



SCIC Newsletter

June 2015

Notes from the President's corner

In This Issue....

<i>President's Message</i>	1
<i>Treasurer's Report</i>	2
<i>Chula Vista Post Rally</i>	3
<i>Post Rally cont.</i>	4
<i>Madison Post Rally Resgration</i>	5
<i>Spartan Flyer</i>	6
<i>Membership Form</i>	7

As my tenure as president of the SCIC group draws to a close, I need to once again compliment the group on what a swell bunch of people you are. I have had the occasion to meet many of you, although not as many as I would have liked to. I am sad that we were not able to make the trip west to Redmond and Pomona for the last two FMCA Conventions. Dori and I thoroughly enjoy meeting new fellow RV'ers and exchanging ideas, stories and just the fellowship it presents. Unfortunately we will be unable to make the trip to Madison in late July. I am experiencing a great deal of pain in my right knee and have had fluid drawn off twice this spring. Knee replacement is right around the corner.

As I write these musings, I understand that we still do not have many candidates for officers to fill the necessary positions for the upcoming years. I appeal to all of you to consider putting your hat into the bucket for the good of the club. Without a slate of officers, the club will cease to exist and the funds will be turned over to a charity of our choice. You receive much more from volunteering and supporting your club than what it requires of your time. If you can find it in your heart to volunteer, please contact any of the current officers listed on the second page of this newsletter or online at <http://www.spartanfmca.com>.

Since we became involved with SCIC in 2009, we have seen a decline in membership from 562 members to current June membership total of 196. That is a drop of 65%. Our current membership of 196 is still a good number of coaches but the decline is not only in numbers but it is in involvement with the club also. When rallies are planned you have a difficult time getting more than 15-18 coaches to attend. At meetings the question has been posed as to what do you the membership want to do as a club and the silence is deafening. It is true that Spartan Chassis does give us a perk of free shipping on parts ordered online, but seriously, is that the only reason people are joining? Our charter states that we 'Exist to promote social, recreational, and informational exchange activities for the enjoyment and pleasurable use of family member coaches.' We are existing, but we are having a hard time finding folks willing to plan, host and even attend social events to meet, socialize, and exchange ideas. Perhaps we need to change our charter to simply be a 'free shipping' branch of Spartan Chassis Division of Spartan Motors.

As you read the newsletter and hopefully attend the FMCA Family Convention in Madison this summer, I hope that some of you will find it in your heart to support your club by volunteering to be an officer.

God Speed and Travel safely wherever your journey carries you,

Bob Clipfell

www.spartanfmca.com



Officers

President

Bob Clipfell
 411 Walnut Street #8983
 Green Cove Springs, FL
 32043
 317-908-4260
Twoclips04@yahoo.com

Vice President

Tom Garcia
 3700 S. Westport Ave.
 #2150
 Sioux Falls, SD 57106
 813-352-6247
Tomgarcia45@yahoo.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Dori Clipfell
 411 Walnut Street #8861
 Green Cove Springs, FL
 32043
 317-908-4861
Dori.scitreas@gmail.com

www.spartanfmca.com

YTD SCIC TREASURER REPORT ENDING MAY 2015

J.P. Morgan Chase

Business Select Checking – 2593

Beginning Balance June 1, 2014 \$23,711.78

Deposits

General Deposits

Dues Income \$ 2,235.05
 Rally fees – Chula Vista \$ 2,800.00
 Misc. Income – Spartan Chassis (Chula Vista Rally) \$ 1,200.00
 Misc. Income – Spartan Chassis
 (25th Anniversary Celebration-Perry Convention) \$ 1,296.06

Total Income \$ 7,531.11

Expenditures

Website Fees \$ 180.18
 Misc. Office/Mailing fees \$ 85.63
 St. Brendans Isle – Mail Service \$ 200.00
 Chula Vista Rally Expenses \$ 4,332.40

Checks Paid

Ck #1052 – Tom Garcia (reimbursement of rally fee) \$ 26.00
 Ck #1054 – Chula Vista Deposit \$ 100.00
 Ck #1055 – David Kessler (Nat’l Director) \$ 500.00
 Ck #1056 – Dori Clipfell (Treasurer) \$ 500.00
 Ck #1057 – Art Darling (refund on dues) \$ 10.00
 Ck #1058 – Chelbana rally reimbursement \$ 905.88

Total Expenditures \$ 6,840.09

Net \$ 691.02

Ending Balance May 29, 2015 \$24,402.80

Respectfully Submitted,
 Dori Clipfell, SCIC Treasurer
 Date: May 30, 2015

National Director

David Kessler
1561 Century Oaks Drive
Lewisville, TX 75077

972-890-4334
patsyjk@people.com

Alternate National Director

Al Ingram
P.O. Box 5527
Sevierville, TN 37864

Newsletter Editors

Brian & Vona Thomforde
3916 N. Potsdam Ave.
#2519
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

612-685-5577
brivon@truckdriver.com

Webmaster

Brian Thomforde
3916 N. Potsdam Ave.
#2519
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

612-865-7841
brivon@truckdriver.com

www.spartanfmca.com

Chula Vista Post Rally Newsletter

Our SCIC members enjoyed a fantastic post-rally at the beautiful Chula Vista RV Resort in Chula Vista, CA. Hosts Tom & Teri Chelbana, Co-Hosts Pat Genell & I & members Allen & Judy Polka left the Fairplex in Pomona, CA where FMCA's 91st Family Reunion & Motorhome Showcase dubbed "California Gold" was held in order to arrive at the resort a day early & ensure an efficient check-in for our group. Tom & Pat anxiously awaited the arrival of 13 rigs & their occupants during the morning of Monday, March 30, 2015. Newmar International Chapter of FMCA Pre-Rally Host Gene LeMeur gathered some of our attendees on the parking lot of the Fairplex & led a caravan to the resort. Although the entrance became quite busy at times when our members were pulling in & other registered guests began to arrive, Tom & Pat were ready, organized & remained calm. Each of our couples was greeted & directed to their assigned site. As one can expect, the roads within the resort weren't the width of a highway. We were relieved that everything went so smoothly. Only one "Mexican Standoff" occurred between one of our rigs and a vehicle towing a fifth wheel but it was quickly resolved. Before long Bran & Bonnie Bernstein, Ed & Cassandra Dennis, David & Patsy Kessler, Gene & Jackie LeMeur, Larry & Cheryl Moore, David & Linda Motsenbocker, Mark & Tina Nickerson, Tom & Margie O'Neill, Ed & Marilyn O'Shea, Ed & Peggy Owens, Bill & Doris Roberson, Dick & Peg White & Ken & Leah Wilson were settled in. Teri & I visited each rig, greeted our members & delivered goodie bags. To everyone's delight, CA residents Mark & Tina Nickerson brought several bins of fresh delicious oranges, grapefruits & lemons with them. They placed them outside of their rig & invited everyone to help themselves.

A welcome hour was held in the resort's clubhouse at 4pm on our first afternoon. Tom provided everyone with a rally overview & I read a message provided by President Bob Clipfell. A copy of that message follows this article. Our group then savored a sabroso (tasty) catered Taco Dinner. Tuesday's fun began with a wonderful breakfast in the clubhouse. Our group then boarded a trolley & enjoyed a four hour tour to & around the City of San Diego compliments of Spartan Chassis, a subsidiary of Spartan Motors, Inc. We reunited later that afternoon in the clubhouse to socialize & enjoy a delizioso (delicious) catered Italian dinner. Our group shared quite a few laughs while playing several rounds of card bingo that evening. A couple of our ladies made practical use of the quarters they won & paid a visit to the resort's laundry facility. Our Hosts Tom & Teri emerged from their coach on Wednesday morning to discover the front of their rig decorated in recognition of Tom's birthday. David & Patsy Kessler & Allen & Judy Polka were parked nearby & they, as well as others, admired the handiwork on their way to partake of the yummy breakfast being served in the clubhouse. The schedule for the morning & afternoon was left open in order to give folks time to visit the area on their own.

We reconvened in the club house to enjoy each other's company at 4pm and later devoured a catered BBQ dinner. Desert was extra special that evening as we all got to wish Tom a very Happy Birthday and share his scrumptious birthday cake with him! Various door prize items provided by Spartan Chassis & other businesses were distributed before our group disbanded for the evening. On Thursday morning we enjoyed pastries & donuts before exchanging hugs & saying our goodbyes. Many thanks are extended to our Hosts Tom & Teri Chelbana for volunteering, planning & executing such an extraordinary & fun event.

Submitted by Judy Holly-Storms, SCIC Chula Vista Post Rally Co-Host

President Bob Clipfell's Message Relayed to Members at the Chula Vista Post Rally

Happy Rally to you all!

Tom & Teri along with Judy & Pat, have a great rally planned for you & we are confident that you will have a great time. We just wanted to take a moment & touch on a couple of very important club issues. Elections will be held in Madison, WI at the next FMCA Family Convention, July 29 thru Aug 1. At this writing we have candidates for National Director & Alternate National Director. That means we need at least one person to run for President, Vice President, Secretary & Treasurer. Our current Newsletter Editor & Webmaster will also be resigning as they have purchased a coach on a different chassis.

We are at a loss as how to breathe some energy into the club. This downward spiral has been going on for the last 4-5 years. This club has a great many folks with a great multitude of talent. We need to find them & enlist their idea & energy to get SCIC back on an upward climb rather than a downward trend. We continue to have 60 - 80 new members each year but that doesn't offset the 100 - 150 that do not renew each year. Since Dec 2008 membership has dropped off from 1112 to a current 335 members. While it is not the size of the club that matters, it is the energy & participation within the club that keeps it alive. We are dying my friends. In the same time period we have had a couple of great rallies but we also have had to cancel 3 rallies for lack of participation. Finding members to host rallies is impossible. Without the rallies, there is nothing to bind us together as a club. Every rally we have attended, we have come away with many new & wonderful friendships.

This is an appeal to each & every one of you to stand up & take control of your club. Yes, this is your club, it doesn't belong to the officers, it doesn't belong to Spartan Chassis, it belongs to you the members. This request is being made of those of you who are participating in this rally to talk to other members about how much you enjoyed this rally, volunteer to be an officer, host a rally, believe me, you will come away with much more than you give. We are asking that while you at least have a quorum, you elect in our absence, a nominating committee to seek out volunteers to be officers for the upcoming election. The sad truth of this whole appeal is without officers there will be no club. Think about it & also ways to revive the enthusiasm that used to be SCIC.

On the financial side of things, this club is in very good shape. In June of 2011 we had a balance of \$25,853.63, today we have a balance of \$25,001.08, not too shabby considering this is after paying officer stipends & miscellaneous expenses for the past 4 years. We are maintaining even though our numbers have dropped off significantly.

Dori & I would like to thank Tom & Teri & Pat & Judy for organizing such a great rally. It is our plans to be in Madison, WI for the FMCA Convention if at all possible & look forward to seeing you all there.

SCIC MADISON POST RALLY

3 NIGHTS AUGUST 2-4, 2015

HO-CHUCK GAMING HOTEL & RV PARK

S. 3214 HWY. 12 BARABOO, WI 53913

FULL HOOK UPS PULL THRU

\$48.10 per night

Call direct to make your reservations under the name of Spartan Club

Phone: 1-800-446-5550

RALLY FEE \$165.00 includes the following:

AUGUST 2: SUNDAY BRUNCH @ CASINO
 SOCIAL TIME

AUGUST 3: BREAKFAST
 SOCIAL TIME
 BUFFET DINNER @ FOUR SEASONS (COUNTRY CLUB)

AUGUST 4: BREAKFAST
 SOCIAL TIME
 DINNER @ BARN RESTAURANT & BAR

AUGUST 5: DEPARTING

Cutoff date for guaranteed reservations will be July 1. After that sites will be open to others.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SCIC OF FMCA

SEND TO HOSTS: DAVID & DELMA WAGNER @ 7243 TOWNLINE ROAD
 NORTH TONAWANDA, NY 14120

716-743-9969 or 716-880-7855 (for any questions)

We are working on some great activities. To be announced.



includes a

Coach-Net Membership
for **3 years/50,000 miles**
from the date of vehicle purchase.

24/7 Emergency Roadside Assistance

- *Unlimited* Towing
- *Unlimited* Flat Tire Assistance
- *Unlimited* Emergency Fluid Delivery
- *Unlimited* Lockout
- *Unlimited* Jump-start

Plus...

- Mobile Mechanic
- Winching
- RV Technical Assistance Hotline
- Service Appointment Assistance



For more information
about your membership

visit **www.coach-net.com**

or call **877-801-0333**

Join the Spartan Chassis International Chapter of FMCA

As the owner of a Spartan chassis and member of the Family Motor Coach Association, you are welcome to join the Spartan Chassis International Chapter (SCIC) of FMCA.

SCIC members benefit by receiving free shipping on parts orders placed online totaling over \$75.00, participating in rallies, and meeting and networking with other Spartan chassis owners. Not to mention our members have a lot of fun. Check out our website www.spartanfmca.com for more information.

Attention! You must be a member of FMCA before you can join SCIC.

Your FMCA membership number (FMCA#) will be your SCIC number and your application for membership cannot be processed without it. An FMCA membership brochure and application are available at www.fmca.com or by contacting:

Robert Clipfell
 President—Spartan Chassis International Chapter
 411 Walnut Street #8861
 Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
 Phone: (317) 908-4260
 E-mail: twoclips04@yahoo.com

SCIC Membership Application (please print clearly, clip and mail)

Please Check One: New Member Renewing Member Update Information

Please Check One: **Receive newsletter by email** Receive black & white printed copy of newsletter

FMCA #: _____ (required) Date: _____

Name _____ Co-Pilot _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Postal Code _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Coach Make _____ Model _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ **Annual dues are \$10.00 US and are due in December each year.**

We do not send invoices.

Please make check out to: SCIC (do not send cash)

Send completed Membership Form and check in US Dollars to:

**Dori Clipfell
 411 Walnut Street PMB 8861
 Green Cove Springs, FL 32043-3443**