Wyoming, a motor home coming off the mountain caught on fire at the left rear wheel. The fire moved to the outside of the coach, burned up the outside, and onto the top of the roof. Luckily, they were within about one-half mile of the city fire department. It looked like it did a lot of damage to the coach.

When driving in mountainous areas there are three major things to keep in mind. First use your engine brake, second shift into a lower gear at the top of the hill and before you start down (the warning to trucks to use a lower gear is there for a reason), and third do not ride the brakes, use them only as needed.

We left home on July 3rd and traveled to North Dakota to visit family. The weather on the night of the 4th at 1 am was very scary. The lighting and thunder and wind was something we have never experienced before. It was like a 4th of July fireworks. We will be heading to the AIM rally in Sturgis, South Dakota on July 13 through 17 and then on to the FMCA rally in Gillette, Wyoming on July 18 through 21.

ENTEGR A HOMECOMING 18 BY DANA & LINDA SAWYER

If you have never been to an Entegra Homecoming, you definitely should plan for one in your future. The Entegra Homecoming 18 was held May 21 – 24, 2018 at the Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds in Goshen, Indiana. Two hundred and eight coaches and over 500 people attended. Homecoming is your chance to meet other owners, meet the Entegra staff, meet subsystem Vendors, and in the words of Bill and Ted “Be excellent to each other” and “Party on



dudes”. Homecoming 18 was filled with a welcome reception, hearty breakfasts to get you started, more than 50 class topics, demos, tours, and lessons for owners to select from, lunches, evening dinners, entertainment, new model previews, driving experience, and vendors of many must have gadgets. Preplanned and approved technical service performed by factory technicians is a big bonus.

We hope our story will give you an idea of what to expect. We arrived at about 8:30 AM during check-in time (you can make arrangements to arrive early and many do), received our registration packet that was also full of goodies, unhooked our toad, and were escorted to our full hookup site. After setting up we checked in at the tech service tent to go over our pre-approved repair and to discuss two new items of concern that came up after the registration deadline. We left the tent not expecting, but hopeful, that the new items could be looked at. From there we visited the vendor exhibits and dropped a few dollars on must have gadgets. During the afternoon our first unexpected fix occurs and our AquaHot now works perfectly. The fix required the technician to diagnose the problem, get AquaHot repair approval, and install the new part. Total time involved was less than two hours and he serviced our neighbors AquaHot during that time also. That is outstanding service. The evenings welcome reception was very casual and included food and entertainment.

Day two starts with breakfast and more time at the vendor displays followed by the classes we selected to attend before lunch. Do not weigh yourself before coming to Homecoming because when you leave the results could be painful. In the afternoon

our #1 item was fixed by the replacement of a tank sensor and work started on the second unexpected fix. While the technicians were working we attended more classes. The classes are very casual and include a lot of interaction with the instructors answering specific questions from participants. Nearly every aspect of your coach is covered in the various classes. In our free time we toured the 2019 models that Entegra had brought to the event. Those that signed up had driving classes in 2019 models. Having previously experienced the instructors we know the class and course was excellent even if you never sat in the driver's seat before. Others signed up for the factory tour. Evening dining and entertainment was again outstanding.

Day three has more food, more classes, more driving. The classes really help attendees get questions answered and learn so many things that we didn't know we needed to know. In the afternoon we received a call telling us our second unexpected fix had been completed and we could now safely extend and retract our kitchen slide. The evening Dinner Dance Party was loud and wild with many people dressed for the Motown Disco theme. Live music and a dance floor encouraged a conga line that included half the group.

Day four had a suggestion session where Entegra Management listened to attendee's suggestions and complaints to gain customer insight. Although we had to leave early to meet family commitments, we heard there were also drawings for lots of prizes during the finale.

SUMMER ADVENTURES BY TOM CROWLEY VICE PRESIDENT

Lynn and I left Atlanta for our Summer trip in early June. We stopped in Dayton, OH to visit the USAF museum and friends. From Dayton we went to Charlotte, MI for chassis service at Spartan. From there we headed to Door County, WI by way of Ludington MI so we could take the Badger ferry for a trip across Lake Michigan. The trip across the

lake was smooth and lots of activities on the ship. The ship was originally used for rail car traffic and an upper deck was added for vehicles.

We spent a little over a week in Door County, WI. This is a must-see place. No chain stores or restaurants. Lots of quaint little towns and more cherry pies, jams, etc. than you can eat plus local wineries and Brew Pubs. We stayed at the Egg Harbor Campground. A great place with wonderful owners.

Then off to visit my uncle, 93 years young, in Minneapolis, MN. We stayed at Lebanon Hills an excellent RV park. We highly recommend it.

We stopped for a week at the Minuteman RV park just outside the Badlands and a short distance to the Minuteman National Park. This park, while convenient, really needs a lot of maintenance. The Minuteman is a solid fuel ICBM which first went active just East of Belt, MT on 24 October 1962 during the Cuban Missile crisis. A total of 1,000 Minuteman were active. Today we are down to 450 missiles across five states. The Museum is well worth the visit. While you are in the area a trip to Ellsworth AF base in Rapid City is well worth the trip.

Lynn and I hosted the All Inclusive Motor Home (AIM) Club Gala at the Sturgis RV park. This park is in downtown Sturgis within walking distance to town. The park has lots of concrete pads and a few sites up on terraces so you may overlook the city and Black Hills. It was still a few weeks prior to the world's largest motorcycle rally, hence the town still was pretty quiet.

We attended the FMCA event in Gillette, WY with the AIM Club and ECOA. Then off to a great ECOA rally put on by Pat and Medarda Bauer in Spearfish, SD. They put on a wonderful rally, we toured the Black Hills and renewed friendship and met several new Entegra friends.

Currently we are in Billings, MT and will spend a few weeks in Montana before heading on.

SUMMERFEST '18
BY PAT & MEDARDA BAUER



Welcome to South Dakota



The Buffalo Jump at Tatanka (Lakota for Buffalo)-
Kevin Costner's celebratory tribute to the
Buffalo...and the Lakota.



Elkhorn Ridge RV Park



The Venue



The Guests 01

Rollin' Along

Official Publication of the Entegra Coach Owners Association



The Guests 02



Evening Show



Food and Fun



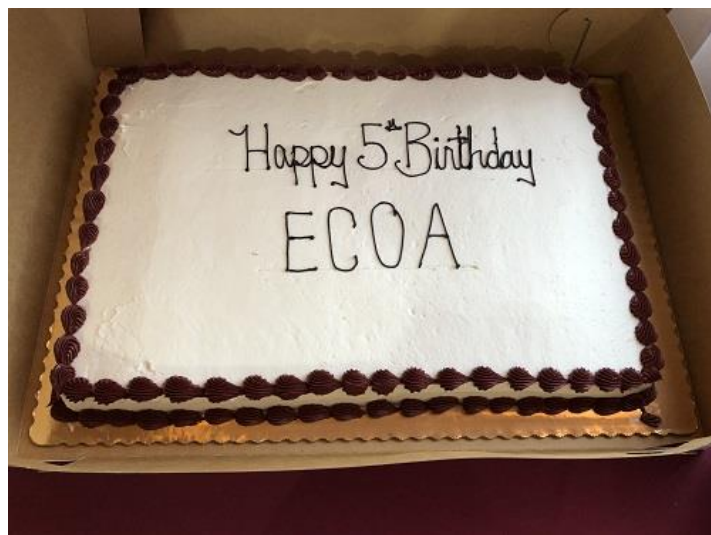
New Flag



97 Coaches



Deep Thoughts and Serious Business



Happy Birthday

National Director

MOTOR HOME DISEASE **BY TERRY WALKER NATIONAL DIRECTOR**

I have heard it said that “Motor Homing is a disease for which the only known cure is to buy another one.” For almost 1/3 of Entegra owners, I understand that the disease came on in full force as their first RV purchase was their diesel pusher tag axle luxury Coach.

Becky and I however went through a series of progressively larger “Illnesses/Experiences” on our RV journey. As working parents with 2 sons we went through a succession of tents, a couple of pop-ups, and 3 travel trailers ranging from 20’ to 28’. We always thought we would wind up with a Fifth-wheel as we considered the driving compartment of either a Class C or Class A to be a waste of floor space.

However, on what turned out to be our last trip with a travel trailer we burned out the differential on the tow vehicle and had to rent a motorhome to continue our vacation, because no one would rent a vehicle to pull a 28’ RV trailer. We tried to rent a Minnie Winnie but, as fate would have it, the dealer in Denver had none available so we wound up in a 30’ Winnebago Sightseer with a Ford V10. After 8 days in it we were hooked on a Class A.

Once back home we went to a nearby dealer where a used diesel pusher caught my eye, but the owner wisely convinced me that it was too much coach and expense for our current situation. We left the lot in a 2005 34’ Georgie Boy Pursuit with a Ford V10 which served us well until the Fall of 2007 when we went to a show in Goshen, IN. We left there with as the proud owners of a 2008 38’ Monaco Cayman, Cummins ISB, and with no tag.

The Monaco served our needs and wants for the next 5 years until we attended the FMCA Rally in Indianapolis in the Fall of 2012 where as fate would have it we were introduced to Entegra Coaches and just could not say no after taking a test drive.

Unfortunately, the 2013 Aspire 42 RBQ we fell in love with was bought by someone else, but there was an identical unit currently in production at Middlebury which was committed to the Hershey RV show, so we had to wait a couple of weeks before taking delivery in Davenport, IA.

Then came the FMCA rally in March 2016 in Perry, GA where the 2013 was traded up for a 2016 Anthem 42 DEQ but, after 17 months and 35,000 miles it was almost worn out (yeah right).

So, in October 2017, I flippantly told Angie Morell at Thackerville, OK that I would be interested in a 2018 Anthem 44F if she had it in Victory Blue with the Platinum interior. Surprise, only weeks later she had one at Gold Canyon, AZ. Word to the wise, be careful what you ask for. After a few hours of negotiations, we took delivery in Phoenix and proudly drove it to the Albuquerque Balloon Festival ECOA rally.

We have now “cured the disease” 4 times; some of you can beat that but some of you will think that we have overdone it. We have now traveled over 100,000 miles in our motor homes, in 2017 alone we traveled over 20,000 miles visiting 24 states in 146 nights away from the sticks and bricks. What have we learned on our Motor Home progression:

- We should not go to rallies or shows, they cost too much,
- No one really needs an Entegra, but we really wanted them and have thoroughly enjoyed them
- But most importantly there is a whole community of “mostly” friendly and always very interesting Coach owners that we are proud to call our friends.

Secretary

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT BY MEDARDA BAUER, SECRETARY

Entegra Coach Owners Association Annual Meeting
Elkhorn Ridge RV Park, Spearfish South Dakota
July 25, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Bauer at 10:30 am. The current officers and spouses were introduced to those present:

- Pat and Medarda Bauer
- Wayne and Eidella Bauman
- Tom and Lynn Crowley
- Lee and Linda Hanson
- Gary and Dee Jones
- Tommy and Bonnie Townsend
- Terry and Becky Walker

REPORTS

The minutes from the September 2017 Thackerville, OK meeting, distributed in the welcome bag, were approved as written. The Treasurer's report was read and approved. It was noted the Treasurer is seeking volunteers to form a committee to streamline and improve the accounting methods for the club. The National Director shared information from the FMCA governance meeting held in Gillette the previous week. The most notable changes were the locations of the 2019 rally sites: a return to Perry GA in March and the summer meeting moved to Minot SD. Overall membership has declined this past year. Each officer called 60 plus non-renewing members as a reference for future discussions. It appears there are three distinct reasons for non-renewal: lack of interest in rallies, lack of interest in continuing FMCA membership, and work or family conflict. The Board will discuss at next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Under old business the listing of our 2018 rallies, sponsors, and wagon masters were shared.

- New Year's Eve, 2017 Mario and Anne Lacute, RV One & Entegra
- Tampa super show, Pat & Medarda Bauer Lazydays
- Quartzite Arizona, Gary and Dee Jones Paul Everette, Entegra
- Stone Mountain GA, Lee and Linda Hanson, NIRVC
- FMCA Rally in Perry, Pat & Medarda Bauer, NIRVC, RV One
- Entegra Homecoming
- FMCA Gillette WY, Wayne and Eidella, Baumann RV One
- Summerfest 2018, Pat & Medarda Bauer, Entegra
- Travers Bay, Pat & Medarda Bauer, Entegra
- Albuquerque Festival, Bob and Allene Gross,
- Cruise'n the Mountains, Randy and Dee Ferrell

Last year in Thackerville, a revision to our bylaws was suggested and made. With the potential addition of towables to the FMCA umbrella and the manufacturing of Class C vehicles with the Entegra name, it was felt a more specific definition of member coaches was needed. After being read and approved the following revision is being made to our bylaws:

"Membership in the Entegra Coach Owners Association is limited to all Class A, diesel pusher Entegra and Travel Supreme coaches..."

NEW BUSINESS

Under New Business the President asked for volunteers for a Nominating Committee to create an officer slate for 2020-2021. It was explained all officers are impaneled for a two-year period. Interested parties should submit their name to the President. Likewise, anyone interested in being an officer should make their desire known.

A new webmaster for the club, Jeff Hamilton, has stepped up. Dana Sawyer will begin his role as editor with the next edition of Rollin Along, the club's newsletter. Tom Crowley, who began both web page and newsletter for our club was thanked for his hard work.

Entegra was thanked for their purchase of the ten feather flags which officers will post in front of their coaches.

RALLIES FOR 2019

- Tampa Supershow Jan. 16-20
- Quartzsite Gathering Jan. 19-27
- Sarasota Fairgrounds Feb. 24-28
- Stone Mountain Campground Mar. 8-12
- FMCA in Perry, GA Mar. 13-16
- Cherry Hills Rally, Washington DC May 2-6
- Entegra Academy & Homecoming May 13-16
- Spruce Goose Rally, Albany, OR June 1-5
- FMCA International in Minot, ND, Aug. '19
- Normandy Farms Rally, Foxboro, MA Sept. 16-20 - SUMMERFEST '19
- Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta Oct. 9-13
- Amana Colonies, Amana, IA Oct. 17-21

Our club utilizes Wild Apricot for membership management. A new survey and voting feature has been added and will be used as appropriate to solicit member input. The club will now be using Wild Apricot's Affinipay in lieu of PayPal. The base cost is equal but will provide ease for members in paying dues and rally fees.

OTHER QUESTIONS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER

Having no additional questions or comments the meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Submitted,

Medarda Bauer, Secretary

From the Editors Desk

YOUR NEW EDITOR BY DANA & LINDA SAWYER

After purchasing our Entegra coach and becoming ECOA members we answered a request for help with the "Rollin' Along" newsletter. Tom Crowley was just brave or crazy enough to accept our help. For the last two issues we helped him update the format, edit a few articles, and pull everything together. In the military you quickly learn never volunteer. I guess that didn't stick because now I have volunteered to be the Editor as Tom takes on other tasks.

I like to think that we are still trying to figure out what we want to be when we grow up, even though we are retired, full timers, and work campers enjoying each day and all the people we meet. While camping in tents for our first 36 years together, we finally purchased a real RV in 2009; a 2010 36-foot Mobile Suites 5th wheel.

After retiring in the summer of 2012, we started our encore careers by pulling our 5th wheel to Arizona for our first winter job with CAL-AM Resorts Regional Activities. Next, was Yellowstone for the summer and then back to Arizona for another winter. During the next three years we worked summers in Indiana managing a campground and winters in Arizona for CAL-AM (Workampers check out our article in the Jan/Feb 2017 Workamper.News magazine).

In the summer of 2017 we travelled over 12,000 miles through 24 states. During that time, we started looking for a coach to replace our 5th wheel. Over the summer we did our online research, visited factories and dealers, consulted friends, and accosted owners at parks along the way. In the end we purchased our first coach, a 2018 Aspire 42 DEQ, from NIRV in Phoenix when we arrived back in Arizona for our sixth winter season with CAL-AM. We even met several ECOA members at the dealership while picking up our coach.

Our first real adventure in the coach was a roundtrip between Mesa, AZ and Yuma, AZ. We followed friends with a Foretravel motor coach to attend and work a wine tasting and food pairing activity. Although there was some knuckle biting along the way, the trip did verify for us that traveling in a coach is much easier than in a 5th wheel.

This summer we have already traveled 4278 miles through 15 states, attended the Spartan Owners Academy Entegra Partners Session, and attended Homecoming 18. There are several more states in our summer plan and as we travel we are always on the lookout for other Entegra owners.



Figure 4 Waiting For Dinner Guests In Yuma, AZ

Keep in mind that THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER. You participate by sharing your experiences, tips, tricks, recommendations, and anything else that relates to ownership of an Entegra Coach. If you think you are not a great writer, let us help put your story together so it can be shared.